

Parents

Frequently Asked Questions

1. How do I apply for enrolment at Currambine Primary School?

Currambine Primary School accepts enrolments throughout the year. Enrolment may be made in person at the school or managed through other means. On enrolment the school requires a copy of the child's birth certificate and immunisation record. If the child has entered the country from overseas the passport must be provided so the visa details may be determined.

Children in Pre Primary to Year Six that reside within the school's boundaries are guaranteed a place at the school. The school welcomes out of boundary enrolments when vacancies are available.

2. At what age does my child attend kindergarten?

Children commence kindergarten if they will turn four in the year they attend. Kindergarten is a part time program for 15 hours per week. While Kindergarten is not compulsory, almost all parents send their children to a kindergarten program so their children can get the best possible start to their schooling.

3. How do I make sure my child settles into kindergarten?

If your child does not know any students at school, after school play dates can help build relationships and a sense of belonging.

Children also settle quickly if you as a parent are involved in the school. Volunteering is most welcome in our school.

Parents are encouraged to visit the school ground prior to the commencement of the school year to familiarise them with the environment.

A Play and Learning Program operates one morning a week at the school for 0 – 4 year old students. Parents are encouraged to participate in this program.

4. How do I enrol a child with a diagnosed disability or learning difficulty?

Currambine Primary welcomes all students into our community. If your child has a diagnosed disability or learning difficulty, please make an appointment with the Principal or Associate Principals prior to your child commencing. We will be keen to understand your child's needs, plan for their successful transition into the school and the ongoing management of their needs.

5. Can International Fee Paying Students enrol at Currambine Primary?

Currambine Primary School is registered to enrol fee paying students. Parents who enter Australia on a visa that requires their children to pay tuition fees should contact

Education and Training International at <http://eti.wa.edu.au/>

6. My child is in a composite (split) class. What does this mean?

A composite class has two or more grades in it. Teaching staff are well practiced in managing the diverse needs of students in the class. Currambine Primary School does not believe that children are disadvantaged, either academically or socially by being placed in composite classes.

7. What are School Development Days?

School Development Days provide opportunities for the school staff to engage in professional learning and planning activities aimed at improving the achievements of the students in our care. The children **do not** attend school on a School Development Day. The dates for School Development Days can be found on the school website.

8. How is student behaviour managed?

Currambine Primary School believes in setting high standards of student behaviour and rewarding students who meet these expectations. Rewards include faction tokens, Assembly Stars and Gold Class Awards. Students experiencing difficulty meeting the expected standard are supported to improve their behaviour. Further information is available in our Student Care and Support Policy which can be found in the policy section of the website.

9. What fees and charges are payable to attend the school?

No fees are payable to attend a public school. A range of contribution and charges are payable for specific activities, excursions or events. These matters are usually communicated to the parents of the students involved by letter.

A copy of the Contribution and Charges for 2014 is available on this website or by calling the school.

10. My child has a medical condition or requires medication. How is this managed?

If your child has a medical condition or requires regular medication you should make an appointment with an Associate Principal to manage the matter. Further information is available from the school website.

11. What facilities does Currambine Primary School offer?

Currambine Primary School enjoys buildings and facilities of a high standard. This includes four teaching blocks containing some eighteen classrooms as well as a purpose built art room, science lab, two music rooms and a library. The school has an undercover assembly area and two astro turf play areas as well as extensive playgrounds and a school oval. The school has fourteen demountable classrooms.

The school has a significant wireless capacity and has extensive access to eBoards and iPads.

12. What are the school hours?

Children may attend the site from 8.00am. They will be supervised on the astro turf to the south of the administration block until 8.15am when they are dismissed to attend class. Classroom instruction commences at 8.30am. Children have a 20 minute recess at 10.40am and a lunch break at 1.00pm. School concludes at 2.40 each day.

13. Do children have to wear school uniforms?

While school uniforms are not compulsory in public schools we strongly encourage all students to comply with the school dress code. Information about the Dress code is available on the school website.

14. What services are available for students who are gifted?

Classroom teachers will case manage students who require extension within the classroom. On occasions, withdrawal extension programs may also be offered. Selected students may attend the Regional Primary Extension and Challenge Program. (PEAC)

15. How do I volunteer in the school?

Volunteers are always welcome because it helps to foster the partnership between parents and the school. Parents need to complete a Confidential Declaration form prior to volunteering. Parents should contact their child's classroom teacher or attend a meeting of the Parents and Citizens Association if they wish to volunteer.

16. What specialist programs are offered in the school?

Currumbine Primary School offers specialist Music, Visual Art, French, Physical Education and Science.

17. What should I do if my child has been bullied?

Bullying is a repeated behaviour which is intended to cause hurt and may take the form of verbal, physical, social or digital actions.

If you suspect your child has been bullied please make an appointment with the class teacher to discuss your concerns.

The information below provides some advice on the management of bullying issues.

How can you work with the school?

It can be really upsetting and daunting to have to approach your child's school when you find out they are being bullied, and many parents aren't actually sure what to do.

Your child may not want to tell the school about the bullying; however, it's incredibly important that you let the school know.

Make a time to talk to your child's teacher, school counsellor, guidance officer, deputy principal or the principal. Be as clear as possible about what happened.

Ask what the school intends to do, and ask for a follow-up meeting.

Keep in touch with the school and let the staff know if the problem continues.

Remain calm and be constructive.

Remember, the objective here is to end the bullying.

I'd encourage you to call the school and set up an appointment to talk with your child's teacher.

He or she will probably be in the best position to understand the relationships between your child and other peers at school.

Share your concerns about your child and ask the teacher such questions as:

- . How does my child get along with other students in his or her class?
- . With whom does he or she spend free time?
- . Have you noticed, or have you ever suspected, that my child is bullied by other students?
- . Is there conflict with one student or a group of students?
- . Why does the teacher think your child is being targeted?

Talk to the teacher about all forms of bullying – physical, verbal, social (the covert type), psychological and cyber bullying – to make sure that all forms are explored.

Things to say to your child who is being bullied

1. Talk – Start a conversation about being bullied. But don't make it intense or you might deter them from talking to you.
2. Listen – Hear the whole story without interrupting. Ask what they want to happen before you make any suggestions.
3. Explain – It's normal to feel hurt. It's never OK to be bullied, and it's NOT their fault.
4. Find out what is happening – Ask what, when and where the behaviour occurred, who was involved, how often and if anybody else saw it. Find out if any teachers know and if the school's done something to address the situation.
5. Give sensible advice – Don't advise your child to fight back. Don't explain that the child doing the bullying did not mean it – they did. Don't tell them it will go away – it probably won't. Don't let your child stay away from school – it won't solve the problem.
6. Help your child work out some things to do, like walk away when the bully approaches you. Try and imagine it's a friend you're walking away from – this can be a way of making sure your body language (which you're usually unaware of) doesn't give away a sense of fear.

It might help to concentrate on thinking about something else (eg – like what you'll do next weekend, counting to 100)