

DACEYVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL

PARENT HANDBOOK

Welcome to Daceyville Public School

A caring and dynamic learning environment

Professional and caring teachers deliver excellence in education

At Daceyville Public School we take pride in delivering an excellent education in a warm and nurturing environment. Our teachers are highly trained, caring individuals who are committed to helping all our students reach their full potential across all the key learning areas (KLAs) as well as the broad range of extra-curricular activities the school offers.

We are an innovative school supportive of the idea of life-long learning. We continuously evaluate our approaches to learning to ensure that our school is always at the cutting edge.

A secure and friendly environment

Our strong relationship with all members of the school community contributes to the creation of a happy, safe, secure and welcoming school environment.

We believe the welfare of students and their families is paramount. We are committed to building self esteem in students and to ensuring both responsible behaviour and a strong sense of civic pride.

Your child is treated as an individual

Students at Daceyville Public School are taught using a variety of strategies that cater for individual learning styles.

There is also a strong commitment to multicultural, Aboriginal and environmental perspectives across all our teaching programs.

Our commitment to the individual needs of students from diverse backgrounds is demonstrated by students, parents, teachers and the broader community working together to foster the understanding of different cultural customs and values.

A dynamic school community

One of the things that make Daceyville Public School such a dynamic learning community is the high level of involvement and support from our parents and volunteers. Our parent body meets regularly and has representation from the many and varied cultural backgrounds with the school. We actively encourage parents to support our teaching and learning programs. Regular training and development opportunities are organised for parents to assist with their children's learning at home. There are also regular opportunities for teachers and parents to meet to discuss student progress and to enhance home / school communication to further support the educational goals of their children.

Strong foundations in Literacy and Numeracy

Daceyville Public School has always had a strong commitment to literacy. Our experienced staff are always up to date on current teaching practices and we also strongly value and promote the role of parents in developing and improving children's literacy.

Children have access to a wide range of texts within the classroom, through the library and through our well-established Home Reading Program. These include printed texts as well as those available through computer technologies.

Literacy and numeracy skills of our students are developed across all key learning areas.

Technology plays a key role in the development of numeracy skills at Daceyville Public School and children's progress is carefully monitored through regular assessments.

In both literacy and numeracy, quality support programs and specialist teaching staff are available to assist children experiencing difficulties.

Innovative teaching programs

A major initiative at Daceyville is incorporating the development of communication and public speaking skills within the teaching of other subjects. Opportunities to speak and debate in public are organised within classrooms and incorporate many of the Human Society and its Environment (HSIE) and Science and Technology units taught.

Mathematics Programs are devised from Kindergarten to Year 6. A major focus is the regular student assessment to track strengths and weaknesses.

Educational excursions supplement teaching and learning units and provide opportunities to further student experiences and a forum for talking and listening.

Technology that prepares every student for the future

Daceyville Public School has leading technology programs and facilities. Technology is a vital component of our curriculum from Kindergarten to Year Six.

This is complemented by a technology room with numerous computers with Internet access. Classroom teacher's team teach with specialist technology teachers allowing children to develop and explore the world of information technology.

Active and healthy students

The Personal Development, Health and Physical Education curriculum aims to allow children to enjoy an active and healthy lifestyle through regular physical exercise.

Children have a choice of a number of competitive and non-competitive sports. Daceyville participates in the District Primary Schools Sports Association. Rugby, Soccer for both girls and boys and Netball for girls each winter, while tennis and dancing are available all year round. Softball for girls and Cricket for Boys in summer.

The Learn to Swim Program is an important school program available to all Year 3-6 students each term. An intensive program for Years 2 – 3 runs in term 4.

Play equipment is available for children to experience unstructured play and to allow them to extend their skills. Daceyville Public School is fortunate to possess excellent outdoor activity facilities.

English as a Second Language (ESL) programs

All our teachers pride themselves on being effective language teachers. Many of our students come from non-English speaking backgrounds (NESB) and our main focus is on delivering quality literacy programs.

At Daceyville we provide ESL support through a variety of programs from Kindergarten to Year 6. A child entering Daceyville school with little or no English will receive intensive English lessons during the week with an ESL teacher.

As children from non-English speaking backgrounds develop English language skills they are regularly supported in the classroom by an ESL teacher who plans and works with the classroom teacher. This involves joint teaching, working in small groups or sometimes withdrawing small groups of children for a more individual style of learning.

Quality through diversity - multicultural and Aboriginal perspectives

Daceyville Public School has a rich and diverse population of students, parents and staff.

The school has always regarded learning experiences that are sensitive to each child's culture, values and beliefs as essential.

Aboriginal and multicultural perspectives are evident in all teaching and learning activities. Daceyville Public School is proud of its history of offering curriculum content that is inclusive of differing views and beliefs, reflective of contemporary Australian life and sensitive to the rich history shared by all Australians.

Effective welfare and discipline programs

At Daceyville Public School we believe that in order to learn effectively, students have rights that must be respected, and similarly, they have responsibilities to themselves and others.

To instill these values in our students we have:

- a positive learning environment
- appropriate teaching methods
- caring and consistent staff
- effective use of positive reinforcement
- liaison with parents
- clearly defined rules and consequences.

In addition to an effective school welfare and discipline policy, we specifically teach the students a variety of strategies that are essential for them to be able to relate to others appropriately. In situations of student conflict, we have a conferencing system in which the students involved have the opportunity to resolve the conflict peacefully and fairly.

Daceyville Public School has a proud tradition of serving families throughout the Eastern suburbs since 1927.

We welcome your enquiries about how Daceyville School can assist you with your choice.

For further information or to enroll your child, please contact:

Ms Lorraine Simmiss-Taylor
Principal
Daceyville Public School
Joffre Crescent
Kingsford NSW 2032
Phone: 02 9349-1211
Fax: 02 9349-3957
Email: Daceyville-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

DACEYVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL – USEFUL INFORMATION

Absences

Parents are required by law to have their children attend School each day it is open. Absences need to be covered by a note of explanation for the non-attendance from the parent.

The Department does not accept reasons such as helping mum or minding other children as satisfactory. Illness is generally the main reason why students should be absent.

If an absence is to exceed 3 days, please telephone and leave a message for the child's teacher.

Access to school

All visitors must report to the office when entering the school and sign for a visitors pass.

Parents are able to enter the school for the purposes of delivering or collecting children, or for office matters. Access to classrooms and teaching staff should be arranged with the Principal beforehand.

The Administrative Assistant should be contacted to make an appointment to discuss any queries concerning pupil progress. This will generally be arranged prior to school commencing, during lunch breaks or during a class teacher's release time.

Parents wishing to take their child/children during the school day must first come to the school office reception for a pass, which is given to the class teacher.

Ambulance

Our school contributes to the NSW Ambulance Fund covering the cost of transporting students where necessary. An ambulance will be called if it is felt that a student's health is at risk. Parents or contact persons will also be contacted as soon as is possible with regard to the child's health concerns.

Ambulance cover is not provided for parents and it is advisable that families consider their own ambulance cover where possible.

Art

The school provides painting smocks for students to use during art/craft activities. If these are not sufficient to cover a child's uniform to parents satisfaction we encourage families to send along a large shirt or other suitable alternative.

Artistic Performances

From time to time the school will elect to attend or host visits from various performers which may include drama, dance, music/song, language, poetry, environmental studies, science, sport etc. Parents will be informed of these events and a fee to cover costs may be imposed. This information will be made available to parents.

Authority

In case of a medical emergency, i.e. injury etc. at school, we will endeavour in the first instance to contact the parents but will also seek medical, dental or ambulance support at the same time, if necessary. This is authorised in the contact card, completed with the enrolment form. It is vital that a friend/family member, neighbour's phone number be provided as an EMERGENCY contact, in the event of both parents being unavailable.

Assemblies

A morning assembly is held each day commencing at 9.10am. Brief information may be given or sought at this time. Formal assemblies are held each Friday commencing at 11:30pm in the upper primary hall for Years 3 to 6 and Thursday at 2.00pm for K to 2. At this assembly the principal addresses the students, merit awards and any special achievements are presented, announcements made and on occasion class items performed. Classes rotate to lead these assemblies. Parents and friends are invited to attend these assemblies.

In addition, special assemblies are conducted during the year. Information will be provided about these through the school newsletter.

Attendance

Regular attendance at school is important to ensure satisfactory progress is being made in all aspects of school development. If your child is absent an explanatory note should be sent to school giving the reason for the absence. Parents may wish to phone this information to the school, but a written explanation is preferred.

Parents of students who are absent from school for unexplained periods may be referred to the Department of Education and Training's Home School Liaison Officer with reasons for absence sought.

Band & Music groups

There is a School Band with students from Grades 3-6. Students are encouraged to join the Junior Band at the end of Grade 2. The Bands practice before/after school and at lunchtime. There is a Band booklet for Band Members explaining Band procedures in detail. All students in Grades 3-6 participate in Music Groups. Details of choices are provided to parents early in Term 1 each year.

Before and After School Care or Out-of-school-hours care

This is held in the school. There is a 60 student capacity so bookings are essential phone:-9344-4292. Daceyville Public School works hard to ensure that out-of-school-hours (OOSH) care is part of the overall school culture. The relationship between Daceyville Public School and OOSH services ensures an integrated approach to supporting the needs of children and their families. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to liaise regularly with the OOSH providers regarding any matters relating to the care of their children.

Bell Times:

School Commences	-	9:10am
Lunch	-	11:05am to 12:00pm
Recess	-	1:40 pm to 2:00pm
School Concludes	-	3:10pm

Teachers officially commence duty half hour before school. Limited supervision is provided from 8.40am with children encouraged to arrive at school around 9:00am, which is the arrival time of the school bus service.

Children are expected to leave school promptly at the end of the school day. Staff provide supervision of students catching the bus with other students leaving the school with parents, or by walking.

Bus Passes-Individual Conveyance

All K-2 children are eligible for a bus pass UNTIL they enter Year 3. Pupils in Years 3 to 6 are only eligible for a bus pass if they live more than a 1.6km radius from the school. If the original Bus pass is lost or damaged, the bus proprietor will issue a new one, after an application and payment is received. All pupils **MUST** be **REGULAR** travellers. Pupils travelling on buses must take their instructions from the driver who is in charge at **ALL** times. Bad bus behaviour will not be tolerated and will result in the Bus Pass being withdrawn. A teacher observes students boarding buses each afternoon, but at other times, the co-operation of parents is sought in seeking good conduct on buses and at bus stops.

Book Club

Children are offered the opportunity to purchase well graded books. Lists of books are sent home with children when the School receives them. Ashton Scholastic promotes a Book Club that sends a leaflet twice a term to school to distribute to pupils. If you or your child wishes to purchase a book please fill in the order form, and send the form and the money to the school on the date advised by staff.

Book Fair

This is usually once per year. The children may peruse books sent to the School and may order or purchase if required.

Budget

Funds are raised to support the school in the following ways:

Moneys raised at P.&C. sponsored activities.

Grants provided by the Department of School Education. These are generally for specific purposes i.e. phone, electricity, maintenance, library and small equipment purchases.

Submissions made by the Principal/Staff for specific grants committees or organisations which sponsor projects. These may be to provide staffing, resources or funds.

Bus transport, sport, music and excursion costs must be met by parents of students involved.

Canteen & Lunches

The School Canteen is a service organised by parents to provide nutritious food to the children in the school. It is managed by a Canteen Supervisor, volunteer workers are welcome each day to prepare and sell food.

Mrs. Dowell is the current Supervisor of the canteen.

Children may buy from the canteen after 8.40am each morning, 11.30-11.50am and 1.40-1.50pm . Lunch Orders should be placed by 9.10 am each morning.

There is a wide variety of hot and cold food available throughout the year. A price list is provided.

Classes staffing

Generally classes are groups of children who are of the same age. Occasionally classes are formed where children of differing age groups are together. These are referred to as "Multi Age" or "Composite" classes. It is always the aim to place children's' needs first and classes are formed to best meet students needs.

The staff at the school are able to teacher Years K-6 and so from year to year are assigned to different grades. This is done to provide the best educational opportunities for students.

K-2 classes will have an average of 25-29 students. 3-6 classes have up to 30. All placements are done after consultation with all teachers who have responsibility for each child, each year.

Communication & School Newsletter

Every month, on the first Wednesday a newsletter is published and issued to all children. This contains information about school events, excursions, educational matters etc. as well as P & C news and often, community items. It is called the "Dacey Details".

A copy of this is displayed in the Administrative Assistant's office.

Counsellor:

Help is available for problems or concerns that you may have about the development of your child. The School Counsellor visits the school Monday morning and Tuesday each week, testing children referred by teachers for assessment of learning difficulties, behaviour and/or social adjustment problems. Parents are informed by note when the School Counsellor is going to work with their child. The Counsellor usually contacts parents after pupil assessment.

The service offered is to address any issues that may present as Educational and Learning problems. Should you wish to discuss your child's issues with the Counsellor please ring the school 9349-1211 to make an appointment.

CURRICULUM

Key Learning Areas

The curriculum of Daceyville Public School is presented to the school by the Minister of Education. The statements are mandatory and are the same for all New South Wales schools of the Department of School Education.

All curriculum is in a cycle of Evaluation, Design and Implementation. Schools are given the role of Implementation and Evaluation. For this purpose Staff Development Days have been assigned by the Minister.

There are six (6) Key Learning Areas. It is the aim of the curriculum to provide a balance of learning experience as the foundation to all further life long education.

Teachers in Primary School are trained such that they are able to teach all areas of the curriculum.

The six areas are:

English

This involves developing the skills needed to read widely with understanding and enjoyment, to spell accurately, to write grammatically in a variety of forms; to understand the function of language; to listen and communicate effectively in a variety of situations; and to assess critically good literature.

Mathematics

This involves learning Working Mathematically, Number, Patterns & Algebra, Data, Measurement and Space and Geometry.

Science & Technology

This involves learning skills of enquiry, investigation, designing and problem-solving; gaining knowledge and understanding about the natural and modified environments and people's interaction with them; acquiring a knowledge of design processes; and understanding the interaction of technology and society.

Human Society & its Environment

This involves developing investigation, communication and social skills; gaining knowledge and understanding about the history of Australia, its geography, social institutions and place in the world; developing a commitment to maintaining or improving the environment; exploring, comparing and appreciating religious and moral beliefs and values; and learning about other cultures and languages.

Creative & Practical Arts

This involves developing technical competence and skills of designing and performing; and learning appreciation and self-expression in the visual and practical arts, which includes music and drama.

Personal Development, Health & Physical Education

This involves learning to develop an active, healthy lifestyle; developing skills in interpersonal relationships and positive values, attitudes and beliefs; and participating in regular physical activity.

Information Nights on the Curriculum Areas are arranged by the P and C and the School during the year.

Dental Clinic

The School Dental Clinic is situated in the school grounds and operates on a permanent basis. You need to ring the Dental Clinic to arrange to have your child seen by the Dental Therapist. (Phone: 1300 134 226).

Even for dental treatment during school hours children will need to be escorted to and from the clinic **BY A PARENT.**

Treatment at the Clinic is free to all children attending Primary schools.

End of term assemblies

Parents are encouraged to attend the school's end of term assemblies. This is a very good way to keep in touch with the many activities your children are involved in throughout the school year.

Enrolment of students

Parents wishing to enroll students at Daceyville Public School should apply to the School Principal. Forms are available at the school. Initial enrolment applications must be supported by a Birth Certificate. Local children have first priority, and if vacancies occur, non local applications may be accepted.

Enrolments taken after the first week of the school year may influence the arrangements of classes.

Excursions, Performances & Sport

Classes participate in the following ways:

Visits to the school by performing artists.

Visits to other schools or venues to see performing Artists.

Visits to places of interest, including the Public Library.

Visits by other schools to us/by us to other schools for sport or athletics.

Visit on a class or school basis-educational or social.

Participation in the school camping program.

Generally these visits are an integral part of school or classroom program. A note will be sent home with all children involved with any excursion. The purpose is to inform parents that a variation is to happen. Permission notes **MUST BE SIGNED** and returned before students can attend.

Activities/Excursions - include:

Life Education Van - Myuna Bay Fitness Camp Yrs. 5 & 6 every second year - Grade 6 Canberra/Snowy Mountains.

The BIG BAND BASH is held annually in October.

The Band At Home is held for present and past members on the last Tuesday in November.

There is a K-6 concert, every alternate year.

Family Status & Access

The Department of School Education requires us to ensure that regular school and student information is available to both parents, especially where they are separated. It also assists the class teacher in knowing what to call the child and the connections between the adults involved in the family situation.

For a de facto member to have access or be given information about the child, the natural mother or father must provide authorisation to the school.

General School Contributions

A voluntary general school contribution is set each year by the school, these funds help to meet some of the costs of resources and materials used by children each year. Whilst these fees are minimal, they are certainly beneficial to the school. These payments can be made in full or by instalments as suits families needs.

Hats - No Hat, No Play

In accordance with Cancer Council guidelines, children are encouraged to wear broad brimmed hats (school) when outside during the day. These are available from the school. The School has a “NO HAT – NO PLAY” policy in effect during the year to restrict exposure to sunlight.

Head Lice

A common complaint in all schools is Head Lice. To prevent the spread of Head Lice, infected children must be kept home and treated. In accordance with regulations, children are **NOT** allowed to return to school until ALL evidence of the complaint has disappeared. Unfortunately many parents still associate Head Lice with lack of cleanliness. This is not the case. ANYONE can catch Head Lice.

Health Screening

Where teachers have a concern about a child’s hearing or vision a referral will be made to the Community Health Centre.

Homework/Home Reading Scheme

The individual teacher sets homework on a regular basis. It is intended that completing set tasks at home will help develop better study habit skills. Homework may vary in nature but an expectation that children read at home exists across all grades.

Infectious/Contagious Diseases

In accordance with Health Commission regulations, students suffering from infectious or contagious complaints, must be excluded from school for a specified period to prevent the spread of infection. The co-operation of parents is sought in this matter.

The Department of Health states that:-

	Child	Contacts
<i>Measles</i>	Minimum exclusion: Preventable five days from appearance of rash	Not excluded. Vaccine It is recommended that all children be immunised at 15mths.
	Available data suggests that if a child has not been vaccinated nor had measles, vaccination within 3 days of exposure may provide protection.	
<i>German Measles (Rubella)</i>	Exclude until fully recovered. Maximum exclusion necessary six days after rash appears.	Not excluded. (Female staff should check own immune status).
<i>Chicken Pox (Varicella)</i>	Exclude until fully recovered. Minimum exclusion: 5 days after the first spots appear.	Not excluded
<i>Mumps</i>	Exclude until fully recovered. Minimum exclusion: 1 week after the appearance of swelling.	Not excluded. Vaccine preventable. It is recommended that all children be immunised at 15mths.
<i>Glandular Fever (Infectious Mononucleosis)</i>	Not necessary to exclude from school from point of view of infection. Some children with Glandular Fever are too sick to attend school.	Not excluded
<i>Hepatitis</i>	Exclusion until medical certificate produced.	

Information Dates

At the beginning of each school year we send out a contact update card. This seeks information on additional children, new addresses, phone, parental status, current emergency numbers, doctor etc. Access to the information is restricted to the Principal and School Assistant, unless it is of relevance to the class teacher. If your details change during the year please contact the school so these may be updated.

Kindergarten Orientation – Headstart Program

A long term Orientation Program is conducted for children enrolling the following year. This involves the children attending school one day per week for four weeks of Term 4. This time allows the children to become used to the formal routine of the school and the parents used to the school routine.

Lateness

Students who are late to school must have a note signed in the office before attending class.

Students who are regular latecomers may be interviewed and a letter sent home regarding the disruption of learning

Lost Property

There is a box for the purpose of the collection of lost property. Check with the Administrative Support Staff. Parents are invited to look for any items their children may have mislaid.

Library

All children use the Library each Tuesday to Thursday. Each class attends the library one period of a day per week for research and the borrowing of books. The library is also open 11.30 – 12.00 pm on these days. Children may borrow any book, other than from the Reference Section that they choose. They borrow books for many reasons and parents are asked to assist children to appreciate the book borrowed. A Library Bag, large enough to hold a picture book is required to keep books in their best condition during transit.

Mufti Day

As a special treat children are occasionally invited to come to school wearing clothes other than School Uniform. For this privilege children are charged a small fee which goes to charity. Details will always be sent to parents prior to the occasion / event.

Passes

Passes to leave the school grounds are issued only to children with their parents. Students must leave with a parent/adult who provides parental authorisation.

Parent - Teacher Interviews

All families within our school are encouraged to contact the School at any time during the school year to arrange an appointment to discuss their child's progress. Teachers welcome discussion with parents in the interest of the children. The best time for an interview is generally after school, however where this is not convenient attempts will be made to arrange a mutually acceptable time.

As an important part of our annual reporting system, all parents are invited to attend an interview with the class teacher at the end of Term 2.

P & C Association

All members of our school community are encouraged to attend these meetings. P&C Fundraising Activities include catering for specific events, raffles etc. This is our major fundraising activity. Your support of these events is encouraged and appreciated.

Parental involvement

Parents of students are invited to actively be involved with the education programs of the school. There are many ways this can happen. You are invited to participate in the following ways:

Attend Information Days/Nights

Introduce yourself to your children's teachers

Make appointments through the Principal to have a conference with your children's teachers.

Attend P. and C. Meetings held last Thursday of the month at 9.30am once per term, 7.30pm once per term, in the staffroom.

Stand for election to the School Council-elections held annually in November.

Volunteer to assist with Working Bees.

Respond to your child's teacher's request to have parents who listen to children read or who will read to children.

Help out at the School Canteen

Volunteer to help with Hobbies Organisation.

Volunteer to assist with Sporting Activities.

Assist with School Excursions.

Maintain Library books

Be aware of the function of the School Council

Assist your child with homework.

Read School Newsletters/Handouts

Attend Courses for Parents.

Presentation Day

Presentation Day is held in December each year. Prizes and presentations are awarded to students on this day. The school receives valuable donations to support this activity and to help recognise the achievements of students from within our school.

Protection Against Infectious Diseases

The Department of Health requests that children entering school should be immunised. This is particularly important because your child will be coming into contact with other children and infections can spread very easily.

Children starting school who have not already had Booster immunisation should have:

- One booster injection against diphtheria and tetanus (CDT), and
- One booster dose of polio vaccine by mouth (Sabin)
- Other injection of measles/mumps vaccine if they have not already had measles or been immunised against the disease.

Reporting to Parents

Written reports / Student Work samples on pupils academic progress and attainments are issued in June (Grades K - 6) / November each year. Parents are invited to school for an information night in Term 1, to meet the teacher and discuss class objectives. Personal interviews are held in May / June of each year.

Interviews with teachers at other times are encouraged and can be arranged by contacting the school. There are also P and C initiated Information Nights, whereby teachers/ Principal explain how and what is being taught in the various curriculum areas.

School Badges

These are available for purchase through the School Office

School Council

The School has a very active School Council, consisting of parents, staff and community members. They meet to formulate school policies, discuss the school budget and make suggestions to improve the school.

School Hours

8.40am	Assistant Principals/Staff- on duty in playground
9.10am	School lessons commence
11.05-12.00pm	Lunch time - a time for food, drink, toilet needs and recreational activities
1.10- 2.00pm	Recess- a time for food, drink and toilet needs
3.10pm	Dismissal of students. Students are to leave the grounds and take the most direct route home.

School Photographs

School photographs are arranged each year and families are given the opportunity to purchase these if they so wish. The school tries to vary the timing of our school photos so that children are captured during different seasons during their time in our school. This also helps to change the 'environment' that makes up the backdrop of our school photos. Photos included are, individual, class, family groups, sport, band, student leaders and student council. The professional photographers are selected by the school each year.

School Prayer

This is our school
Let peace dwell here
Let the rooms be full of contentment
Let love abide here
Love of one another
Love of human kind
Love of life itself and love of God
And let us remember
As many hands make a home
Many hearts make a school

School Song

Daceyville our school,
We are proud of you
With colours of maroon and gold
As the ceaseless tide,
We will take that pride
Whatever the years unfold;
For many's the lesson we've learned there
To work and do the right,
And we'll play the game
For its glorious name
Daceyville our school.

Grevillea, Banksia, Waratah
The houses for which we strive
We will ne'er forget, when in teams we met
To represent our school
The motto, virtue and faith,
We all should keep in mind
And we'll play the game, for its glorious name
Daceyville our school.

School Staffing structure

Daceyville Public School has 340 students. The Principal & Executive have special responsibilities to manage and coordinate the Education Programs on a stage and school level, thus ensuring the quality of Curriculum for all students throughout their schooling. The School Executive support the Class Teachers.

There are also Support Teachers

School Teacher/Librarian

E.S.L are specialists who assist Non-English speaking students with Language acquisition. Reading Recovery/Learning Difficulties a teacher who teaches, individuals/small groups of children, working to bring their standards up to class expectations.

Reading/Language/Hearing, Specialist teachers who work with students with disabilities. The students come from the Port Jackson and Bondi Districts.

School uniform

There is strong support from parents and staff at Daceyville Public School for the wearing of a school uniform. The wearing of the school uniform is one of our school requirements.

We believe it helps to promote school pride and encourages the students to feel part of a cohesive and supportive community.

The design of the uniform was the result of consultation between the school and the parents. It is inexpensive and easy to care for. Details of the school uniform are available from the school office.

Uniform and Dress Code rationale

The community expects that schools will insist on sensible standards of clothing, good grooming and personal cleanliness

The Department of School Education requires students to conform to acceptable general standards of dress including the school's particular uniform requirements

The wearing of a school uniform makes a valuable contribution towards fulfilling these expectations and requirements. In addition, school uniforms foster pride in the school, assist in the development and maintenance of tone and good conduct, and reduces to a minimum undesirable distinctions because of clothing between children in the same school

By providing identification, school uniforms also help to increase security for children travelling to and from school.

An approach to school uniforms which develops in students an understanding of the importance of personal neatness, appearance, presentation and self-discipline is an important learning experience for all students who will one day enter the workplace where such attributes are highly valued.

The School Council, P. & C. and Parents strongly support the wearing of school uniforms.

The summer uniform

for boys and girls will be worn in Terms 1 and 4.

The sports uniform

will be worn all year, on Fridays.

Tracksuits **cannot** be worn as a substitute uniform, but is fine on very cold days.

The winter uniform

is for the Winter months only. Classrooms are heated during these months.

The school band

has a uniform-special shirt purchased from the Bandmaster. Black pants (Tailored).

Sports Shirt

Polo knit in yellow for boys and girls.

Sports skirt / coulettes

Maroon

Sports shirts

Yellow School Sports shirt for Sport

Scripture

Scripture lessons are provided by visiting clergy and lay teachers each week. The timing of these lessons is each Tuesday morning.

Security of Students After School

Any variation to home procedures should be conveyed to teachers in writing, to prevent any confusion and children being without care. When phoning the school to request that a MESSAGE BE GIVEN TO A STUDENT please call BY 3.15pm.

Special awards

Each day children are encouraged and rewarded verbally for their positive behaviour and achievements. This is acknowledged by tokens such as stamps and stickers which are placed in books or if desired on hands.

Special achievements are recognised by an Achievement Award. Children are encouraged to collect 3 of these, which will entitle them to a Principal's award at the School Assembly. The collection of 3 Principal's Awards leads to more Special Awards. The Merit Scheme is explained in detail in the Students & Parents Welfare & Discipline Booklet.

Sport

Each week all students Years 2 - 6 have sport. Kindergarten and Grade 1 have P.E. twice a week and Gross Motor Skills Development. There is a sports uniform. Parents are invited from time to time to assist with activities, by helping small groups practice a skill.

GREVILLEA (Yellow)

WARATAH (Red)

BANKSIA (Green)

Staff development days

With the demand to keep up to date with Curriculum, the Minister of Education has directed schools to take Staff Development Days during the year for that purpose. On these days it is expected that parents will provide alternative arrangements for their children, other than attendance at school. These dates are advised on a School Calendar of events distributed in the first week of Term 1 and are generally held on the Monday of the first week after school holidays Terms 1, 2 and 3.

Student Clothing and Property

Make sure all articles, especially lunch boxes, drink bottles, jumpers, hat and jackets are clearly and permanently marked.

Leave treasured and valuable toys, jewellery and books at home. They are easily damaged or lost.

No responsibility can be taken for loss of or damage to toys, books, trinkets, phones etc. brought to school.

Make sure your child's schoolbag is easily recognisable, and encourage him/her to leave it in its correct place.

Every effort is made to return any 'lost' property to its owner.

Any dangerous items such as pocket-knives MUST NOT be brought to School.

Student Leadership

The children in Years 2-6 have elected representatives to the Student Council which meets each term. The school also has a Captain, Vice Captain and School Leaders.

Student Representative Council (SRC)

The SRC at Daceyville Public School comprises elected students from 2 - 6 Year groups. It is a system that allows our students to experience democratic processes and to develop effective problem-solving strategies.

Students and teachers work together. The students at DACEYVILLE are encouraged to have discussions and to make their own decisions as individuals as well as members of a group.

Supervision

Supervision of students is provided by teaching staff from 8.40am. - 3.10pm. each day.

Once students arrive at the school they must remain within the boundaries of the school playground until dismissed at the end of the school day, unless a parent gives written authority to leave and the note is received by the teacher and/or Principal.

Should students enter school premises prior to 8.40am. they must stay in designated areas. After school, students are required to report to their homes by the shortest practicable route.

What your child needs for school

- uniform
 - a school lunchbox and drink container
 - a raincoat and rain hat
 - a handkerchief
 - a library bag
- and please, label ALL belongings with your child's name.

Starting school successfully

Our orientation program provides many opportunities for children starting Kindergarten to settle into a school routine, mix with groups of other children and engage in both structured and unstructured play activities. “Buddies” (children from other classes) will join in and support them in these activities.

Tips to help prepare your child for their first school year

- Be positive about school and learning.
- Talk to your child about school.
- Use your local library.
- Read to your child and talk about what might happen next in the story.
- Share many different experiences.
- Support your child in your home language.
- Provide a variety of play materials - water, sand, paper, pens, paint, scissors, glue.
- Encourage your child’s curiosity by asking questions and encouraging questions in return.

Social Skills for Schools

Does your child know his/her name and address? Can your child manage toileting needs, do up buttons, zippers, shoelaces, take off and put on jumpers, get lunch from lunch box and perhaps write their own name?