



WORONORA RIVER PUBLIC SCHOOL





PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

EDUCATION WITH A PURPOSE

Dear families,

It is with great pleasure and excitement that I extend a warm welcome to all students, parents, and carers. As the Principal, I am honoured to be a part of this incredible school community and look forward to working with everyone.

Woronora River Public School is more than just a place of learning; it is a place where dreams are nurtured, talents are discovered, and friendships are formed. Our school is a vibrant hub of knowledge, creativity, and growth, where every student is valued and encouraged to achieve their personal best.

At Woronora River Public School, we believe in providing a well-rounded education that not only focuses on academic excellence but also nurtures the social, emotional, and physical development of our students. We strive to create a positive and inclusive learning environment that fosters a love for learning, critical thinking, and a sense of responsibility.

Our dedicated team of highly skilled and passionate educators are committed to providing quality education and support to every student. They work tirelessly to create engaging and stimulating learning experiences that cater to the unique needs and interests of each child. We believe in a student-centered approach, where students are actively involved in their own learning journey, encouraged to question, explore,

and develop a deep understanding of the world around them.

We are also fortunate to have a supportive and engaged parent community at Woronora River Public School. We value and encourage open communication and collaboration between home and school, as we firmly believe that strong partnerships are crucial in ensuring the success and well-being of our students. I invite all families to actively participate in school activities, events, and parent-teacher meetings, as your involvement plays a vital role in your child's educational journey.

As we embark on each academic year, let us embrace the challenges, celebrate the successes, and create cherished memories together. I am confident that with our collective efforts, we will make school an extraordinary one for each and every member of our community.

Once again, welcome to Woronora River Public School. I am genuinely excited about the possibilities and achievements that lie ahead. Let us work hand in hand to inspire, educate, and empower our students to become confident, compassionate, and responsible individuals who will make a positive difference in the world.

With warm regards,

Cameron Campbell



Why choose

WORONORA RIVER PUBLIC SCHOOL?



Some students can do well in larger schools, while others can feel a bit lost and overwhelmed amongst the masses. When you are choosing the right school for your child, you should take their personality into account and decide whether a small school community would be better able to develop their confidence and encourage their development. Woronora River Public School offers a unique small school community that provides students with many different benefits:

Learning can be tailored and students value learning

Teachers can easily monitor every student across their academic, emotional and social needs as they get to spend more individual time with each student. Students feel more confident talking to their teachers about any issues they are facing or areas of work where they need additional support.

More social confidence, more inclusive

There is a greater sense of community where everyone is working together. The community spirit between students helps them socially interact better and feel safe to try new things and discover new interests. At smaller schools, unique characteristics are embraced and nervous students can feel more relaxed which gives them a better chance of enjoying their school experience.

Parents have a better relationship with the school

It is easier for parents to be more involved in the school community, whether that is having a quick chat with their child's teacher about their progress or getting involved with school events and social activities. Many parents network and make friends with other parents forming a tighter community.

Peace of mind about multi-stage and composite classes

"Straight" grades are made up of students with varying strengths and abilities so, in fact - all classes are composite. There is no classroom that exists where all students are at the same level and require the same things, delivered in the same way. So, regardless of classroom structure, a student's education will come down to the quality, effectiveness and commitment of the school and the teacher in charge of managing the class.

Learning at WORONORA RIVER PUBLIC SCHOOL

SMALL IN SIZE, BIG AT HEART

Woronora River Public School has a unique offering in this big, wide, world – a small world for our kids to grow to their best potential.

Smaller means we are able to make the transition into school less daunting. Smaller means our relationships are closer and monitoring a child's progress is clearer. Smaller means we can identify children's strengths and learning passions as well as identify any issues sooner. Smaller means we can be more flexible and agile react and the agility to change tactics. We are able to embrace individual children's needs.

Being smaller has huge benefits!

CONNECTIONS & COMMUNITY

Woronora River Public School's foster quality relationships and strong connections. We are able to closely monitor students, offer flexible learning and track development. This results in better outcomes and helps develop skills and encourage creativity, problem solving, effective communication and create good character. By knowing every student's strengths, challenges and motivations, we can better cater to their needs.

We also believe that encouraging communication and a healthy parent and teacher relationship, will benefit our student and wider school community.

Ultimately, we ensure that every student is known, valued and cared for at Woronora River Public School.

EQUITY AND INCLUSION

At Woronora River Public School we have open minds and open hearts. Children interact and form friendships with other children across different ages and abilities which helps develop a supportive and empathetic network as well as developing communication skills across multiple age brackets. We have built a school community where everyone knows and looks out for one another. At Woronora River Public School you won't get lost in the crowd!

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING (PBL)

Woronora River Public School is a Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) school. PBL is a whole-school approach for creating a positive, safe and supportive school environment where students can learn and develop. In our school students are taught expected behaviours and staff take a proactive, preventative approach to ensure student learning outcomes are enhanced. Our values are to be Respectful, Safe and Engaged.



ALL SETTINGS

RESPECTFUL	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Listen and follow instructions from an adult• Care and include others• Use our manners• Wear school uniform with pride• Care for our property and the environment• Cooperate with others
SAFE	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be in right place at the right time• Walk on hard surfaces• Wear a hat or play in shade• Hands and feet to self
ENGAGED	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be prepared and ready to learn• Follow teachers instructions• Be an active participant• Show active listening• Have high expectations of self

A POSITIVE ENVIRONMENT IN A BEAUTIFUL ENVIRONMENT

Our school embraces a positive and harmonious environment which is echoed by the unique natural landscape that surrounds us. We have safe active spaces, grassy playground, entertaining sandpits and multiple basketball courts with synthetic turf, a Sensory Garden with seating for peaceful and mindful experiences and a Nature Trail for outdoor learning experiences.

We are a close community and provide opportunities for students and their parents to discuss learning programs and progress. Our students make strong friendships and are connected to the world around them.

KEY LEARNING

Our enthusiastic and caring teachers with high level training to back them up, create a faculty and environment to encourage every child to be their best. We deliver education across the six Key Learning Areas in NSW primary school education, including: English; Mathematics; Science and Technology; Personal Development, Health and Physical Education; Human Society and Its Environment; and Creative and Performing Arts. While these Key Learning Areas are the pillars of our education curriculum, we also focus on individual learning to better cater for the needs of each child.

READING & LITERACY

You cannot underestimate the value of reading. Instilling a passion for reading and writing is a critical component to all education. We have research backed decodables and a Library where students attend every week and participate in information skill lessons to help feed their thirst for knowledge. We also have a suite of literacy tools including:

- InitialLit: A whole class program providing the essential core knowledge and strong foundations to become successful readers and writers.
- MiniLit/MacqLit: An explicit and systematic reading intervention program for small groups teaching: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension.
- Spell-It: Teaches the rules, conventions, structure and logic of the English language.
- Literacy Pro: A research-based, online assessment resource which develops students into successful, proficient readers.

CULTURAL ROOM

We have a cultural room for everyone regardless of cultural background and everyone is welcome. The room primarily supports First Nations education and the programs that run within the school to support closing the gap initiatives and also cultural lessons. We provide an environment to support student's education while also giving them a sense of belonging and cultural connection. Together we strengthen collaboration by "walking together" and "working together" we will work towards common goals in Aboriginal education, and together we will celebrate the successes of our students and communities.



LEADERSHIP

We give our students opportunities to be leaders in the classroom, playground and various academic, sporting, cultural or local community projects, including:

Student Buddy Program - Kindergarten students are buddied with year six students to offer support and friendship.

SRC - Student Representative Council offers students the chance to develop their communication, decision making and leadership skills by representing their peers at regular meetings to discuss concerns and fundraising initiatives.

School Leaders - We offer a number of opportunities for students to self nominate for leadership roles. Some of the opportunities on offer include, School Captain, Environmental, Technology and Sports Leaders.

In these roles they act as proud school ambassadors and exemplify our school values for other students and in the wider community.

STUDENT PROGRESS

We have a multitude of ways to measure a student's learning. Biannually, teachers formally assess a student's achievements based on their syllabus outcomes. Written reports are sent home and parent/teacher interviews are scheduled throughout the year. Our door is always open to discuss your child's progress.

HEALTH & DEVELOPMENT

Healthy bodies and healthy minds go hand in hand. Personal Development, Health and Physical Education are an important part of the curriculum that brings awareness to issues that can impact the health, well-being and safety of themselves and others. We offer an array of physical activities, competitive Primary School Sports Association (PSSA) and non-competitive sport opportunities for students to participate in that are enjoyable and challenging, helping develop fundamental movement skills and confidence.

TECHNOLOGY & RESOURCES

Technology is a synonymous component of life these days. At Woronora River Public School we embrace a balance of traditional teaching methods and integrate technology with WiFi enabled tablets with a 1:1 device ratio meaning every child gets a device. Teaching is also enhanced with interactive whiteboards, 3D printer and green screen and a suite of apps that connect teachers and various administrative task directly with parents to ensure clear communication and efficiency.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Our Merit Award program is a source of great pride in our students with awards presented in class and at the School assembly. It incentivises and recognises achievements in learning as well as social and personal growth.

YOUR CHILD IS AN INDIVIDUAL

It is important to remember that your child will learn and respond to their new educational setting in their own way and time. Each child has different strengths, challenges and progress at different rates. Our school is enriched by the diversity of our students. It is best to focus on their personal journey and goals.

The key to monitoring your child's learning and education is focusing on how they are performing at the start of the year and how much they have developed during the year.

The most valuable thing you can do for your child is to give them quality time. Spend time listening to your child, reading with your child, fostering their interests and encouraging every little step your child takes along their educational journey. The benefits we *all* receive will be enormous.

Celebrate milestones no matter how large or small. In doing so your child will see that you value their achievements.

SCHOOL LEARNING & SUPPORT OFFICER

We employ School Learning Support Officers to work under the direction and supervision of the classroom teacher. They provide assistance to students with additional learning and support needs. They can provide assistance with school routines, classroom activities, and the care and management of students with disability and additional learning and support needs.

Learning at
WRPS



CREATIVE MINDS

WE ARE BRAVE ENOUGH TO LIVE LIFE CREATIVELY

At Woronora River Public School, we believe that creativity is a fundamental skill that empowers students to think outside the box, solve complex problems, and express themselves confidently. We are committed to providing an environment that nurtures and celebrates creativity, allowing our students to unleash their imagination and explore their unique talents. Here are some ways in which we foster creativity:

Inspiring Learning Spaces: Our classrooms and learning spaces are designed to ignite creativity. We provide flexible seating arrangements, ample materials, and resources that encourage students to freely express their ideas and engage in hands-on, interactive learning experiences.

Arts and Enrichment Programs: We take an all encompassing approach where students learn to appreciate, compose, listen, make and perform. We offer a wide range of arts and enrichment programs, including visual arts, music, drama, dance, debating and public speaking. These programs not only provide students with opportunities to explore various artistic mediums but also encourage self-expression, collaboration, and a sense of accomplishment.

Project-Based Learning: We believe in the power of project-based learning to foster creativity. Students are given the freedom to choose topics of interest and design their own projects, allowing them to apply their knowledge in innovative and imaginative ways.

Integration of Technology: We embrace technology as a tool for creativity. Our students have access to cutting-edge technology, such as coding, robotics, and multimedia tools, enabling them to explore new avenues of creativity and digital expression.

Cultivating a Growth Mindset: We encourage a growth mindset among our students, emphasising that creativity is a skill that can be developed through practice and perseverance. We celebrate challenges as valuable learning opportunities and provide constructive feedback to inspire continuous growth and improvement.

Celebrating Diversity and Individuality: We understand that every student has their own unique strengths and talents. We celebrate diversity and provide opportunities for students to showcase their individual creativity, whether through performances, exhibitions, or competitions.

Collaboration and Teamwork: We believe that creativity thrives in a collaborative environment. Our students engage in group projects and discussions, allowing them to learn from and inspire one another. We foster a culture of respect and open-mindedness, encouraging students to embrace diverse perspectives and work together to generate innovative ideas.

We are dedicated to nurturing the creative potential within each student, preparing them to become confident, innovative, and adaptable individuals in an ever-changing world.

HEALTHY HABITS

NURTURING THE WELLBEING OF OUR STUDENTS

At Woronora River Public School, we believe that the foundation for a successful and fulfilling life begins with good health and wellbeing. We are committed to fostering healthy habits among our students, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to make positive choices that will benefit their physical, mental, and emotional well-being. Here are some ways in which we promote healthy habits:

Physical Education and Active Lifestyle: We prioritise physical education as an integral part of our curriculum. Our students engage in regular physical activities, sports, and games that not only promote fitness but also instill a love for an active lifestyle. We offer many opportunities to get students moving with sports, including a mix of fun play exercises and games at our school and Interschool Competitive Sport. We are proud to enter teams into Primary School Sports Association (PSSA) inter school sports competitions for soccer, netball, touch football, basketball, T-Ball and softball. Being near the river, our students have a special connection and respect for the water and swimming lessons. We also have access to our own tennis court as well as two scaled basketball and netball courts.

Balanced Nutrition: We educate our students about the importance of balanced nutrition and the benefits of making healthy food choices. We encourage wholesome lunches and help feed the mind and the tummy with Crunch & Sip initiatives that help students stay focused on learning in class. Our school canteen offers nutritious meals and snacks.

Wellbeing and Mindfulness: At Woronora River Public School we offer experiences that promote mindfulness, self-regulation, curiosity, courage, resilience, ethics and leadership. We recognise the importance of mental well-being in overall health. We incorporate mindfulness practices into our daily routines, teaching students techniques to improve focus and enhance emotional resilience. We provide a supportive environment where students feel comfortable seeking help and support when needed. We have a suite of mindfulness programs, including:

- Smiling Minds - We aim to help our students build, develop and practice skills for resilience and social and emotional intelligence.
- Student Wellbeing and Engagement Program (SWEEP) - We collaborate with 3 Bridges to place qualified Child & Family Workers or Youth Development Workers that can support with goal setting, case work, outreach, delivering group programs, whole-of-school interventions, and holistic wellbeing strategies.
- Open Parachute - A program designed by a team of Clinical Psychologists, Educators & Filmmakers, to teach mental health skills to all students in a way that is engaging and relatable. Every lesson features an authentic peer voice, role modeling self-reflection and resilience.
- School Psychologist/Counsellor - Our school counselling staff are uniquely qualified members of our school team who apply expertise in mental health, learning, and behaviour to help children and young people succeed academically, socially, behaviourally, and emotionally.

Environmental Awareness: Our environment offers a unique haven by the Woronora River and is surrounded by lush bush land. We have a beautiful grassed sports field, Harmony Garden and The Pat Ridgway Nature Trail which all help keep our kids connected to nature. And not to mention the amazing array of beautiful native flora and fauna we get to observe throughout the seasons. We foster a sense of environmental responsibility and educate students about the impact of their choices on the planet's health. We encourage practices such as recycling, reducing waste, and conserving resources.

Community Partnerships: We collaborate with local health organisations, community centres, and experts to provide additional resources and support for our students and families. We organise workshops, guest speakers, and health-related events to further educate and engage our school community.

Parent and Family Involvement: We believe that promoting healthy habits requires a partnership between school and home. We actively involve parents and families in our initiatives, providing resources, workshops, and opportunities for discussion and collaboration. Together, we create a supportive network that reinforces healthy habits both at school and in the home environment.

Join us in creating a culture of wellness and watch as our students flourish into happy, confident, and resilient individuals who embrace a lifetime of healthy habits.



WRPS Acknowledgement of Country

We the students of Woronora River Public School would like to respectfully acknowledge the Dharawal speaking people of the land our school stands on. We are proud of our school that lies on the banks of the Woronora River.

We embrace the native trees and animals to enhance our learning as part of our everyday experiences.

We would like to extend our respect to elders past, present and future and extend that to both Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal people here today.



WORONORA RIVER PUBLIC SCHOOL



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