



Healy Prep

Parent Information Booklet



Healy State School
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Prep is a place where children learn about people, ideas and things around them through play!

Welcome

We would like to warmly welcome all the children and parents to Healy's Preparatory year. To your child Prep will be a whole new world full of exciting things to do. Here your child will find new friends to share experiences with, and adults who understand and care.

All education is enhanced when family and community members are involved. So, please be a part of our program and join us for what I trust will be a rewarding and happy prep year.

Goals of the Prep Guidelines

As children engage with the holistic curriculum that is planned using the early years learning areas they will develop understandings, capabilities and dispositions that contribute to the attributes of a lifelong learner. Children will become:

- *Knowledgeable with deep understandings*
- *Complex thinkers*
- *Creative persons*
- *Active investigators*
- *Effective communicators*
- *Participates in an interdependent world*
- *Reflective and self-directed learners*



By viewing learning as a lifelong process, children's present and future learning needs, both in and out of school, are taken into consideration.

Key Components

Key components of an effective Prep curriculum based on early years curriculum principles are:

- *Understanding children*
- *Building partnerships*
- *Establishing flexible learning environments*
- *Creating contexts for learning and development*
- *Exploring what children learn*

Coming and Going

8.20am - 2.20pm

An effective Prep program requires considerable time to prepare the room and playground adequately for each session. In addition, after school teachers often have meetings and other school commitments to

attend to. *Therefore, we stress the importance of being on time for both arrivals and departures. Doors will be opened 5 minutes before start of the session. You are welcome to come in and complete a puzzle or read a book with your child until Prep starts.*

It is the policy of Healy Prep that children must be brought inside by a parent or responsible adult (known to us) at the beginning of the session and are to be collected from inside the room at the end of the session. We have a 'sign in' book, which must be signed on arrival and departure. If at any time you arrange for someone else to collect your child from prep, please inform us of these arrangements.



Admission Age

Parents must ensure that children attending Prep in 2009 are born between 1st July 2003- 30th June 2004. A birth certificate (full or extract), or a registration of birth, verifying the child's date of birth is required before enrolment is processed and commencing Prep.

What to Bring

- Large bag
- Hat with broad brim (dark green)
- Enclosed shoes
- 1 swim shirt for Term 1 swimming
- A nutritious lunch and a small snack for morning tea
- Water bottle (no soft drink or cordial)
- Library bag
- Spare set of clothes in plastic bag
- 2 boxes of tissues to be left at school
- 1 towel for a short rest time
- A pack of A4 paper
- 2 Glue Sticks



PLEASE ENSURE THAT ALL CHILDREN'S BELONGINGS ARE CLEARLY MARKED WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME

Fees

A fee of \$60 will be charged to cover costs such as cooking, film processing and purchasing, special celebrations such as Mothers day, Fathers day and Christmas celebrations.



Cooking

From time to time children will be involved in cooking activities that we may share at lunch. Please let us know of any food or drink allergies your child may suffer from.

Birthdays

Some suggestions for this special day:

- *Bring an iced cake or 25 small patty cakes*
- *Bring ice-cream and cones*
- *Send in a packet cake and extra ingredients to be cooked at school.*

Illnesses

As most parents are aware, it is best to keep your child home when they are ill. This stay away from Prep will allow your child more opportunity to recover fully as well as preventing the spread of illnesses.

Children who become ill during the day will be removed from the group to rest quietly and the parent will be notified as soon as possible so they can be taken home. Children suffering from a contagious condition must be excluded from Prep for specific times. Consult your teacher for further information if required. Please inform us immediately if your child contracts or comes in contact with an infectious childhood disease (chicken pox, German measles, Whooping cough etc.)

Money

Any money that needs to come to Prep is placed in an envelope with the child's name, amount and purpose written on the front. The money is placed in a brown tin on the front bench.

Lost Property

Items of clothing and other belongings left at Prep will be placed in the lost property box. Please check this regularly as all items remaining at the end of each term will be sent to charity. You can avoid lost property by ensuring all items are clearly named and encouraging your child to collect their own belongings each day.

Treasures from Home

While we do not wish to dampen your child's enthusiasm, we would appreciate if toys brought from home were limited to those received on special occasions (eg. Birthdays). Treasures can be lost or broken, so please leave them at home.



However, your child is encouraged to bring to prep any type of interesting specimen or object to enrich our program. For example rocks, shells, flowers, insects, letters etc.



Library

A Library box will be placed near the door. The children's Library bags are to be returned each week, so the books can be changed.

Legal Protection for parents

Volunteer workers assisting at prep, i.e For parent roster, working bees and those accompanying students on excursions will be asked to sign and date a register for insurance coverage. This register must be signed if you are involved in any school-related activities as a volunteer worker.



Uniform

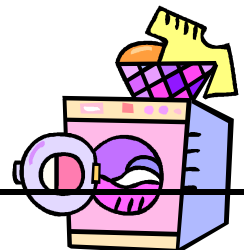
Prep students are strongly encouraged to have a Healy State School Shirt. Parents will be able to purchase school shirts and hats from the office.

Sharing Time

Children will each have a set day for their Healy News.

Collections

Preps are top recycling depots. We use all sorts of goods and chattels that usually go to the dump. Below is a list of things you can start collecting for us throughout the year. Collage - boxes, bottles, cartons, clean egg shells, tinsel, wrapping paper, computer paper, cards, paddle pop sticks, shells, feathers, lids, plastic containers, string, wool, material, bottle tops, cotton, buttons, lace, corks, raffia, glitter, chocolate wrappers, ribbon, patty papers, straws, magazines, wood shavings, plastic bags etc, no toilet rolls.



Routine

Hats, and towels go home Fridays for washing. Spare clothes may stay at school all year or they may stay in your child's bag. We also have regular headlice checks from our headlice team.

Partnerships

We recognise the importance of building effective partnerships with children, parents, caregivers, other teachers and colleagues, other professionals, local schools and community organisations.

These partnerships are important because they help the Prep teachers to:

- Get to know the interests and needs of each child
- Be aware of important events in each child's life
- Plan and share information with parents and caregivers
- Be aware of community events and issues
- Plan with other professionals to meet children's needs.

It is important for the home and Prep to share information, which may affect the children. Please inform us of any unusual happenings or wonderful events that occur.

Parental Involvement

Children benefit greatly from the individual attention of caring adults. Parents play an important and valuable role in the education of their child - all parents have a great deal to offer. We welcome you to become involved in your child's Prep by:

- Visiting the Prep and joining the program
- Supporting the parent group
- Reading the notice board and newsletters
- Collecting 'junk' material
- Discussing any problems or concerns with your child's teacher
- Offering to share any hobbies, interests or expertise you have
- Assisting in the maintenance and beautification of the grounds

A final Note

We welcome you and your family to Happy Healy Prep. We look forward to working with you to ensure that the children have a happy and rewarding Prep year. Here at Prep we value your interest, participation, and thoughts. So, please join us and share in the fun and excitement experienced at Prep.

First Day

Let your child know you will settle him/her into an activity, then when session begins it will be time for you to go. Reassure them that you will return at the end of the session and when it's time to go, GO! He/She may show emotion for the initial break, but prolonging your departure is harder for both child and parent.



For your child the novelty of prep will take away some of the hurt of leaving you. But Prep is just as much about the parent adjusting to letting go of the child.

Should you have any queries regarding Prep policies or your child's progress, please don't hesitate to talk to us.

We look forward to a successful partnership in the educational interests of your child/children.

