



PROSPECTUS



**PEAKHURST
PUBLIC SCHOOL**

academic excellence

EDUCATION

At Peakhurst Public School we take pride in delivering an excellent education in a warm and nurturing environment. Our teachers are highly trained, professionals who are committed to helping all students reach their full potential both academically and socially.

We are an innovative school community that values and promotes life-long learning. Our school curriculum offers a balance of academic programs in the six key learning areas as well as an extensive selection of extra curricula activities. We continuously evaluate our approaches to learning, and the programs that we offer our students, to ensure that our school always delivers quality education.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

We have a strong academic focus with high expectations for teaching and learning. Diverse educational programs cater for individual needs, challenge all students and promote excellent learning outcomes. School targets are determined each year based on the analysis of student assessment data. Targets cover all key learning areas with an emphasis on literacy, numeracy and technology

LITERACY & NUMERACY

Through ongoing professional development our experienced staff is always up-to-date with current teaching practices. We value and promote the role of parents and caregivers in developing and improving our students' literacy and numeracy. Our above average results in literacy and numeracy in the NAPLAN [National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy] are a direct result of the expectations our highly trained staff have of our students. This is achieved in the classroom through quality teaching and learning. Exceptional support programs and specialist teaching staff are available to assist children experiencing difficulties as well as those students working above stage expectations.

GIFTED AND TALENTED

We are proud of our innovative programs for gifted and talented students which include flexible learning options for the specific needs of individual students. Class structures reflect student needs and the school's commitment to gifted and talented education.

The school has an agreed set of criteria which is used by teachers, parents and students to identify and meet the learning and social needs of our students from Kindergarten to Year 6. Opportunities include; debating, public speaking, choir, dance, band, performing arts, visual arts, sports, competitions i.e. Maths Olympiad, University of NSW Competitions, acceleration, early entry into school, vertical acceleration in English and Mathematics, languages, chess and coding.



THE LEARNING SUPPORT TEAM

The Learning Support Team led by the deputy principal, meets regularly with the school counsellor to evaluate, coordinate and monitor programs for individual students to improve learning, social and behavioural outcomes. Teachers and/or parents may refer students to the Learning Support Team. Outside agencies are also accessed for additional support when required.



learning support
team

special education

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Our school community is committed to the inclusion of students with disabilities in all aspects of school life.

Our special education classes provide opportunities for students with intellectual disabilities to achieve their maximum potential academically and socially. We are recognised for our commitment to children with special needs.

Students are integrated into mainstream classes for both academic and social development. As well as an academic focus in the six key learning areas we also provide a comprehensive functional and life skills curriculum which includes weekly: cooking; swimming lessons; gymnastics and gross motor programs; shopping and community access and travel training.



dynamic facilities

At Peakhurst we provide our students with modern and dynamic facilities, which includes:

interactive whiteboards in all learning areas

mobile technologies - iPads, mobile labs, e-Readers

library learning centre

connected classroom

performing arts centre

modern refurbished classrooms

extensive grounds

multi-purpose sports court



CARE

Our school has an inclusive, caring environment where students are nurtured as they learn. Through Peer Support and "Buddy" Programs, our students are encouraged to demonstrate empathy and show concern and respect for themselves and others.

LEADERSHIP

All students are encouraged to develop and demonstrate leadership skills over time. We are committed to providing opportunities for students to develop a range of leadership styles and to express their views on school environment, learning opportunities and organisation.

Students are empowered through participation in the following programs:

- School Captains and Prefects
- Sport Captains and Vice Captains
- Class Captains
- Student Representative Council [SRC]
- Peer Support
- Student led assemblies and special events
- Buddy Programs
- Eco Kids [Environmental Sustainability Group]



care, values and leadership

VALUES

Our comprehensive approach to values education results in our core values being evident in every aspect of school life. These values are an integral part of the school's positive discipline policy and are explicitly taught and discussed in classrooms and reflected in the wider school community.

The core values are:

- care
- excellence
- fairness
- respect
- responsibility

care
excellence
fairness
respect
responsibility

The school's positive discipline policy acknowledges difference and promotes harmony.

By maximising student participation in decision making, students enjoy success and recognition and are encouraged to take responsibility for their learning and behaviour. School rules, rights and responsibilities are known and understood by all school community members and the

principles of equity, fairness, consistency and restorative justice are reflected in school practice. We provide frequent opportunities for students and their parents to discuss both learning and behaviour. Our programs enable students to develop positive relationships, social responsibility and conflict resolution skills.

We are committed to meeting the personal, social and learning needs of our students.



be safe
be friendly
always do your best



STUDENT WELL-BEING
discipline policy

opportunities to shine...

*unites the school
community in
celebrating the
students'
achievements.*



PUBLIC SPEAKING & DEBATING

We are committed to developing strong oracy skills in all our students. Our public speaking program provides opportunities for students from Kindergarten to Year 6 to demonstrate these skills at school, district and regional competitions.

We have a highly successful debating program which develops critical thinking, problem solving and research skills. We have won the tri-school debating challenge, the Sydney Region Premiers Debating Challenge qualifying rounds and reached the Interzone quarter finals every year for the past five years.



SPORT

We encourage physical growth and development for all students and nurture positive attitudes towards physical activity and a healthy, active lifestyle.



Students participate in regular fitness activities, school sport each week and inter-school sporting competitions.

Opportunities abound for students to participate in district, regional, state and national competitive sport. Our school has experienced success at elite levels in swimming, athletics, cross country and team sports.

PERFORMING ARTS

We have an extensive creative and performing arts program. Opportunities enable our students to experience success and recognition and derive enjoyment from their learning and performing.

During the "Peakhurst School Show" every child in the school becomes a star in front of a huge audience in either solo or group performances. This spectacular event occurs every second year and combines the enthusiasm and talents of our students with the dedication and expertise of the teachers and volunteers from our community to produce an extravaganza of the highest quality.



DANCE GROUPS

The school employs a professional dance teacher to choreograph and rehearse our dance groups catering for students from Kindergarten to Year 6. Students rehearse throughout the year and showcase their many talents at school events and major performances and competitions.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

We have both a beginner and performing band. Many months of rehearsals culminate in performances outside of the school and at other school events.

Students can also access keyboard, guitar and drumming lessons from an outside provider, on the school site, either before or after school.



LANGUAGES

Students have the opportunity to learn a number of languages after school such as Greek, French and Mandarin. The students in our extension classes learn Indonesian to challenge their cognitive ability

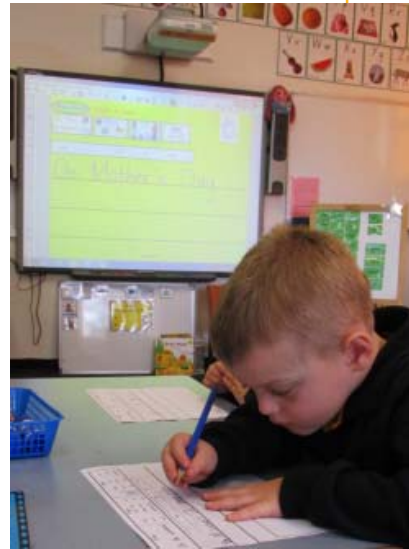
technology

Technology is integrated into learning from Kindergarten to Year 6. We are in the process of developing our school vision for 21st century learning.

Our goal is to provide all students and teachers with the latest e-learning technologies. All students in Stage 3 and some students in Stage 2 currently use iPads for learning.

Special education students use iPads to access the curriculum and to enhance their communication skills. High-speed wireless access has been established in half of the school. This project will be completed by the beginning of 2014. This will enable us to expand our iPad program and to establish mobile laptop labs throughout the school.

The 21st century learning skills of communication, collaboration, critical thinking and creativity will be embedded into teaching and learning from Kindergarten to Year 6. From the beginning of 2014 students will work through the scope and sequence of 21st century learning skills.



*“developing
21st century
learning skills”*

*communication
creativity
collaboration
critical thinking*



Our school community is committed to working together to continually improve our facilities and extensive grounds.

Our short term planning projects include:

- creating e-learning centres throughout the school;
- upgrading the Library Learning Centre;
- upgrading classrooms;
- initiating energy conservation projects;
- establishing native gardens and quiet areas;
- developing sustainable practices;
- upgrading the school hall.



Students, staff and parents are represented on the school's Environment and Strategic Planning Committees to plan and make recommendations about conserving and protecting our school environment, and for long term capital improvements.

We are committed to sustainability and have introduced many sustainable projects.

school environment

VALUED PARTNERSHIPS

Ongoing communication between teachers and parents is vital to each student's continued success at our school. Your child's class teacher is always available to talk about your child's progress or individual needs. To help us communicate better with parents at the beginning of each year you will be invited to attend a Parent Information Night where the teachers will present important information about the teaching and learning program, class and stage expectations and planned activities such as excursions. Formal parent/teacher interviews are conducted at the end of Term 2. Written reports are sent home at the end of Semester One and Semester Two. These reports give valuable feedback to students and parents about progress which has been achieved throughout the year. The reports will clearly indicate areas of strength and areas for development in the key learning areas; commitment to learning; and involvement in extracurricular activities.

Our school values its successful partnership with parents and the wider community. Parents are encouraged to become involved in many ways:

- Canteen
- Book Club
- School promotion
- Fundraising
- Performances
- Excursions and out of school activities
- Classroom support
- Committees
- Sport
- P&C
- School Council
- Sustainability projects



We have an active P&C that welcomes new members and encourages parents to participate in their child's education. P&C meetings are held on the second Monday of each month alternating between morning and evening meetings. Subcommittees of the P&C operate the school canteen, the school uniform shop, book club, organise social events and raise valuable funds to improve school resources and facilities.

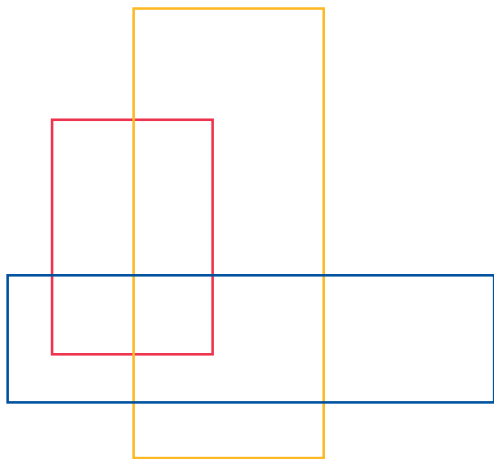
The School Council meets each term and is actively involved in school governance and strategic planning.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

There is strong support from parents, students and staff for the wearing of our uniform. We believe it helps to promote school pride and encourages students to feel part of a cohesive and supportive community.

STARTING SCHOOL

Our transition to school program provides many opportunities for our new students starting in Kindergarten to settle into our school routine, mix with other children, and engage in both structured and unstructured play. This promotes positive relationships for both parents and students creating a smooth transition into Kindergarten.



School Hours

School hours are 9.20am-3.25pm. The playground is supervised from 9am in the morning.

Before and after school care

Before and after school care is provided by Attunga Before and After School Care Services on the grounds of Peakhurst Primary School. Care is provided from 7.30am until school begins at 9am and in the afternoons from 3.25pm to 6pm.

Uniform Shop

The uniform shop is open on Tuesdays from 9.30am. If you are not able to attend during the shop's operating hours, you are able to send orders to school with your child.

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

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