



Information Book 2021





Principal's Message

On behalf of the staff of Redhead Public School, I extend a very warm welcome to all new families joining our school this year and welcome back all our returning families as well. I have had the honour of being the school principal since 2017. My vision, as the principal, is that we are a united school family and that the students and their education is our foremost number one focus. It truly does take a village to raise a child and at Redhead Public School we value teamwork and collaboration within our school community.

Our school values are respect, inspire and succeed. These values are embedded in all we do each day. Our school strives to make sure we have authentic partnerships with our parents/carers and community whilst ensuring quality education for our students. Parents are encouraged to participate in a wide variety of school activities including class activities and school sport along with genuine decision-making opportunities by being involved with the Parents & Citizens Association.

We strive for excellence in academic achievement and promote the development of the whole child through strong curriculum. We educate our students to be problem solvers, communicators, collaborators, and creative thinkers.

Redhead Public School offers extremely dedicated, professional and caring teachers who provide extensive learning and enrichment experiences for all students. As educators, we discover how each child learns within in our school in order to differentiate classroom instruction to support differing learning styles. Our teachers maintain the highest integrity and concern for your child's wellbeing. There is an emphasis on the development of literacy and numeracy skills and these are integrated across all key learning areas.

Additional opportunities include dance, drama, choir, debating, public speaking, creative arts, environmental groups, APSMO maths, chess club, Tournament of the Minds, and many sporting opportunities.

My hope is that all our children will love coming to school each day. Redhead Public School is a nurturing environment that is a fun, safe, caring and an inspirational learning environment for students to learn and achieve personal academic goals.



Kind Regards

Mrs Lisa Monaghan





2021 Staff:

Principal:

Mrs Lisa Monaghan

Assistant Principals:

Mrs Amy Kurtz
Mrs Lynne Church
Mrs Donna Schofield

Classroom Teachers:

Ms Lexi McInnes
Mrs Emma Atkins
Mr Eric Thorsby
Mrs Samantha Huggins
Mr Liam Sumbak

Mrs Catherine Rufford
Mrs Lisa Budden
Ms Melissa O'Donnell
Mr Malcolm Halbesma
Mrs Angella Thomas

LaST Teacher:

Mrs Jan Audet

RFF/Intervention Teachers:

Mrs Clare Smith
Ms Nagi Dalby
Mrs Nicole Lapornik

Teacher/Librarian:

Mrs Laura Rhodes

School Learning Support Officer:

Mrs Shaye Francisco
Mrs Shanai Nikic

School Administration Manager:

Mrs Tracey Dear

School Administration Officers:

Mrs Emma Foster
Mrs Raelene D'Agostino

General Assistant:

Mr Gary Pollock

School Contact Details:

Phone number: (02) 4944 7215
Fax: (02) 4942 6098
School e-mail address: redhead-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
School web page: <https://redhead-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/>
Address: 31 Hutchinson Street Redhead NSW 2290



Welcome to Redhead Public School

The information presented in this booklet is intended to be helpful to you as your child enters our school. The school looks forward to a pleasant and harmonious relationship with you so that in partnership we are able to provide a happy learning environment where children feel safe and secure to meet the challenges of the future. Our learning community includes all the schools of the Whitebridge Community of Schools (WCoS)

School Vision

Empowering students to embrace the opportunities of quality education, promoting student growth and success in life.

Investing In The Future

One of the most important decisions that any parent/carer ever has to face is selecting the best school to place their children in.

At Redhead Public School, we have worked hard to create the right balance of academic, social, artistic and sporting programs to provide the best overall curriculum for our students.

We focus on getting the basics right so that individuals can achieve their full potential. Our students are successful! Redhead Public School's students have consistently performed better than state and national averages in all areas of literacy and numeracy in the National Assessment Program, Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN).

Quality Teaching and Learning

Our students have access to quality teaching and learning experiences delivered by a professional and enthusiastic teaching staff.

Our staff further develop their skills and talents through regular professional development and learning opportunities. This ensures that they are able to engage their students in quality, motivating lessons.

Our students have wonderful opportunities to be involved in high potential and gifted education programs in areas such as creative arts, drama, science, technology and debating.

Information Technology

Redhead Public School's students have access to a wide range of modern technologies to assist in their learning. Interactive whiteboard technology and the availability of laptops and iPads throughout the school allows students and teachers to interact with resources and programs which contribute to greater student engagement and understanding of key concepts, ideas and skills.

Our structured technology lessons, for all students in Years K-6, provide a solid base for independent learning and research and for future studies utilising technology as a learning tool.



Redhead Public School's students are well prepared for an exciting future.



History of Redhead Public School

Redhead, like many small communities in the early nineteen hundreds did not have a school. The nearest school was Dudley which was only accessible to children living in Redhead by walking along a dirt track. As the crow flew this was considered to be two miles by department officials. However, because of the hilly terrain, the real distance was more like six miles. The children also had to contend with inclement weather and the sandy ground which was home to snakes such as death adders.

Parents/carers were not satisfied that this was an ideal way for their children to begin each school day. Copies of Newcastle papers document Redhead residents beginning to become agitated and start to lobby for a school in February 1906.



On 17 September 1908 Redhead Public School began operating in a hall offered by the Methodist Church. There were 23 boys and 18 girls enrolled with Mr McLeod appointed in charge as a temporary teacher.

In November 1909 Mr McPaul was appointed as the teacher and the building of Redhead Public School on its current site started to take shape.

In 1911 Redhead Public School was completed and the students moved into the building which is now the Library.

Throughout the years the population of Redhead Public School steadily increased and another 2 classrooms were built.

In 1950 the then Principal, Mr Stanton, thought the time was right to encourage the spirit of Redhead Public School and a school uniform was introduced. The adoption of 'Consideration for Others' as the school motto was established. The uniform may have changed over the years but the motto remains the same, 'Consideration'.

Over the years pupil and staff numbers increased and additional classrooms were added. In 1979 major renovations were undertaken resulting in the buildings that you see today.

Over the past years dedicated fundraising and the sale of the school residence has enabled further improvements to be undertaken. A new permanent canteen and COLA were built and interactive whiteboards/Commboxes were installed in classrooms. Improvements continued with the building of a Special Purpose Room for technology and the conversion of the COLA into a school hall. Ground improvements are also being realised with the creation of outdoor learnscapes.

The changes at Redhead Public School continue and no doubt will continue to do so for many years to come.

The success of Redhead Public School can be attributed to the wonderful support we receive from our students, their families and the whole school community. This positive relationship enhances the learning environment and opportunities for the children at Redhead Public School.



SCHOOL CALENDAR 2021 TERM DATES:

	Commences	Finishes
Term 1	Friday 29 January	Thursday 1 April
Term 2	Tuesday 20 April	Friday 25 June
Term 3	Tuesday 13 July	Friday 17 September
Term 4	Tuesday 5 October	Thursday 16 December

Staff Development Days (PUPIL FREE) 2021

Term 1	Wednesday 27 January Thursday 28 January
Term 2	Monday 19 April
Term 3	Monday 12 July
Term 4	Friday 17 December

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS 2021

Australia Day -	Tuesday 26 January
Good Friday -	Friday 2 April
Easter Monday -	Monday 5 April
Anzac Day -	Sunday 25 April
Queen's Birthday-	Monday 14 June
Labour Day -	Monday 4 October

Bell Times

Monday to Friday

8:40 a.m.	Playground supervision begins
9:10 a.m.	Classes commence
11:10 a.m.	RECESS
11:40 a.m.	Middle session commences
1:10 p.m.	LUNCH
1:30 p.m.	Second half lunch
1:55 p.m.	Afternoon session commences
3:10 p.m.	End of day

Aboriginal Education

Redhead Public School has a strong Yarn group made up of students, parents and community members. These students are involved in different activities each term including a language program, artwork activities, dancing, and a boys' mentor program. The parents and community meet once a term to discuss plans and ideas for their students.

We have also created a specific Indigenous garden and a new Yarning Circle which is utilised by all students and teachers. This has mosaic animal designs created at one of our NAIDOC Day celebrations.

Assemblies

Whole school assemblies are held at 2pm every second Friday. This is to allow children to showcase their work, perform items and receive awards. Parents/carers are welcome to attend our whole school assemblies.

Attendance

Children are required by law to attend school each day the school is open.

Class rolls are marked daily, first thing in the morning. If your child is marked absent an SMS is sent. Please reply to the SMS with a clear explanation of the absence.

All absences, including late arrivals and early departures are registered. Students arriving late or leaving need to be accompanied by a parent/carer, report to the office and obtain a slip that is then handed to the class teacher. We seek your co-operation in the explanation of absences within 7 days so that class records can be kept accurately. Please note family holidays and travel are not considered as an exemption from attendance and are counted as absences.



<https://policies.education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/school-attendance-policy>

In the best interests of the school, we request parents/carers to keep sick and recuperating children at home until they are well enough to be able to participate in the normal lessons.

Before and After School Care (OOSH)

Fair Play OOSH run a variety of activities for before and after school care at Redhead Public School.

For more information please visit the following website:

<https://fairplayoosh.com.au/>





Bicycles

Primary children may ride bicycles to school. Safety helmets **MUST** by law be worn. Due to the significant amount of traffic around the school in the morning and afternoon children under 10 years of age are encouraged **NOT** to ride their bikes to school. Pupils dismount at the entrances and walk bicycles to the bicycle racks. Bicycles must not be ridden in the school grounds. The riding of scooters and skateboards to school is not allowed. Parents/carers are asked to support our safety program.

THE SCHOOL ACCEPTS NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR LOSS OF OR DAMAGE TO BICYCLES LEFT ON SCHOOL GROUNDS.

Canteen

The school canteen is open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. It is operated by The Right Bite. Our canteen endorses the *Healthy School Canteen Policy* and stocks healthy, nutritious foods and snacks. Due to the severe allergic reactions of some students we do not stock any peanut products. In line with the Healthy Canteen Policy the canteen has occasional special days when a wider range of products are sold e.g. sausage sizzles and certain types of confectionery.

- A canteen price list is available on our school website.
- Orders can be placed by either:
 - Writing on a lunch bag from home, placing together with money in the box provided before 9:10 am
 - Ordering online at <https://www.quickcliq.com.au> Order cut off time is 9am.
- Students are expected to display the highest standards of manners and politeness when using the canteen.

Contact Details

The school's full contact details are on the front cover. If a parent/carer wishes to contact a teacher please call the front office or send the school an email and the teacher will be in touch as soon as possible.

Change of Details

Please advise the school immediately if there is a change of address, phone number or emergency contacts. By doing this, our records are kept up to date. These are very important in cases of emergency or sickness.

Communication

To keep parents/carers informed of school happenings, we have various methods that we use to communicate with our community:

- Sentral: The Sentral Parental Portal can be accessed online or through an app. Online access via redhead.sentral.com.au. You will find the app by searching 'sentral parent app' on any smart phone.
- A school newsletter is published and emailed twice a Term. Please look out for this newsletter. Hard copies are available from the school office if required. Digital copies can be found on our school website and Sentral App.
- School website: <https://redhead-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/>
- Facebook: This can be downloaded onto any device.

Concert Band

The school is very proud of its concert band. A strong commitment is required from members to attend all practices and performances. Rehearsals take place in the school hall at 8:10am on Tuesday mornings. Please see Ms McInnes if you would like more information on our concert band.



Emergencies / Evacuations / Lockdowns

Special procedures exist when emergencies (e.g. fire, earthquake) occur in the school. Children follow either an evacuation or lockdown procedure, depending on the emergency.

Practices are held on a regular basis, generally once per semester. The main holding area for an evacuation is the playing field. A short drip sound of the school bell (or when the power fails, a hooter sound) signals an emergency, and evacuation procedures are brought into operation. A long whoop sound of the school bell signifies a lockdown.

These procedures are displayed in the classrooms, library, canteen, staffroom and offices. Please note that all visitors to the school are expected to follow the appropriate procedures for any drill or emergency therefore we ask that you become familiar with our policies. Please sign in and out on the visitor register when coming to volunteer at school.

Enrolling at School - Enrolling is Easy!

New enrolments are processed online at

<https://redhead-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/about-our-school/enrolment.html>

Parents/carers are required to complete an 'Application to Enrol' form which contains emergency contacts, phone numbers etc. 100 points of proof of residency identification is required. A full birth certificate is a legal requirement and needs to be sighted when enrolling your child. A certificate of immunisation is also required for our enrolments.

Entrances

There are three entrances to the school, Hutchinson Street, Burns Street and Beach Road. The back gate in Stokes Street is closed. We ask parents to keep these entrances clear at all times. Access to the school during the day is only available through the Hutchinson Street gate. Burns Street and Beach Road gates are kept locked between 9:30am and 2:30pm.

Excursions

Each year excursions are planned for children in all classes to supplement and consolidate work being covered in lessons. The cost for excursions is met by parents. The school has access to limited funds to assist children whose parents/carers may be experiencing financial difficulty at the time. Payment can be made online via the school's website and EFTPOS facilities are available at school.

The highest standard of behaviour is expected on all excursions.

Fresh Fruit Break

Classes participate in a morning fruit break. This aims to keep energy levels high and causes minimal disruption to learning. Parents/carers are asked to provide a small, pre-cut, peeled etc, ready to eat piece of fresh fruit or vegetable in a small container. Pre-packaged products cannot be eaten at this time.

High Potential and Gifted Education

The school plans to meet the learning needs of all students including those identified through our high potential and gifted education programs.

All teaching/learning units at Redhead Public School have been reviewed and special activities incorporated to extend more able students. Students can access a range of national competitions, the school band and high level sporting representation.

House System

All children in the school are placed in one of four houses - **Lawson (Green)**, **Paterson (Blue)**, **Kendall (Red)** and **Gordon (Yellow)**. Inter-house competitions are conducted at the swimming, cross country and athletics carnivals. Students wear their house colours on sport day, Friday.



Key Learning Areas

Six key learning areas make up the primary school curriculum. These are:

- **English**
- **Mathematics**
- **History and Geography**
- **Science and Technology**
- **Creative & Performing Arts**
- **Personal Development, Health and Physical Education**

Kindergarten Orientation

Kindy club is held in Term 4 for parents/carers and their children who are enrolling in Kindergarten the following year. The children and their parents are familiarised with the school surrounds and will meet senior students, known as buddies". They also meet, if known at the time, the teachers on Kindergarten. The parents/carers meet representatives of the parent organisations and are addressed by members of the school staff and executive.

Learning and Support Teacher

The role of the Learning and Support Teacher (LaST) is to assist students with additional needs and to assist the staff to accommodate these students within the regular classroom. This may include challenges in numeracy and/or literacy. Children can receive support to improve deficits and to enrich and extend skills and content. Students may have behavioural, social, emotional or language and communications needs. The LaST works collaboratively with parents and carers, classroom teachers and executive staff, the school counsellor and outside agencies such as speech therapists or psychologists to best support the child in need.

Library

Our library is a doorway to an exciting world of fun, facts and information. Students can pursue personal and class interests, read, research and view electronic displays of the work of their peers. The library is visited weekly by every student in the school. It provides students and teachers with teaching and learning resources from a large range of media types. The library offers a pleasing environment that is conducive to learning. The library is open Tuesday and Thursday from 1:30pm until the end of lunch. Students may use the library for recreational reading, research, educational board games, returns and borrowing during this time. Student library monitors help the teacher librarian in organisational and borrowing procedures. Classes are timetabled to visit the library each week so students have the opportunity to borrow and develop a love of reading. Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 students must have a book bag to protect books from possible damage. Books are to be returned by the due date.



Medication and Medical Conditions

For safety reasons students are not to keep medications of any sort in their bags. Non-prescribed medications e.g. panadol, cough mixture etc should be administered at home before and after school. These medications should not be sent to school for safety reasons. When a medical practitioner has prescribed medication such as antibiotics that must be administered during the school day, parents/carers are responsible for:

- bringing this need to the attention of the school and completing consent forms
- ensuring that information is updated if it changes
- supplying the labelled medication and any 'consumables' necessary for its administration
- collaborating with the school in working out arrangements for the supply and administration of the prescribed medication

When a child is diagnosed with a serious medical condition eg. anaphylaxis, severe asthma, diabetes etc a Student Health Care Plan is developed in conjunction with parents/carers to support the student in cases of emergency. Please inform the school if your child is suffering from a serious medical condition.

Mobile Phones

Students should not bring mobile phones or any other expensive items to school. On the very rare occasion a child needs to bring a mobile phone to school, a note is required explaining the reason. The phone will be kept in the office for collection at 3:10pm.





Parent/Carers Helpers

Teachers often seek the support of parents/carers to assist with activities such as reading, maths, excursions and the like. Teachers will advise parents/carers of these requirements at the beginning of the year or as they arise.

Parents/carers also help in many other ways at the school through attendance at meetings and activities organised by the P&C Association, social functions, band performances, fundraising activities, assemblies and special occasions.

Those who help in any way at school are required to complete a declaration and provide identification to the school office. It is also a requirement that volunteers sign in and out of the visitor register in the school office.

Parent Organisations

The main parent/carer body in the school is the Parents and Citizens' Association (P&C) which meets on the first Monday of the month during the term. This organisation makes a vital contribution to the success of the many academic, cultural, social and sporting programs and special events which take place in the school. The P&C helps in the provision of essential equipment through financial contributions and advises the Principal on school practices and policies.

Playground Supervision

Supervision is provided by the teaching staff for half an hour before lessons commence each morning, 8:40am — 9:10am.

Students are asked not to arrive at school before 8:40am unless they are in the Band. Band practice starts at 8:10am. The teachers are rostered to supervise children at recess and lunch time. The children who catch buses in the afternoon are also under teacher supervision.

The school day concludes at 3:10pm and supervision ceases at 3:25pm. Children are required to leave school promptly at the end of the school day with the exception of bus lines.

School Song

*Sing, sing, sing along together,
While the sky is grey or blue.
When we feel the day is done with the banners we have won,
Then go back to school and follow up the rule.
Redhead School we all salute thee,
We are here to learn and play.
Every day is new to test, we all try to do our best,
And consideration always makes the day.
Boys and girls sing out together,
For our school beside the sea.
We will think of you in years as the school who knew no fears,
And with love our thoughts will often turn to you.*



Special Religious Education (SRE) and Special Ethics Education (SEE)

Special Religious Education and Special Ethics Education lessons are delivered by scripture teachers from the various Christian denominations or in the case of Ethics, trained volunteers. The availability of classes will depend on the number of volunteer teachers. Those who would like to volunteer are asked to contact the office for further information.

Reports

Students receive written reports twice a year, in June and December. Parent/carer interviews are held at the end of Term 1. Parents/carers may meet with teachers at other times by making an appointment at the front office.

School Counsellor

Our school counsellor is available to support students who may be experiencing learning, emotional or social challenges. Students are referred by their teacher to the school's Learning Support Team who allocate and prioritise the school counsellor's workload.

Sickness/First Aid

If a student becomes unwell they report to their class teacher or if they are on the playground, the teacher on duty who will send them to the office. The school will make telephone contact with the parent/carer if it is necessary for the child to go home. The student is kept in the sick bay until arrangements can be made for the child to go home.

Teachers and front office staff will attend to simple needs, e.g. cuts and grazes, but in cases requiring special medical attention, parents/carers or the nominated emergency contacts are notified. In serious cases, if neither parents/carers can be contacted, the child will be taken by ambulance to hospital where contact with the parents/carers and/or the doctor nominated on the enrolment form will be made.

Sport

Sport and PE at Redhead Public School involves a K-6 approach. Children in Years 3-6 have sport each Friday and children in Years K-2 have organised rotational sport activities during the week.

Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics

Skills are programmed in preparation for the school's annual carnivals. These carnivals can lead from local level to state level representative selection in teams organised under the banner of the Primary Schools' Sports Association (PSSA).

Travel to and from School

Children in Years K-2 are eligible for free bus travel to and from the school. Primary students who live more than 2km (as the crow flies) from the school may also apply for free transportation to and from the school. Applications can be completed online at <https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/#/howToApply>

Children must enter the school grounds as soon as they get off the bus. In the afternoons, children are to wait outside the library under supervision of the teacher on bus duty before moving under the teacher's direction to board the bus. Parents/carers who drop off or pick up students in cars are reminded not to park in restricted areas, bus zones or to block driveways or entrances/exits to the school. Please also respect our neighbours when parking around the school.



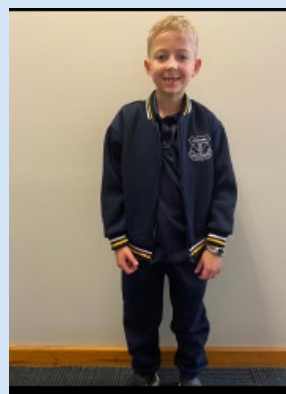
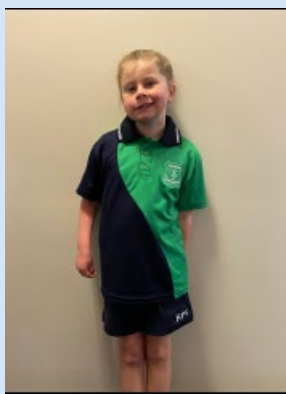
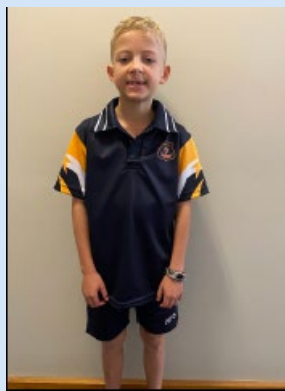


Uniform

Redhead Public School community has adopted the school uniform below for our pupils. We are proud of our school image and a large part of that is the wearing of our uniform. Please assist us in making this policy 100% effective.

The uniform is only available from the school uniform shop which operates on Monday mornings from the Library at 8:40am—9:15am.

Orders can also be placed online at www.quickcliq.com.au and items will be sent home with your child.



We believe that the school uniform is the neatest and most economical form of dress for students. It helps to develop a corporate spirit and a sense of pride in our school.

The school has a policy “**NO HAT - NO PLAY**” in the sun. Please ensure your child brings their hat to school each day. Your cooperation and support of this policy is greatly appreciated.

Website

The school website can be found at: <https://redhead-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/>

Wet Weather Arrangements

During wet weather, children are supervised in verandahs, classrooms and limited undercover areas. Lunch is eaten in the classroom when weather is such that the covered area is unsuitable.