Jindalee State School

Prep Handbook

2015

Jindalee State School
School in Brisbane, Queensland

Jindalee State School is a co-educational primary school in the western Brisbane suburb of Jindalee. It caters for students from Prep to Grade 7, and is a feeder school to Centenary State High School. Wikipedia

Address: 114 Burrendah Rd, Jindalee QLD 4074
Phone: (07) 3726 5777
Founded: 1966

https://jindaleess.eq.edu.au/Pages/default.aspx
Welcome

Our teachers from 2014 would like to extend a welcome to all the new prep students starting school in 2015

We extend a warm welcome to you and your family. We hope you enjoy your first year with us at Jindalee State School and that it is the beginning of a very successful educational journey for your child. We believe that education is most beneficial for your child when parents and teachers work together, so we look forward to the opportunity of working with you.

The First Day:

Everyone has mixed feelings on this day: excitement and apprehension are common. The best scenario is for parents to stay until the teachers call the students to the
carpet. If your child is settled before this please say goodbye and let the teacher know you are leaving. Usually the longer you stay, the harder it is to say goodbye. The most successful way to settle in is to begin at home and make this just another day. Speak candidly and honestly about the day and always keep emotions away from your child. If you are upset they immediately sense this and begin to worry.

Walking past the school during the holiday is often good preparation. Little things that will help are for children to be able to eat from lunchboxes and being able to open all containers, being able to put shoes and socks on without help and being able to manage clothes at toilet time will be great things to practise at home for school.

The more attention adults pay to this day the more concerns children usually build. Children start to think there is something to worry about if everyone continuously asks about school. Please also limit the number of adults who come to the classroom, it is always lovely to have grandparents etc coming for the first day but again the classrooms are already busy so the less adults who come to the room the easier it will be for your child to leave everyone in the morning. Say goodbye to extra adults at home and then come to school.

We are committed to providing opportunities to keep you fully informed about your child as a student at Jindalee State School. Some of these times to talk are formal eg. Parent teacher meetings, some are less formal such as a quick chat with us before school. Sometimes, however, we are committed to other professional responsibilities and are unable to provide an opportunity at that specific time. We would ask that for these times or for discussions that need more time you make an appointment so we can devote the time to you.

One such time is staff meetings on Monday afternoon so this afternoon we do need to leave the classroom by 3.05 to be at our meeting.
We welcome your interest and your visits to our classrooms. Usually we ask that you give us some time to settle the students at the beginning of the year however we will soon have our parent helper rosters up in the classrooms and will be eager for you to help in our rooms.

**School Contact Numbers**

**Administration Office:** 3725 5777

Fax: 3725 5700

Email: info@jindaleess.eq.edu.au

**Student Absent Line:** 3725 5760

Absent Email: absent@jindaleess.eq.edu.au

School Website: https://jindaleess.eq.edu.au

**School Calendar 2015**

**Term 1:** January 27\(^{th}\) to April 2nd

**Term 2:** April 20\(^{th}\) to June 26th

**Term 3:** July 13\(^{th}\) to September 18th

**Term 4:** October 6\(^{th}\) to December 11th

**Office Hours of Operation**

Monday to Friday 8:00am to 4:00pm

Finance office (please enquire at school office for these times)

**Uniform Shop Hours of Operation**

Tuesday 8:30am – 9:30am and Wednesday 2:30pm to 3:30pm
4:30pm to 5:30pm on the 1st Wednesday of each month

**Tuckshop**
You may order tuckshop for your child from Tuesday to Friday. Menus are available from the school website or at the Tuckshop. Orders can be placed online or brought into the classroom at 8:50am.

**Before and After School Care**
Prep children can attend Before and After School Care. It is the parent’s responsibility to make the necessary arrangements. Outside School Hours Care can be contacted on 3279 2902 before 9:00am and after 3:00pm. Prep children will be escorted to and from their classroom by Outside School Hours Care staff.

**P&C**
Our school classrooms are air conditioned and we owe our thanks to the P&C for this. The P&C are an active part of our school community and work hard to support many projects around the school (not just air conditioning). There are many conversations at P&C meeting that keep you informed about the school. Quite often people are worried about having to commit large amounts of time if they are interested in being part of the P&C however that is not the case. They will accept any help you can offer—big or small.

**Prep Procedures**
Prep begins at 8:50am. Students unpack their own bags and then enter the classroom to begin their day. Prep finishes at 3:00pm. Please wait outside the classroom door until it is opened.

To ensure a smooth transition into Prep, parents must drop off and collect their child.

*This is an easy way for your child to begin their journey to independence. From the beginning let your prep child carry their prep bag to and from school.*
from the Prep classroom unless other arrangements have been made with the teacher. Students who attend Before and After School Care will be dropped off and picked up by a supervisor.

**What to bring**

Everyday your child needs to bring the following items:

- a Jindalee State School hat
- a lunchbox filled with healthy food for morning tea and lunch
- a drink bottle
- a clearly named set of spare clothes (including underwear)
- a LARGE bag so children are able to pack their bags independently

Please make sure you label all of your child’s belongings so they can be easily identified.

**A note about lunches:**

What is healthy?? Children will be asked to eat healthy food in first break especially.

Some advice is given by Education Queensland.

‘Have Plenty’

Encourage and promote these foods and drinks.

These foods and drinks:
- are excellent sources of important nutrients
- are low in saturated fat and/or added sugar and/or salt
- help to avoid an intake of excess energy (kilojoules or calories)

‘Select carefully’

Do not let these foods and drinks dominate the choices and avoid large serving sizes.

These foods and drinks:
- have some nutritional value
- have moderate amounts of saturated fat and/or added sugar and/or salt
- can, in large serve sizes, contribute excess energy (kilojoules or calories)

‘Occasionally’

These foods and drinks are to be supplied on no more than two occasions per term.

These foods and drinks:
- lack adequate nutritional value
- are high in saturated fat and/or sugar and/or salt
- can contribute excess energy (kilojoules or calories)
How big is too big??

Lunch break is for eating, drinking and playing. Pack enough food so there is time to play and socialise. Children can struggle to finish lunches and feel they must eat everything there is. Your teacher may at times balance the need for food and the need for play so if you are worried please talk to them and find a happy medium.

What about my fussy eater??

Talk to your teacher and work out what is reasonable for eating at school.

School Uniform

https://jindaleess.eq.edu.au/Facilities/Uniformshop/Pages/Uniformshop.aspx

Preparatory uniform

• Unisex- Royal Blue polo Shirt with Gold Collar, Short Sleeve, with School Logo & “PREP” on top LHS.

• Royal Blue short.

• Shoes (Black) or Joggers (Black or White)- non-marking soles. White Socks.

• Royal Blue Broad Brimmed Hat with Gold Hat Band.

Winter uniform

Unisex -

• Royal Blue Fleece Zip Jacket with School Logo on top LHS, and Gold panel insert across each sleeve.
• Royal Blue Microfibre Jacket with School Logo on top LHS, and Gold panel insert down each sleeve.
• Plain Royal Blue jumper or zip jacket.
• Royal Blue Fleece Track Pant.
• Royal Blue Microfibre Track Pant.
• Royal Blue Boot Leg Pant.

Students must wear the Jindalee State School Prep uniform which can be purchased from the Uniform Shop. Jindalee State School has a school dress code which includes a uniform policy and a NO HAT, NO PLAY policy. The uniform is specifically designed to be sun safe and all uniforms have a collar and are sleeved.

Sleeper earrings and studs, medallions of a religious nature, medical alert bracelets and watches may be worn. Other jewellery is not to be brought to or worn at school.

There are also school hair accessories in school colours available and these are to be worn in preference to other hairbands, hair ties etc.

Students must wear closed in shoes to school every day. Supportive joggers or school shoes are recommended as children spend considerable time engaged in play both inside and out during prep. Please choose shoes that your child can manage independently as there may be times when they will take their shoes off during the day. DO NOT send your child in thongs or slip on shoes as these are not safe.

Communication
It is important for us to keep you fully informed about what we are doing at school and there are numerous ways that we achieve this
Newsletter:
The newsletter is on line and to access this you need to subscribe. School newsletters are emailed fortnightly on Wednesday, informing you about events happening in and around the school community. If you want to know what is happening at school then the newsletter is the place to go. To view the newsletter, visit the Jindalee State School website. [https://jindaleess.eq.edu.au/Ourschool/Pages/Ourschool.aspx](https://jindaleess.eq.edu.au/Ourschool/Pages/Ourschool.aspx)

Messages:
Please read the noticeboard outside your child’s classroom regularly to keep in touch with events and information. Also, please make sure you regularly check your child’s pocket for notes that require your attention. If you are unable to check these areas on a regular basis, please speak to your child’s teacher and make alternative arrangements.

Sharing Information:
Events in family life, such as illness, new babies and visitors can be a prime source of excitement or concern for young children and this can affect their behaviour at home and/or school. It is important to share this information with your child’s teacher as it may affect their behaviour at school.

Please ensure you update any changes to telephone/mobile numbers, addresses or emergency contacts. It may seem an inconvenience but often we are not able to contact anyone -parents or emergency contacts when we have your child sick at school. This causes even more worries for your child.

Teaching And Learning

The Early Years Curriculum
The Preparatory Year is a full time quality educational program, which aims to:

- encourage active learning, problem solving, effective communication skills, creativity, social skills and participation.
• Celebrate the diversity of life experience and cultural heritage that shapes a child’s life.
• Have the lifelong learner as a central focus.
• Reflect the core priorities of literacy, numeracy, the life skills defined in the Early Years Curriculum (Prep) and Key Learning Areas (Year One)
• Encourage strong partnerships between children, parents, schools and community.
• Make use of a flexible learning environment using indoor and outdoor areas and the wider community.

Everything your child does within our school has a purpose for learning. The following factors have been identified to contribute to success in learning:

• Social and emotional competence with a focus on social/personal learning
• Health and physical wellbeing
• Active learning processes with a focus on thinking, investigating, imagining and responding

**Australian Curriculum**
As a part of the Australian Curriculum students participate in the following subjects:

• English
• Maths

• Geography
• History
• The Arts – including Music

Music is a specialist area and therefore the children have a teacher who has
specific music training. This means they will from the beginning of the year have another teacher besides their class teacher.

- **Science**

  is a specialist area at Jindalee state school and so will have a different teacher for this area of learning

- **HPE**

  is a specialist area and therefore the children have a teacher who has specific physical education training. This means they will from the beginning of the year have another teacher besides their class teacher.

**Reading, Writing and Numbers.....**


**IT TAKES TIME TO GET TO**

THIS and THIS
There is a lot of learning that happens before we see children picking up pencils and doing the reading, writing and numbers in these pictures. There are many ways you can help this development at home and help them learn the important skills before reading and writing and numbers. It is so important that we all get the foundations right. Think of building a house, if the foundations are not done properly then somewhere the building will start to show faults. Learning is much the same. Help us get the foundations of learning strong. Part of this is to allow for play and don’t make everything a lesson when they begin school. There are now lots of on-line advice around early learning so here are a few links that might get you started.

http://raisingchildren.net.au/articles/numeracy_early_years_-_dest.html

http://raisingchildren.net.au/literacy_reading/school_age_literacy.html

**Jolly Phonics**

Jolly Phonics is the phonemic awareness program used at Jindalee State School. Classes focus on specific sounds throughout the year in order to gain letter sound knowledge.

The five skills taught in Jolly Phonics

1. Learning the letter sounds
Children are taught the 42 main letter sounds. This includes alphabet sounds as well as digraphs such as sh, th, ai and ue.

2. **Learning letter formation**
Using different multi-sensory methods, children learn how to form and write the letters.

3. **Blending**
Children are taught how to blend the sounds together to read and write new words. NB: this is all about putting sounds together in a fluent manner.

4. **Identifying the sounds in words (Segmenting)**
Listening for the sounds in words gives children the best start for improving spelling.

5. **Tricky words**
Tricky words have irregular spellings and children learn these separately.

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**Handwriting**

**Before the Handwriting**
We often hear the terms fine and gross motor skills and how important they are in developing writing later on during their years at school.
Gross motor is building strength in a child’s big muscle – the arms, legs, shoulders, thighs, stomach. School demands a lot of strength to ‘sit up straight’ and so these muscles are very important and are developed in play. Some of these games might help....always be aware that these are suggestions and you need take this advice in the context of your child’s abilities and confidences.

These pictures and ideas come from.....


Fine motor are the small muscles: fingers, wrists. If you have a reluctant writer then you may have a budding carpenter—hammering nails, using screwdrivers will develop the same muscles. Plasticine (although messy so be prepared) will really exercise those muscles as you need to roll the plasticine to get it hot. Again reluctant writers and painters may be happy to make dinosaur models or create a lego car or do jigsaw puzzles.
The correct script for Queensland students is the QUEENSLAND CURSIVE SCRIPT.

The letters are not round as we often think but have what we call ‘wedges’. This is for information so that as the children are learning to write the letters at school you can help them practice at home.

THE BEGINNER'S ALPHABET

aA bB cC dD eE fF gG hH
iI jJ kK lL mM nN
oO pP qQ rR sS tT
uU vV wW xX yY zZ

**Homework**

Home reading books and sight words will be sent home when students begin to show signs that they are ready for reading. More information will be provided by your child’s teacher.
Getting your child set for Prep

Starting school is a very exciting time. Sometimes there may also be some nerves about what will happen next. This is normal. It is also a time to be brave (and I mean the mums and dads and grandmas etc.) Children will worry if you worry. Talk about it by all means but be aware how many people in their life are actually talking about starting school as it is usually everyone and something that should be a normal part of growing suddenly becomes a hot topic. Children start to wonder whether they should be concerned. Please if you need to cry and you may need to: don’t let you prep child see.

Here are some simple steps you can take to help make your child’s time at school more enjoyable and relaxing.

Encourage your child to be independent by helping them get used to:

- putting on their clothes
- putting on and doing up their shoes
- eating and drinking without help (opening lunchboxes, wrapping and unwrapping school lunches and drinking from drink bottles)
- caring for and putting away play items
- using a handkerchief or tissue
- going to the toilet independently
- using playground equipment safely
- carrying their own bag
- unpacking and packing their own bag
- recognising their own name
- identifying their own belongings
Parent Involvement

Parents are encouraged to be involved as much as possible by:

- Volunteering as a parent helper in your child’s classroom
- Supporting the Parents and Citizens Association which meets every 3rd Monday of each month
- Participating in fundraising and social events
- Attending Parent Interviews to discuss your child’s progress
- Attending Parent Information sessions
- Communicating to your child’s teacher any concerns or relevant information about your child
- Supporting your child’s learning at home by helping them to complete their homework

Welcome to our school community:

Everyone at our school recognises THE JINDALEE WAY and these words are part of our culture. Prep students will join the whole school at parades soon after they begin the year and so THE JINDALEE WAY is said by everyone and underlie the values we hold at Jindalee.

The Jindalee Way

As members of the Jindalee State School Community,