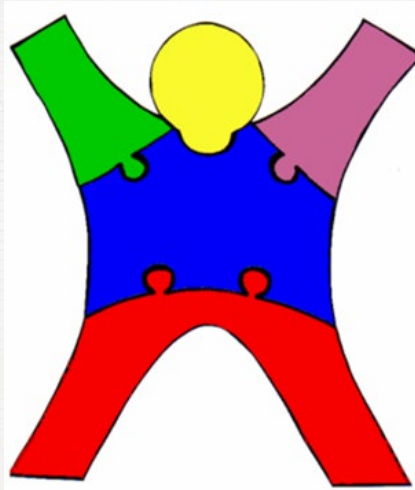


# Harlaxton State School Prep Information Booklet

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# Welcome

Welcome to Harlaxton State School Prep.

We are pleased to have the opportunity to work with you and your child as they begin their journey of lifelong learning.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the Gialbal, Jagera and Jarowair people, the traditional custodian of the lands, waterways and skies where we gather. We thank them for sharing their connection and culture with us and for caring for the land we learn and play on. We pay our respects to Elders and we share our role of growing the learning of young people.

# Principal's Welcome from Mandy Norton - McNeill

Harlaxton State School is 123 years old. We are proud of our teaching and learning model of starting strong in our Early Years program, keeping strong in our middle years program and owning the strength in our year 5/6 program.

Our school vision: The Whole Child: Making Connections- Creating Opportunities tells our story very well. We are committed to working together with our school and wider community to grow the potential and promise of our students, invest in our shared values of Relationships, Resilience and Respect and stand proud of our ethos of guiding and nurturing their sense of belonging.

We work hard. We value partnership. We listen and we care about making a difference today, tomorrow and in future pathways for our school community. We are team workers. We know our students. Our students know our staff and students in other classes.

A wealth of wisdom is found in our teaching and support team. Informed and tailored are key parts to our teaching and learning and student wellbeing. I enjoy visiting all Harlaxton classrooms because they make me feel welcomed, include me in their excitement for learning, have such a classroom mindset for aspiring to high expectations, of being courageous in learning new skills and concepts, practicing and polishing what they know and apply.

On behalf of Harlaxton, I welcome you to our community.

Our building blocks of a strong, positive school culture



# What is Prep?

Prep is the first year of school and provides the foundation of your child's education. It is compulsory for Queensland children to undertake Prep prior to Year 1. Prep is a full time program in schools and has a defined curriculum. Children attend Monday to Friday.  
(The State of Queensland 1995-2022)

## FOUNDATION

The transition to  
Year 1 and  
lifelong  
learning.

## LEARNING

Learning using  
active and  
engaging  
activities that  
are appropriate  
for a child's age  
and  
development.

## RELATIONSHIPS

Making new  
friends.  
Building social  
skills and  
community  
values.

## ADVENTURE

A new world  
full of exciting  
and challenging  
things to do.





# Prep at Harlaxton State School

At Harlaxton State School Prep students are given a variety of learning opportunities. Taking into consideration the child's developmental, social and cultural needs.

## FOCUSED TEACHING AND LEARNING:

- Content based on the Australian Curriculum
- Literacy and Numeracy are taught through whole class and small group instruction
- Specialist lessons in Music and Physical Education (including swimming (Term 4)
- Trained Teacher Aides support learning in classrooms and 1 -1 support where needed

## INVESTIGATIONS AND PLAY

- Active and hands on learning
- Play based learning activities

✓ **A positive school ethos and rich learning environment that is open, respectful, caring and safe, and optimises learning through a commitment to wellbeing.**

## EXTRA CURRICULA OPPORTUNITIES

- Digital Technologies – Reading Eggs and Math Seeds in our computer lab
- Regular visits to our school library
- Celebration of cultural events (NAIDOC, ANZAC Day, Harmony Day)
- Participation in sports carnivals
- Government supported Homework Club

## SPECIALIST SUPPORT (where required)

- Speech Language Pathologist
- Guidance Officer
- School Social Worker
- Bi-lingual support
- Chaplain



# What is PBL?

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Harlaxton State School uses Positive Behaviour for Learning practices to support student well being and engagement at school.

School behaviour expectations are taught and reinforced with a reward system (Gotchas) to support students to follow the three school values – Respect, Resilience and Relationships.

## Respect

Students learn how respect people, places and things.

## Resilience

Students develop resilience to face everyday challenges in and out of school.

## Relationships

Students build good relationships with others.



# Steps to Enrolling Your Child:

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## 1. Check your child's eligibility:

Is your child the right age to begin Prep?

- X Children who turn 5 by the 30<sup>th</sup> of June in their first year of school are eligible to enrol in Prep

## 2. Complete an enrolment form:

- X Enrolment forms are available from the office. Administration staff can help you to complete this form. Please call to make an appointment.

You will need to provide:

- X Birth Certificate
- X Medicare Card

## 3. Attend an interview:

- X Make an appointment to attend an interview with our Principal or Deputy
- X Depending on the time of year, an opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher might be arranged.



# Daily Routines

## Morning drop-off

- X Parents/Carers drop off their child/ren to Prep at the start of the school day
- X Prep classrooms open at bell time (8.30am)
- X Parents/Carers are required to supervise their child/ren until this time

➤ To ensure student safety, students arriving or leaving outside of bell times need to be signed in and out through the office.

## Afternoon pick-up

- X Parents/Carers pick up their child/ren at the end of the school day (2.30pm)
- X If you need an alternative pick up arrangement please let the office know to include this on their record

## Absence






- X If your child cannot attend school for the day, you will receive a text asking why your child is absent. Please reply with your child's name and the reason for their absence.
- X Prep attendance is compulsory. As such, frequent absences are recorded and acted on in accordance with government policies.





# A Week In Prep

Students in Prep engage in all learning areas of the Australian curriculum each week. Regular attendance is compulsory and necessary for them to achieve their learning potential. Below is an example of our weekly timetable.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Literacy	Literacy	Literacy	Literacy	Assembly
Fruit Break 	Fruit Break 	Fruit Break 	Fruit Break 	Fruit Break 
Reading Groups	Reading Groups	Reading Groups	Reading Groups	Computer Labs
Morning Tea/ Play	Morning Tea/ Play	Morning Tea/ Play	Morning Tea/ Play	Morning Tea/ Play
Math	Library	Math	Math	Math
Lunch/Play	Lunch/Play	Lunch/Play	Lunch/Play	Lunch/Play
Music	Technology	Science	HASS	PE



# What to bring: Please label all items.

Lunch boxes, clothing, water bottles are usually returned if they are misplaced when they are named.

## School Bag



Large enough to fit all their belongings.

## Piece of Fruit



A piece of fresh fruit, vegetable sticks or cheese and crackers for a mid-morning snack.

## Lunch



An easy to eat, healthy lunch without chocolates or lollies, packed in an easy to carry lunch box.

## Spare Clothes



A change of clothes (including underwear and socks) in case of accidents.

## Water Bottle



Easy to use water bottle for lunch meals

## You will also need:

- X School supplies from the booklist. (Book packs are available for purchase from the office)
- X School uniform
- X School hat
- X Library bag
- X Swimming clothes, cap and towel (Term4)

**Medication:** if your child/ren requires prescribed medication to be given during school hours please contact the office about the requirements around administering these medicines.

Remember to label everything



# Lunch:

A healthy lunch provides the energy a child needs to learn. It also gives children the best chance of regulating their behaviour. Set them up for success with a good breakfast and a lunch box free of packaged food. Better for them, better for the environment.

## 5 Steps To Pack A Healthy Lunchbox

### 1. Fruit

1 serving,  
examples:



### 2. Vegetables

At least 1-2 serve, examples:



Add a dip to help kids eat veggies

### 4. Healthy Snack

1 serve ONLY, examples:



### 3. Main Lunch

Include protein and healthy fat to keep your tummy full, plus whole grains (if eating grains) for long lasting energy. Examples include homemade hamburger with salad; wraps with chicken and salad; quinoa, brown rice, eggs, chickpeas etc. Include a dairy source such as cheese or side of yoghurt if eating dairy.



### 5. Water Bottle

Your body is made up mostly of water. You use this when you play, learn and go to the toilet. Be sure to drink water to replace what you use! It's the best drink for your body.



- ✓ Not too much
- ✓ Easy to open and close
- ✓ Healthy choices



# School Uniform

Students are expected to wear our school uniform every day. School uniforms are available for purchase from the Tuckshop.

You will need:

- X School polo shirt
- X Navy blue shorts, skirt or skorts
- X School bucket hat
- X Socks – white, black or navy
- X Black closed-in shoes (Velcro fasteners preferred)
- X Navy school jumper and track pants for
- X cold weather



Remember  
to label  
everything





# Getting your child ready for Prep

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Parents often ask about ways to best prepare their child for Prep. Here are some simple ways you help your child be Prep ready:

- X Attend Prep Open days and information sessions
- X Read to your child everyday
- X Talk to your child – ask questions, listen to their answers and encourage them to ask *why*
- X Teach them to be independent – dressing, looking after belongings, toileting
- X Encourage your child to draw, colour, cut
- X Socialise – create opportunities for your child to meet and play with other children and adults

If you have concerns about your child's transition or readiness for Prep, talk to our experienced administration team or to your GP.



# Getting Involved:

Support your child and our school by being involved in our school community.

## Weekly Newsletter

The Harlaxton Herald is emailed to parents and carers each Tuesday. Keep in touch with schools news, events and information by reading this each week.

## Attend assembly and events

Whole school assembly occurs each Friday morning at 8.30 and is open to parents and carers.

School events and celebrations happen throughout the year. Many are open to parents/carers.

## P&C

The school P&C is a vital and active part of our school community that supports and raises money for school facilities and events. By joining the P&C you become an active and vital part of our school community. Volunteers are needed for:

- School Tuckshop
- Uniform shop
- Event stalls (E.g. father's day, mother's day)
- Fundraising activities



Contacts:

