

**MANNING
GARDENS
PUBLIC SCHOOL**



**TOGETHER
WE GROW**

GRAPEVINE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 1 Week 1 1 February 2018

Principal's Message

Welcome back as we start a new school year. My name is Paul Sortwell and I am the principal at Manning Gardens PS. This is my sixth year as principal at the Gardens. The school's leadership team includes: Kelly Bryden (Deputy Principal), Maxine Lee (School Admin Manager), Anne-Maree Ross (Mainstream Assistant Principal), Alison Trudgeon (Support Unit Assistant Principal) and Donna Deehan (Student Behaviour Support Assistant Principal). Karen Cochrane is taking leave for the duration of 2018. Judith Varagnola will be our Aboriginal Education Officer in 2018. Judith can be found each morning in our school Brekky Club from 8.45am and will be supporting all our Aboriginal students throughout the school, in preschool, mainstream and our support unit.

Stay Strong! Paul Sortwell



School Expectations

We expect all students to be in school uniform every day. Sport uniforms are worn every Friday. Our Year 6 students can wear their special Year 6 shirt instead of our standard polo shirt, every Monday-Thursday. We expect every student to wear a hat outside. No hat, students must play in the shade. We expect all students to come to school ready to learn. Please support us with meeting these expectations.



School belief



School belief



School belief

I'm going to the Gardens!
Manning Gardens PS: A quality Public School in Taree.



Core School Rules

Our school beliefs are underpinned by our core school rules. Please see the attached sheet. We expect all students to follow our core school rules on a daily basis.



Our Beliefs Apply Every Day

Our school beliefs are not new. We expect all students to follow and model our school beliefs each and every day, including the very hot days of summer. All students are expected to Be Safe, Be Fair and Be A Learner at all times when they are at school. Our beliefs also apply to our staff, parents and all visitors to our great school.



School Attendance Policy

Attached to this newsletter is a fact sheet about student attendance. Please read this important information. All public schools are required to comply with the Department of Education policy in regards to student attendance.



Stay Up To Date!

Our Facebook page is always full of important information and great photos. We also have a Skoolbag app and a great school website, with key links and school information. We encourage all parents and community to access our social media pages to stay up to date with all the latest news and information. Like our Facebook page today!

swimming carnival

WEDNESDAY 7 FEBRUARY
WINGHAM POOL
FOR STUDENTS 8 YEARS AND OLDER
MAINSTREAM AND SUPPORT UNIT
STUDENTS TO WEAR HOUSE COLOURS!

TEAM 1

SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES

FRIDAY FORTNIGHT

9 February
23 February
9 March
23 March
6 April

School assembly dates

HERE NOW ...

TRIPLE P

POSITIVE PARENT POSTCARDS

EXCLUSIVE TO

We celebrate student success

Just like reading and writing, children have to learn how to move!

SCHOOL SPORT

EVERY FRIDAY



Core Rules

Student discipline in NSW Government Schools

All students in NSW Government schools are expected to:

- Attend every school day, unless they are legally excused, and be in class on time and prepared to learn.
- Maintain a neat appearance, including adhering to the requirements of the school's uniform or dress code policy.
- Behave safely, considerately and responsibly, including when travelling to and from school.
- Show respect at all times for teachers, other school staff and helpers, including following class rules, speaking courteously and cooperating with instructions and learning activities.
- Treat one another with dignity and respect.
- Care for property belonging to themselves, the school and others.

Behaviour that infringes on the safety of others, such as harassment, bullying and illegal or anti-social behaviour of any kind, will not be tolerated.





Compulsory School Attendance

Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The *Education Act 1990* requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An *Application for Extended Leave* may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.





My child won't go to school. What should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department

may apply to the Children's Court for a *Compulsory Schooling Order*. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in Partnership

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

If a student misses as little as 8 days in a school term, by the end of primary school they'll have missed over a year of school.

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:

Please visit the Department of Education's *Policy library*

The school leaving age:

Please visit the Department of Education's *Wellbeing and Learning* website

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

For further advice and questions contact your educational services team

T 131 536

Learning and Engagement

Student Engagement & Interagency Partnerships

T 9244 512

www.dec.nsw.gov.au

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NSW Department of Education and Communities





SCHOOL UNIFORM PRICE LIST

Prices current as of 1/11/2016
Items can be purchased from our school office, 9-3pm

	 <p>School emblem on shirt.</p>	
	<p>School shirt \$20</p>	<p><i>We also stock our winter uniform which includes:</i></p> <p><i>Red plain fleecy jumper without emblem \$15</i></p> <p><i>Red emblem fleecy jumper \$25</i></p> <p><i>Royal blue Track pants \$20</i></p> <p><i>Boys and girls wear white sports socks with joggers.</i></p> <p><i>On sports days, students wear a plain polo shirt in their house colours with royal blue shorts or skort.</i></p>
	<p>School dress \$30</p>	
	<p>School shorts or school skort \$15</p>	
	<p>School hat \$5</p>	



It is a school expectation that all students will be in full school uniform everyday.



Sports polo worn every Friday on our sports day. Polo matches your child's sporting house.