



PIMPAMA SS PROSPECTUS

Our School Values

Pride

Integrity

Manners

Partnerships

Acceptance

Morality

Accountability

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Message from the Principal

Welcome to Pimpama State School. Our school has a reputation for providing a superior learning experience for students from Prep to Year Six. Parents choose this school because of its family orientation, the strong community feel, the emphasis on the curriculum and individual teaching methods. The most important sign of a healthy school is found in its curriculum and the totality of opportunities provided for the education of each student. The school has been extremely active in developing school facilities and advancing curriculum and learning. There has been a major emphasis placed on teacher professional development as the school further embraces the pursuit of excellence.

At Pimpama State School, we want every student to be a happy, competent learner and to be a confident member of the school community. We continue to offer a wide curriculum that we believe caters to the interests of our students. We also want students to have faith in his/her teacher and to feel sure of the teacher's regard and interest. There is a range of extracurricular activities on offer, ranging from regular sporting programs to lunchtime clubs and activities. At Pimpama State School we have a comprehensive set of school based data and diagnostic assessment to inform our intervention and differentiation programs within the school, which allows our teachers to gain a greater, more in-depth understanding of student levels of achievement and development.

We would like to welcome you and your children to our school and are sure you will enjoy the many and varied educational experiences it offers.

Marius Marx
Principal

School Information

School Profile

The name Pimpama is of Aboriginal origin, there being several versions of its translation - 'place of soldier birds', 'place of magpie larks' or as a corruption of Bim Bim Ba 'place of many birds'." (HOLST, p2, 1972)

A settlement at the present township occurred in 1863, after moving from the original site at what is now known as Ormeau. Industry grew rapidly within the area over the ensuing years. Cotton, sugar and timber attracted many new settlers and with them, children.

By 1870 the community felt a need to develop appropriate educational facilities and approached the Education Department, regarding the establishment of a school, on the 3rd August that year. Approval was given and a school was built in 1871, of pit-sawn timber with a shingle roof.

Opened on 15 April, 1872, the school was attended by twenty-six children and remained for sixty-six years, replaced in 1939 by the first of the present buildings.

One tragic note in the school's history was the death of Mr J Mayes, P & C member, who was struck on the head by the flagpole he had supplied and was erecting.

Today, Pimpama State School has grown from a small, country, multi-age school that was the hub of the local community to a middle-sized facility, providing "world class learning in modern education". It still incorporates the old style "family" atmosphere renowned in country schools, but is central to both the Gold Coast and Brisbane city areas. Parents are to be found regularly in our school, either helping in the classroom or canteen, organising activities, contributing to meetings and program development, and are welcome to visit classrooms at any time. The input of parents is a valued asset of the school and contributes significantly to the overall warmth and openness of the school environment.

Encompassed by large grounds, including a bush tucker garden, the school provides an ideal physical environment for learning, health-oriented activities, socialising and topical studies.

An active and caring Parents and Citizens' Association work hand-in-hand with a dedicated and professional staff to create the best learning experiences and environment for our children. The children for their part demonstrate a keenness to attend school, participate in activities and show a unique caring for the well being of others within the school.

As Pimpama School grows and develops technologically, socially and educationally, the basis for its growth will remain its caring and concern for the individuals within the system, catering for all learners and providing exciting educational experiences for all who are associated with the school.

School Contact Information

OFFICE HOURS 8:00am – 4:00pm

Administration 5549 4333 (Option 2)

Fax 5549 4300

Email office@pimpamass.eq.edu.au

Website www.pimpamass.eq.edu.au

Values and Beliefs Statements

At Pimpama State School we foster a caring and trusting school community within which the individual members of the school community are provided with quality education, support, challenges and technology aimed at developing their full potential.

Our School Values

Value	Expectation
P ride (doing your best)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regularly wearing the correct school uniform Neat bookwork (showing pride in your learning) Always trying your hardest
I ntegrity (doing the right thing)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Doing the right thing (honesty, fairness, trustworthy)
M anners (always using your manners language)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regularly using very good manners at school
P artnerships (working together as a team)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate playground behaviour Always following staff instructions
A cceptance (respecting self and others)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respecting the rights of self and others
M orality (making good choices)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Making good choices
A ccountability (responsibility)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regularly attending school on time ready to learn Always completing set homework on time

We support these values and beliefs by developing in our students the following traits and skills:

- **caring** and **respect** for others
- the acceptance of **challenges** as an effective means of self development
- **confidence** in their own ability and to 'have a go'
- willingness to be **involved** in all aspects of their own learning and school activities
- **ownership** of personal choices and community property
- a desire to **share** information, skills, knowledge, personal successes and the successes of others
- a desire to be **informed** and to seek out greater knowledge
- provide **quality** in all they produce and to expect **quality** experiences
- **trust** in their peers, teachers and school environment

School Responsible Behaviour Plan

A complete and comprehensive copy of the School Responsible Behaviour Plan is available from the office or can be downloaded from our website. Your support with the behaviour of your children is appreciated. The school also reserves the right to withdraw students from activities or privileges if there are concerns with an individual's behaviour and the safety of other students.

Consequences for Unacceptable Behaviour

<p>Level 1 Low level misbehaviour</p>	<p>Redirection, Rule reminder, Confiscation of item In dealing with children we believe that there are many Low Level Misbehaviours (e.g. forgetting, hat, running on concrete, etc.) which can best be dealt with informally, quickly, quietly and easily, to discourage repetition.</p>
<p>Level 2 Low level misbehaviour (continuation of behaviour)</p>	<p>Time-out, community service (under teacher supervision), withdrawal from class etc. This process of managing Low Level Misbehaviour is aimed at reducing the need to enter the Formalised Behaviour Management Process. However, if a child chooses to exhibit inappropriate behaviour then they must accept the consequences which come with their choice.</p>
<p>Level 3 Demanding level misbehaviour</p>	<p>Level Three – Demanding level misbehaviour - Formal process (Planning Room) Planning Room - Formal <i>The Education Act (General Provisions, 2006)</i> gives Principals and/or teachers the right to detain a student as a punishment for disobedience, misconduct and willful neglect to prepare homework or for other breaches of school discipline. A period of detention must not be more than; 20 minutes during the lunch recess At Pimpama State School we have a 20 minutes planning room. For misbehaviours requiring more serious consequences, the referring teacher fills out a Recordable Behaviour Incident Referral Form. The student is responsible for taking the slip to the Planning Room during the following lunchtime. (If the misbehaviour occurs at the end of lunchtime or in the last session of class time, the slip is taken to the Planning Room the following day.) A copy of Planning Room Notification and the subsequent plan to improve behaviour is emailed to parents and uploaded to One-School as a Behaviour Incident.</p>
<p>Level 4 High level misbehaviour</p>	<p>Level Four - High Level Misbehaviour – Formal process (5 - 7 Planning Rooms) A child's behaviour is defined as High Level if it has been of such a severe nature to warrant immediate entry on the identification of a fifth planning room - continuous Demanding Level Misbehaviours (over One Semester) students will receive a Classroom and Playground Withdrawal for three days. Further planning rooms will result in a four day Classroom and Playground Withdrawal, followed by a five day Classroom and Playground Withdrawal. A Classroom and Playground Withdrawal requires the student to report to the school Administration upon arrival to school and remain there until the completion of the school day. The student will be required to complete class work under the supervision of an Admin member. Any student who is completing a Classroom and Playground Withdrawal is prohibited from attending any external school activity (eg. Excursions, camps, interschool sport) that takes place during the period. Other consequences may include removal from leadership positions.</p>
<p>Level 5 Very high level misbehaviour – Formal process (suspension 1-5 days)</p>	<p>Level Five -Very High Misbehaviour – Formal process (suspension 1 - 5 Days) Any planning room received after the completion of a five day Classroom and Playground Withdrawal may result in a suspension. A student may be suspended for up to 5 days for disobedience, misconduct, or other conduct that is prejudicial to the good order and management of the school Where other school personnel and/or children's safety have been jeopardised, an invasion of an individual's personal rights has occurred or a serious breach of conduct has occurred, the school's administration team has the right to suspend and/or exclude children from the school. Suspension or exclusion can occur in the following forms</p>
<p>Level 6 Extreme level of misbehaviour – Formal process (suspension 6-20 days)</p>	<p>Level Six – Extreme level of misbehaviour – Formal process (suspension 6 - 20 days) <i>The Education Act (General Provisions, 2006)</i> gives Principals authority to suspend a student for up to 20 school days and to exclude. He/she will then state the reason for his/her actions. The grounds for suspension or exclusion are; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Disobedience - Misconduct (includes to and from school) - Other behaviour prejudicial to the good order and management of the school. A student may be suspended for longer than 5 school days, but no more than 20 school days if the principal is satisfied that the behaviour is so serious that it warrants a suspension of longer than 5 days. The Principal must co-ordinate an alternate education program for the suspended student. A student who has been suspended will be asked to attend a re-entry interview with parents / caregivers, in which an official individual support plan will be devised. In the event of continued instances of suspension after intensive support intervention has occurred, then exclusion may result. Circumstances for Suspension Suspensions at Pimpama State School may include circumstances of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • disobedience; • misconduct; • conduct prejudicial to the good order and management of the school; Plus other circumstances that threaten the good order and management of the school as determined by the Principal</p>
<p>Level 7 Extreme level of misbehaviour – Proposal to exclude</p>	<p>Level Seven – Extreme level of misbehaviour – Proposal to exclude The Principal shall consider expeditiously the circumstances of a serious misdemeanour and may propose the exclusion of a student: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • for a period determined by him/her or • permanently – where he/she is satisfied that the student is guilty of disobedience, misconduct or other conduct prejudicial to the good order and discipline of the State Educational Institution. Proposals for exclusion at Pimpama State School will be considered where the circumstances: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Endanger or place at risk the present and /or future safety of students • Endanger or place at risk the present and /or future safety and welfare of staff Or where there is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • persistent and willful disobedience • persistent verbal harassment of staff or students • persistent insolence • persistent unwillingness to participate in a program of instruction • extremely aggressive and violent behaviour • possession of drugs at school • selling of drugs at school • Continues to be intractable and other sanctions have proven ineffective And the misdemeanour is so serious that a suspension is inadequate.</p>
<p>Re-entry plans</p>	<p>Re-entry plans It is a request of re-entry after a school suspension that students and their parents attend a re-entry meeting with the School Administration. At this meeting a plan is the focus so the student can successfully return to school. Some common strategies include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • transition program for graduated return to the classroom • formulation of an Individual Responsible Behaviour Plan • establishment of a restricted play area for the student • first out / last in policy (student is first out at lunch breaks and the last to return to class after a brief visit to the office for checking in) • an alternative playtime plan • alternative classroom sessions with other classes for a period of time • time in the Planning Room </p>

It is to be noted that the phases and steps outlined are not necessarily sequential and that steps can be, and will be, missed as deemed appropriate by the Principal. Immediate suspension can be invoked if the conduct of the student concerned is deemed to warrant such action.

Enrolment Information

Compulsory Education & Eligibility

Prep is the first year of compulsory schooling. All children must be enrolled in an educational institution between the ages of 6 and 17 unless given a dispensation by the Minister of Education. Education Queensland requires that a child may be enrolled in a State School if he/she will attain the age of five (5) years on or before the 30th of June in the year in which they commence.

School Enrolment Management Policy

Pimpama State School has an Enrolment Management Policy. All students, whose principal place of residence is within the school's catchment area/s, are eligible for enrolment at the school. Admissions to all year levels can be made at any time during the school year, with children being placed into the appropriate year level according to age/previous school history. Parents who wish to enrol their children at the school will need to demonstrate that the students' principal place of residence is within the catchment area. Current proof of residency at the address indicated can be provided by way of one of each of the following:

- One primary source – a current lease agreement, or current rates notice, or unconditional sale agreement, **and**
- One secondary source – a utility bill (e.g. electricity, gas).

Proof of Age

The following proof of age must be presented before admission:

- Child's Birth Certificate; or
- Current Passport

Enrolments will commence as long as sufficient proof of age has been sighted and all enrolment forms have been submitted prior to this day.

Booklist

A list of requirements, as far as books and stationery items are concerned, will be published at the end of each year for the ensuing year. Pre-packed book pack arrangements are currently made with Kookaburra Educational.

Transferring Your Child

If you are transferring your child to another school, a student departure form is required to be filled out indicating the child's last day of attendance. A certificate of transfer will be requested from the Principal of the school to which the child will be transferring to. This certificate will be issued upon receipt of letter of request as stated above. Contact the office regarding this certificate.

Court Orders

The school must be informed immediately of any court orders relevant to any child enrolled at the school.

School Procedures

Change of Contact Details

If you change your address, contact numbers, email addresses or emergency contacts, please advise the school so that essential records can be maintained to ensure we are able to contact you in an emergency.

Arrivals and Departures

- Students are expected to arrive at school prior to 8:50am but not before 8:15am.
- Children who come to school by car should be dropped off outside the fence and enter via the gate. Cars should park in marked bays. This procedure will reduce any danger to your child, and others.
- All children should have left the school premises by 3:15pm unless under the supervision of a teacher for extra curricular activities.
- If your child is left at school, every effort will be made to contact you. If no contact can be made by 3:30pm, attempts will be made to contact one of the emergency contacts listed.

Absences

All parents of children who have been absent from school are to notify the class teacher, by note or email of the reason for absence or contact the office staff, alternately online through QParents. We have a school absence line where you are able to leave a message notifying the school of your child's absence - **Absence Line - 5549 4333 (option 1)**

Late Arrivals

Children arriving late to school should report to Administration where they will be issued with a Late Slip to present to their class teacher.

Early Departures

Parents who wish to collect their child/children early must present to Administration where they will be issued with an Early Departure Slip which is then presented to the class teacher. Students will not be released from classrooms unless the teacher is presented with an early departure slip.

Leaving the Grounds

No child will be permitted to leave the school grounds except where a request is made by the parents/guardians in writing.

Pupil Free Days

Pupil Free Days are utilised for staff development. These days are crucial for our staff and we will provide advance warning.

Internet

Internet access is available to all students. This network is a valuable tool for research and technology education. All children and parents will be required to sign an acceptable usage agreement prior to using the internet.

iPads

The Personalised Pathways Through iPads @ Pimpama Program is designed to help students keep up with the demands of the 21st century. Helping students become responsible digital citizens will enhance not only what we do in the classroom, but also give students skills and experiences that will prepare them for their future studies and career.

The following is information regarding our iPad Program:

- ✚ Any iPad which is to be used as a part of the BYOD program will need to be registered with the school. Parents/Guardians will need to fill out and sign our 'Acceptable Use Agreement', before students can bring them to school to use in the classroom.
- ✚ Insurance of all BYOD iPads is the responsibility of the Parent/Guardian. No responsibility will be taken by the school or others for damage. iPads will need to be taken to the classroom by the students and placed on the iPad rack each morning. Classrooms will be opened from 8:40am. Devices will be locked in the classrooms during the day. The iPads are not to be used by students before 8:40am and/or after school.
- ✚ Parents/Guardians are required to provide suitable, durable casing **and** a protective bag to transport the device in.
- ✚ If alternative arrangements for the storage of iPads during school week days is required because your child catches the bus or attends before/after school care, then please see your child's class teacher to negotiate this.
- ✚ Personal devices are not to be shared and are not to be handled by other students.
- ✚ If the iPad is a device used by all family members then careful monitoring of the content of the camera roll will need to be ensured. Weekly iPad contents check by parents/carers is required.
- ✚ It is the responsibility of the Parent/Guardian to make sure the device is fully charged ready to start each day.
- ✚ Students will be provided with wireless Internet access on our school network. **3G/4G connections will not be allowed** and parents will have to remove or password-protect their 3G connections, so students do not have access to an unfiltered network while at school. The standard filter which is currently provided on the school network will apply to BYO iPads.
- ✚ The school Acceptable Use Agreement and Behaviour Policy will outline the sanctions for inappropriate use of devices and the school network. Responsible Digital Citizenship and cyber-safety is a component of the curriculum.
- ✚ It is the responsibility of parents to back up any files, photographs and their apps to iTunes as appropriate. Although every care will be taken, the Staff of Pimpama State School will not be held liable for any accidental erasure of apps, files or photos and in the unfortunate event that this did occur; parents will be responsible for restoring these through iTunes.
- ✚ All teachers have access to school iPads during class time that can be borrowed for set whole class activities.
- ✚ App List- Agreed download of all 'Must Have' apps prior to the start of week two of every term is part of our agreement. Apps will be a combination of paid and free apps and will be appropriate for use in all year levels.
- ✚ Classroom learning experiences will be differentiated using the SAMR model to incorporate opportunities for the use of iPads. (SAMR :- Redefinition/ Modification/ Augmentation/ Substitution)

Transformation		
Redefinition	Technology allows for creation of new tasks, previously inconceivable	Use of iBooks Author to create media rich ePub books
Modification	Technology allows for significant task redesign	Camera function to record oral retells, recording of reading
Augmentation	Technology acts as a direct tool substitute, with functional improvement	Basic functions of eBooks are used such as Read To Me and dictionary definitions
Substitution	Technology acts as a direct tool substitute, with no functional change	eBooks are used in reading groups
Enhancement		

SAMR: Puentedura, R. R., Ph.D., SAMR model.

Library

The school library is open to all children. Borrowing may be done in class time or during lunch breaks. Book losses or damages are the responsibility of the parent/guardian to replace. To protect books children are required to use a Library Bag in which to carry their books.

Lost Property

All clothing should have the child's name clearly marked on it. Any lost property, which cannot be identified, will be placed into the lost property box, located in the First Aid room in the office. At the end of each semester any unclaimed lost property will be donated to charity.

Birthdays

Birthdays are special!!! Please let us know and we will make this a special day for your child. Please note, under the Healthy Foods for Schools guidelines, birthday cakes / lollies are not able to be brought to school to share. Please save these special treats for home / parties.

Alcohol

Alcohol is not permitted within the school grounds unless approved by the Parents and Citizens Association and the Principal for specific purposes.

Smoking

Smoking is prohibited in Queensland Government buildings, offices and motor vehicles and on any school and outdoor or environmental education centre land including within 5 metres outside the boundary of the land.

Eating Arrangements

All children will sit and eat in their designated eating areas for the first ten minutes under the supervision of a teacher/teacher aide. If not finished, students are required to sit in the undercover area to complete their food. No food is to be eaten or taken beyond the student eating area. Children must place all rubbish in bins provided.

Canteen

Our canteen is run by the P&C, is staffed by volunteers and is open Monday to Friday, offering a range of nourishing food which complies with the Queensland Government Healthy Food Strategy. A full list of menu items is published at the beginning of each Term on the Pimpama State School website. Alternatively, menu/ordering options can be located through www.flexischools.com.au

Bicycles/Scooters

Children may ride their bicycles/scooters to school and store them in the bicycle/scooter racks. Bicycle/scooter riders must enter the school by the main gate and bicycle/scooters **must not** be ridden in the school grounds. The wearing of a recommended cycle helmet is compulsory.

Entering School Grounds in a Vehicle

No unauthorised vehicles are to enter the school grounds without the permission of the Principal. If you are to enter the grounds after gaining approval, then please proceed with extreme caution in the interests of safety.

Suspensions

A Principal may temporarily suspend a pupil or student from attendance at a State School for:

- suffering from infectious or contagious disease;
- incorrigible disobedience or insolence; or
- gross misconduct at school or when travelling to and from school that is in the opinion of the principal likely to prejudice the good order and discipline of the school.

The Principal shall notify the parent of his/her action and of his/her reasons therefore and of such person's right of appeal to the Assistant Regional Director and forward a copy of such notification to the ARD.

Homework

As defined in the Education Act, a teacher may require a pupil to undertake home study which may occupy such amount of time as a Principal may decide is reasonable in the circumstances. Our school policy is to set homework from Monday to Thursday nights. The amount and type of homework will vary from class to class. It is expected that this work will be completed on time.

General homework guide per week:

- Homework in Years 1, 2, 3 could be up to - but generally not more than - an hour each week
- Homework in Years 4 and 5 could be up to - but generally not more than - 2-3 hours each week
- Homework in Years 6 could be up to - but generally not more than - 3-4 hours each week

Homework in Prep is not compulsory though highly recommended.

Good communication between teachers, students and parents is very important to ensure students reach their full potential.

Mobile Phones & Communication Devices

A comprehensive policy on mobile phone use is included in enrolment packages and is also available from the school office. Mobile phones / smart watches must be handed in and **signed in** at the office before school, left there for the day and picked up and **signed out** again after 3:00pm. Please note that all mobile phones/smart watches left at the office will be turned off during the day.

Daily Routine

8:40am	Students enter classrooms for silent reading
8:50am	Students prepare to commence lessons
8:55am	Lesson commences
10:55am	All classes released for morning tea eating
11:05am	All classes released for morning tea play
11:25am	All classes recommence learning
12:55pm	All classes released for lunch eating
1:05pm	All classes released for lunch play
1.30pm	All students cease play
1:35pm	All classes recommence learning
2:55pm	End of day bell

House Teams

At present there are four house teams – **Bilbies (Blue)**, **Echidnas (Green)**, **Kangaroos (Red)**, and **Magpies (Yellow)**. Children are allocated to houses upon enrolment.

School Uniform

Pimpama State School is a uniform school. This position is affirmed by our Parents' and Citizens' Association. Students need to wear school uniforms, school hat and black school shoes/runners. Thongs and sandals are not allowed due to Workplace Health and Safety issues. A uniform price list is included in the enrolment pack – please note: prices may be subject to change. Uniform order forms are available at the school office. Alternatively, uniforms may be ordered through www.flexischools.com.au and will be delivered to your child's classroom.

Regular uniform shop hours are 8:15am – 8:45am on Wednesdays & Fridays; and other times by arrangement with the uniform convenor. The formal school uniform is required to be worn on Wednesdays for assembly and when representing the school, which includes special events, excursions and school photos.

EXPECTATION	BOYS	GIRLS
Summer Uniform		
Shorts / Skorts	Royal blue shorts	Royal blue skorts, Royal blue shorts
Shirts	Checked dress shirt (unisex) Royal blue and gold sport shirt (unisex)	Checked dress shirt (unisex) Royal blue and gold sport shirt (unisex)
Winter Uniform		
Jumpers	Pimpama State School – Royal blue and gold baseball jacket Hoods are NOT permitted	Pimpama State School – Royal blue and gold baseball jacket Hoods are NOT permitted
Pants	Royal blue bootleg pants	Royal blue bootleg pants
Socks	White socks	White socks / Navy Blue Stockings (Winter)
Hair	Neatly presented with no coloured dye No hair tracks, rat tails and Mohawks, pony-tails for boys	Neatly presented with no coloured dye Hair at shoulder length or longer should be tied up Royal blue/gold hair ties, ribbons, headbands
Hats	Royal blue wide-brimmed or legionnaire hat with school emblem	
Shoes	Covered black shoes with black laces Multi-coloured shoes and laces are NOT permitted	
Presentation	Neat and tidy presentation with no visible body art (including make-up) or nail polish	
Jewellery	One pair of sleepers or studs in the ears and watch only. No other jewellery acceptable	

Safety Information

Accidents

If your child meets with an accident of a serious nature, every effort will be made to contact you, the parents/guardians. If, however, this cannot be done, the Principal will obtain any necessary aid for the well-being of your child.

Medications

No child will be allowed to take any form of medication at school unless full written details are supplied and in some cases these details need to be supplied by the physician. For more details contact the school.

If your child must take a prescribed medication at school your doctor should provide a letter for the school detailing the medication, dose and time, and the parent should complete an 'Administration of Medication to Students' form giving school staff permission to administer the medication. The letter and medication should be taken to the School Office. Please be aware that we require new 'Administration of Medication to Students' form each year. It would be appreciated if you could collect any medication at the end of each year, and return it at the beginning of the school year. All medication must have a pharmacy label with child's name and dosage clearly stated.

No medication will be dispensed without written authorisation from a doctor and parent.

Sun Safety Policy

Pimpama State School has a Cancer Council approved Sun Safety Policy which is issued to all new enrolments. Please be aware of the necessary dress requirement for your children and encourage them to be "Sun Safe".

"NO HAT, NO PLAY"

As part of our school's 'sun-safe' policy children must wear a hat whenever they are in the playground - before school, at recess and at lunchtime. If your child does not have a hat at school, they will be required to stay in the undercover area during play times.

Sick Children

If your child is obviously too sick to attend school, please keep him/her home. You may have to make special arrangements for your child to be cared for. If a child becomes sick at school, parents will be notified to come and collect the child. It is therefore crucial that the contact information we have is kept up to date.

Infectious Diseases

During a child's life at school it is possible that a child will contract some of the common diseases of childhood. The following table is binding on all doctors, teachers and parents.

DISEASE	EXCLUSIONS FROM SCHOOL
Chicken Pox	Until fully recovered, some remaining scabs are not an indication for continued exclusion
Measles	For at least 7 days from the appearance of the rash, or until medical certificate of recovery is produced
Mumps	Until fully recovered
Rubella	Until fully recovered and at least 4 days from the onset of the rash
Impetigo (School Sores)	Until sores have fully healed
Ringworm	Until appropriate treatment has commenced and is supported by a medical certificate

Head Lice

Should head lice be detected at school, the school Principal or his/her representative will issue an information letter to the particular class / classes informing parents of the detection of head lice. Parents of affected students may be contacted by the school to bring this to their attention.

Parents are asked to:-

- Regularly inspect their child's head to detect the presence of lice or lice eggs
- Immediately treat their child on discovery or after being informed of lice or lice eggs
- Notify the school if their child is affected and advise when treatment has begun

Money Matters

Payment Options

Paying in Person:

- Payment by Credit Card, Debit Card, Cash, Cheque or Money Order
- Payment can be made at the school office on Tuesday and Thursday mornings between 8:15am and 10:00am. Payment will not be accepted at any other time if you are paying in person.
- If sending money with your child, please ensure it is in an envelope, clearly marked with the child's name and purpose of payment.

Paying by Phone:

Please be advised, due to a new Education Queensland policy, we are **no longer** permitted to receive credit card payments over the phone. Instead, schools must transfer calls from parents/customers wanting to pay via a credit/debit card, to a secure [BPOINT](#) line - which will collect the payment. BPOINT is the preferred payment method in Queensland State Schools. BPOINT is accessible by either QParents or by clicking on the website link on the bottom of the invoice. Alternatively, invoice details can be obtained by phoning the school on 5549 4333 Monday to Friday between 8am and 4pm

Never leave money or other valuables in a school bag.

School Banking

The Commonwealth Bank School Savings program is run every Tuesday morning. Application forms are available online or can be collected from a Commonwealth Bank branch. Once your child leaves school, this account can be converted to an ordinary Savings Account.

Voluntary Contribution Scheme - \$50 per family per calendar year

The voluntary contributions are used by the school to provide enhanced educational service and to enhance resources available to students. This contribution is an important asset to the school's global budget. It should be paid on enrolment or by the end of Term 1.

Book Club / Book Fair

These offers come eight times per year, and are designed to offer students quality reading material at reduced prices to encourage children to read for enjoyment. There is no obligation to purchase, but if you want to order books, return the Order Form and correct money in a sealed envelope marked "Book Club" to the office. There are two Book Fairs held each year.

Curriculum Information

Computer Technology

Technology is an important aspect of our school. Infrastructure, resources and opportunities include:

- a full optic fibre backbone connecting the whole campus to a Local Area Network and Education Queensland's Wide Area Network
- full-time Internet and Email access for all classrooms, staff and students including Preparatory Year
- a developing Intranet within the school for the sharing of files and communication purposes
- an increasing ratio of computers/laptops and access to digital cameras and scanners
- Interactive Panels and Apple TV in all classrooms including Prep, the Library, Science Room, Music Room and the Computer Labs
- professional teachers keen to integrate technology into lessons in a meaningful life-like way
- close links with local State High Schools to assist with the continuity of skills that have been developed
- a computer lab for training purposes
- a technology/coding lab (and resources) for all year levels
- computer technician employed on a part time basis
- allocated weekly time in the computer lab, on individual computers
- use of Ed Studios
- use of iPads

Science

Students from Prep-Year 6 are provided with specialist science lessons.

Music/Instrumental Music

A music specialist provides weekly instructions in general music skills to children across the school.

The school also has an instrumental music program which teaches the children strings, wind, brass and percussion instruments. The program is available to all interested, musically-inclined students in appropriate year levels. Further information about the Instrumental Music Program is available from our music teachers and on the school website.

Physical Education

A physical education specialist is based at the school. All children are provided with weekly lessons to develop skills, endurance and participation.

Japanese

Students from Prep-Year 6 are provided with specialist Japanese lessons.

Religious Instruction

Religious Instruction is provided to all students from Year 1 - 6 for 30 minutes per week. The service is provided on a non-denominational basis to class groups by volunteers approved by local churches and endorsed by Education Queensland. All children will attend Religious Instruction unless a letter is provided by their caregiver requesting that they do not attend.

Assessment of Students

At the conclusion of each Semester, written reports are issued via email. Parents are offered an interview with their child's teacher during terms one and three. These interviews are very valuable to both teacher and parent and we recommend these to you.

We encourage you to request parent-teacher interviews more frequently, especially if you have any concerns during Term two and four, but also to monitor your child's progress and encourage good relationships between home and school.

Awards

In recognition of achievement in academic, social and physical areas, a system of awards operates across the school. Each week students from each class are selected to receive a class award on parade.

We also operate a Bronze, Silver and Gold Award system. Students need to earn 5 bronze awards to get their silver award. Three silver awards will reward students in achieving their gold award on assembly.

All classes also have their own class award system operating.

Staffing

Student Support Services Committee (SSS)

This committee consists of the Principal, the Deputy Principals, the Director of Inclusive Learning (DoIL), the Support Teacher Literacy and Numeracy (STL&N), the Guidance Officer (GO), the Head of Conduct (Behaviour), the Directors of Learning and SEP Teachers. The committee has the role of evaluating and prioritising what internal support will be provided for the student and other referrals if necessary.

Guidance Officer

A Guidance Officer (GO) visits our school a few days a week to assist with the educational needs of children identified with significant learning difficulties or learning disabilities. The GO also assists with the assessment of behaviour difficulties and the development of behaviour adjustment programs aimed at developing a child's self control and self-discipline. Referral to the GO can be initiated by parents, teachers or administration and must be approved by the special needs committee. Please contact your child's classroom teacher should you feel that guidance intervention may be required for your child.

Chaplain

The school Chaplain assists our students with their social and emotional needs and also supporting families who require the service. The Chaplain works with individual students and groups of students on special programs. Currently the Chaplain is at the school two days a week.

Special Programs

Camps

Year levels 1, 2, 4 and 6 will attend camps/sleepovers. This enables us to offer a venue that will be educationally beneficial to the students and will also prevent students attending the same camp venues more than once during their education at our school.

A two year rotation we hope will maximize student participation which will lead to reduced costs. Parents will be able to have the opportunity to now save for the respective camp their children will be attending. We envisage this will be a big help for parents with more than one child at our school.

The following year levels will attend the following camps.

- Year One – sleepover at school
- Year Two – (two days /one night camp)
- Year Four – (three days / two nights)
- Year Six – (five days/ four nights)

Excursions

All excursions aim to support and extend the experiences of the children within the classroom. No excursion will be undertaken unless due notice has been given to parents and permission for their children to participate sought. All students **MUST** wear the school formal uniform on excursions as they are representing our school and furthermore, as a safety precaution for identification of our students.

Sport

Children in the senior classes participate in Gala days. Opportunities to trial for representative teams are provided throughout the year. During most school terms, after school sports are available for years 4 – 6.

Lunchtime Activities

Lunchtime activities are run for students from 1:05pm – 1:35pm. These activities are not compulsory and include: Choir, Chess Club, Technology, Netball, Soccer and Touch Football. These activities change every term.

GCCC Mobile Library

The Gold Coast City Council operates a Mobile Library borrowing system which calls on the school every school week (classes attend fortnightly). This service is available to both children and parents. Please encourage your child to borrow from this fabulous service.

Photographs

Each year we have school photos taken by professional photographers. The formal shirt is to be worn on photo day.

Communication

Newsletters

An eNewsletter is emailed to parents each week. It contains important information, children's work and notices in relation to the school. The newsletter can also be accessed on the school website. Please sign the eNewsletter section in the Application for Enrolment or advise the office if you wish to receive a copy.

Assembly

Junior, Senior and Whole School assemblies are held on a rotational basis, each Wednesday morning at 8.55 a.m. Each week, one class performs an item, class awards are presented and news of what is happening in your school is announced. Parents are more than welcome to attend to celebrate our students' achievements. Students **MUST** wear their formal school uniform.

Parent Messages

Urgent messages will be passed on to the children as required. We request that messages be phoned through to the office before 2:30pm as this allows time to find classes that are not in their normal classrooms. No child will be allowed to use the school telephone without permission from the Principal.

Communication Folders

Some of the younger students have communication folders, which is an ideal way to exchange information between yourself and your class teacher. Commonly these are known as B.E.E. Folders (**B**ring **E**verything **E**veryday)

Interviews with Teachers

Communication between home and school is vital and helps make your child's education a meaningful experience. Teachers welcome interviews with parents at any time throughout the year, especially if there is an issue. Most situations can be quickly resolved.

Incidents at School

We strive to be consistent in our expectations of students in areas of both behaviour and academia. Should there be an incident of suggested unfair treatment, it is requested that you make an appointment to discuss the matter in full with your child's teacher. At that appointment, it is an expectation that parents and staff act in a civil manner towards each other. At no stage should anyone become abusive or confrontational.

Complaints Procedures

We aim to solve any problem in a timely manner. If a concern relates to a classroom issue, the best procedure is to contact the class teacher and organise a meeting at an agreed time. If an issue is of greater concern feel free to contact one of the Deputy Principals or Principal.

Community Focus

Environmental Awareness

At Pimpama State School we are heavily involved in a number of environmental practices such as composting, revegetation projects and vegetable gardens. As a school, we program annually for environmental units across the school with each class taking responsibility for an area such as water conservation, energy management and recycling.

Community Activities

There are many and varied activities available to both you and your child within the local and neighbouring communities.

The Police Youth Club at Beenleigh offers many excellent activities for people of all ages. Soccer, cricket, netball, tennis, swimming, nippers, BMX, physical culture, gymnastics, tae-kwon-do, scouts, cubs, brownies, girl guides, arts and crafts are all available within 30 minutes of the school.

School Facilities

The school's facilities are available to groups approved by the Principal.

After Hours School Care – Helping Hands

We have an out of school hours care facility operating within the school grounds providing before school, after school and vacation care programs. For further information, please contact the Helping Hands coordinator on pimpama@helpinghandsnetwork.com.au or phone our school [office](#).

Parental Involvement

Parent Assistance

Parents are always welcome in our school. Some ways for parents to assist include:

- Book covering
- Sports coaching
- Reading
- Changing home readers
- Helping in the canteen
- Discuss fund-raising ideas.

As part of our child protection procedures all parents, who work with children, are required to hold a **Blue card.**

Parents & Citizens Association

This Association meets alternately on the second Monday of each month at 6pm. The P&C at Pimpama is extremely active, providing input to the overall school operations as well as many useful resources for the improved education of the children. Meetings are always friendly and interesting. Parents can:

- Learn about the latest activities of the students
- Keep up-to-date with changes in Education
- Have input into school policy decisions
- Discuss fund-raising ideas.

Please refer to the current newsletter for exact dates and times.

QParents

QParents has been created by the Department of Education and Training to provide parents of Queensland state school students with secure online access to their child's information. The portal allows you to securely access information about your child and to communicate directly with your child's school. You can register for QParents only after you have received an invitation email or letter from your child's school, containing your unique invitation code. You can register only through the web version of QParents, not through the QParents app. You will need to supply an email address (that you check regularly) in order to create a QParents account. You will be able to access QParents through a:

- smartphone (mobile browser, or apple users can download the QParents app from the iTunes App Store)
- tablet
- personal computer



QSchools

The QSchools app is a convenient way to receive up-to-the-minute information from Queensland state schools.

How do I download the QSchools app? To download the app visit the application store for your device:

- iPhone/iPad / Android / Windows phone / Windows PC

The app integrates with the department's preferred school website platform, allowing users to:

- find and favourite your school by searching for the school by name, searching a map or by searching for schools near your current location
- receive real-time notifications about state-wide emergency alerts as well as school push notifications and important updates through the app
- access the latest news, events and newsletters from your school
- easily access your school's canteen and uniform shop information
- view information about your school including class times and contact details
- view social media feeds.



The app can manage updates from multiple schools which is useful for parents who have students in different schools.