

Woree
State School



Welcome to Prep



Queensland
Government

Discover Strive Shine



Welcome to Prep

Prep is the first formal year of schooling for children in Queensland. The Prep day is the equivalent of a full school day. Students are expected to attend five days per week for the full length of the school day, and this is vital to their individual improvement and success. School hours are from 8:55am (music starts) to 3:00pm. Students should arrive at school approximately 20 minutes before the start of lessons for the day (9:00am), in order for learning to commence on time. School gates open at 8:15am to welcome students.

Prep children wear a school uniform like everyone else, including a house coloured sports uniform, wide brimmed or bucket hat and closed in footwear. Prep children eat lunch and afternoon tea at break times just like the rest of the school. In Prep, students participate in active learning processes, and are exposed to explicit teaching of the foundation concepts of the Australian Curriculum.

Vision and Values

Woree State School is committed to providing a safe, respectful and disciplined learning environment for all students and staff, where students have opportunities to engage in quality learning experiences and acquire values supportive of lifelong learning.

The school's code, "The Woree Way" provides a well-known structure for students to follow throughout their educational life. High expectations are underpinned by the principles of Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) and are reflected in our whole school daily practices. The 'Woree Way' embeds our school wide values and expectations, to come to school to learn, to respect and be respected, to co-operate and to act in a manner that ensures the safety of self and others. Students in all classrooms are taught to be present, centred and ready to learn through a range of supportive strategies.

Our vision statement encapsulate the collective aspirations of the Woree State School community and drives our commitment to provide a broad range of high quality programs and opportunities that encourage students to Discover, Strive and Shine.

High expectations in every learning environment contributes to the improvement of student learning.



Our Curriculum

Woree State School celebrates the importance of the early years through implementation of high quality Prep programs with a focus on providing children with the best foundations for future success. At Woree, staff design teaching and learning experiences based on the Australian Curriculum and considering the Early Year Curriculum Guidelines.

The Australian Curriculum requires Prep teachers to teach knowledge and understanding through using a range of pedagogies in all learning areas. At Woree State School the teaching of English, Mathematics and Science are prioritised to achieve foundational early learning.

Woree State School has well documented curriculum assessment and reporting plans for every year level, identifying the learning areas taught each term, the assessment tasks required and the sequencing of knowledge, understanding and processes that children are taught. These are working documents that are constantly reviewed and updated. Prep teachers plan collaboratively to ensure consistency across classrooms.

Our approach focuses on the development of fundamental English and Mathematics knowledge while acknowledging the importance of connections to children's interests and life experiences. Our curriculum recognises that children are capable, active learners who learn best through interacting, exploring and experimenting. At Woree State School your child's Prep teacher

will plan purposeful, active, individual and collaborative learning opportunities to assist your child's academic, behavioural and socio-emotional growth.

Specialist teachers implement The Arts, Music, Health and Physical Education curriculums with students across all year levels. Prep students receive weekly Music, Arts and Physical Education lessons to develop musical skills, in addition to dance, drama, physical gross motor skills.

The whole school focus on reading (known as Road to Reading success) ensures all teachers timetable, plan, teach and assess daily reading lessons. Regular reading data cycles enables teachers to incorporate current data into their planning and teaching.

Information Communication Technologies (ICT) capabilities are incorporated into the units of work, increasing in complexity as students progress through the year levels, providing a variety of experiences in a range of programs.

Prep students learn best when there is a partnership between parents, students and teachers. Students are treated as individuals and teachers provide a rich environment tailored to needs of children in their classrooms.

We aim to ensure that all learning takes place in a positive and supportive environment and that your child has every opportunity to experience success and fun in his/her learning.

Support Services

Providing an inclusive school community that ensures all students have access to high quality learning opportunities, focused on their individual learner needs, is a priority at Woree State School.

Woree State School offers students with disabilities and diverse learning needs with access to differentiated learning programs and specialist teaching staff. We facilitate specialist support for Speech, Occupational and Physiotherapy, including disability-specific Advisory Teacher support for hearing, vision and Autism. We also offer student support services to ensure maximum attendance and engagement, positive behaviour for learning and social and emotional wellbeing. For further information please contact the Head of Inclusion.

Key support services at Woree State School include:

- Head of Inclusion
- Guidance Officer
- Deputy Principal Teaching and Learning
- Deputy Principal Student Services
- Deputy Principal Education Services
- Student Engagement Teachers
- Specialist Teachers
- Teacher Aides
- Intervention Teachers
- Community Liaison Officer
- Head of Student Engagement
- Head of Department P-3
- Head of Department 4-6

Partnering with Parents

As parents, you play a vital role in the education of your children and are an important part of the Woree State School community. We therefore encourage you to become involved in your child's education and learning experiences, by keeping in regular communication with teachers, volunteering and or joining the P&C Association: pandc@woreess.eq.edu.au



Communication

Open communication between home and school underpins a great school experience for children and their families.

From the School

To keep you well informed and ensure you know what is happening at school we provide information through the following means of communication:

- Fortnightly newsletters emailed to parents and carers or available on request through the school office
- Electronic sign at the front of the school on Rigg street
- School website www.woreess.eq.edu.au
- Facebook
- Instagram
- SMS
- Parent teacher student progress interviews
- ID attend same day absence notifications
- Schoolzine app
- Emailing of information
- Phone calls
- Meetings by request
- P&C meetings

Positive recognition is an important aspect of children's learning. At Woree State School this includes:

- Woree Wow certificates
- Positive phone calls and letters
- Positive postcards
- Certificates and awards
- Class based recognition

From the family

We encourage your communication and sharing with us any news, concerns or questions with our school. Family events and changes can be a source of excitement or concern and may affect a child's behaviour or engagement at school. Please keep your child's teacher informed of any such events or changes in your child's life which may have an impact on them at school.

Please feel free to make time to discuss any concerns or queries with your child's classroom teacher particularly with regard to your child's progress, the school or Prep programs. Teachers are happy to make appointments for longer discussions as required. It is important to keep the school informed of any changes to circumstances including contact details, residential address, family law etc.

Contacting staff

As you can appreciate, teachers are busy teaching in classrooms between 9:00am and 3:00pm and are unavailable to meet with you without prior notice.

You can make contact with your child's teacher by leaving a message through the school administration office.

Many teachers may also make use of their professional email account for communication with families, however this is at the discretion of the teacher. We encourage you to speak directly with your child's teacher to negotiate the best way of staying in regular contact.

Getting Ready for Prep

Before the school year commences there are a number of ways that you can prepare your child for their transition to Prep.

Make the most of opportunities to:

- Talk with your child
- Read with them daily
- Encourage independence, for example; toileting, re-adjusting clothing (pull shorts up etc.), blowing nose, tying laces, encourage children to put own bag, lunch box etc. away in readiness for the classroom, recognise their own belongings and take responsibility for their belongings
- Draw pictures
- Write – encourage lower case letters (direction)
- Encourage your child to write their own name using a capital letter to start then lower case letters
- Encourage your child to recognise their own name
- Cut with scissors
- Use the correct pencil grip
- Count objects
- Learn the names of letters
- Learn colours, numbers and shapes
- Social skills such as sharing, turn taking, use of manners, making requests, responding to others, kindness, acceptance of difference.

Class Requirements

Your child will require:

Prep booklists - Available from the office or school P&C Shop. Our P&C operates a book pack (stationery) system each school year. Book packs can be collected prior to the commencement of the school year or order online www.flexischools.com.au. Lay by is available.

A school bag – your child’s school bag needs to be big enough to hold a reading folder, lunch box, water bottle, change of clothes, etc.

Hats – Children must wear an appropriate hat when working and playing outside of the classroom. This includes wide-brimmed, bucket or Legionnaires hat in school colours. Caps are not acceptable. We uphold a no hat, no play policy during lunchbreaks. School bucket hats are available for purchase from the P&C School Shop. Wide brimmed reversible hats include sports house colours are also available for purchase.

Footwear – For personal safety and general health, students must wear appropriate footwear at all times. This includes enclosed shoes or sandshoes (runners/ joggers). Thongs and open sandals are not appropriate footwear at school. Footwear is to be worn at all times until in the care of parents/carers at the end of the school day.

Healthy lunch and afternoon tea – All children are encouraged to bring a healthy lunch or they can purchase lunch from the school P&C Butterfly Café (Tuckshop) for both lunch breaks. Orders can be made by writing on a paper bag or ordering online www.flexischools.com.au. Children are encouraged to eat a sandwich, fruit or healthier options first. All classrooms have fridges for lunch box storage. Please consider the size of your child’s lunch box to ensure all students lunches can be kept in the fridge. Esky type lunch boxes are too large for fridge storage. Lunch boxes and drink bottles must be named for ease of recognition.

Library book bag – A book bag is required to protect books borrowed from the school library.

Water bottle – All students are encouraged to bring a water bottle to school. Water bottles filled with water can be used in all classrooms. Please include your child’s name on their water bottle.

Spare set of clothes – As accidents may occur, all children are to have a spare set of clothes including two pairs of underpants in a named plastic bag, with each item of clothing clearly named and stored in the student’s bag. (We encourage these items to continue to be placed in their bags for the duration of the year as accidents late in the year still occur).

Label items – It will be necessary to label items from the booklist. Write your child’s name on books, scissors, library bag and folders. Pencils, glue etc. are for communal use (no names required). Examples of preferred booklist items will be available at our Prep orientation and in the school P&C Shop before next year. A copy of the Prep booklist will be emailed to you when it is available.

Write your child’s name on all of their belongings including hat, school uniforms, shoes, lunch box and water bottle.

We look forward to an enjoyable and rewarding Prep year at Woree State School, working closely with you to ensure the best possible start at school for your child.

We are looking forward to assisting your child to *Discover, Strive and Shine* throughout their Prep year and beyond at Woree State School.



Corner of Rigg and Windarra Streets, Woree

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