

**Miles State School**

# **Prep Year**

**Information Booklet**

**2024**



## **WELCOME**

We extend a warm welcome to you, as parents of our Prep year children. We look forward to sharing many happy times with you as we work together to provide the best possible learning opportunities for your child.

## **OPERATING HOURS**

The Prep day is the equivalent of a full school day. Students are expected to attend five days each week and for the full length of the school day. Our school hours are from 8:45am to 3:00pm. The children are expected at school from 8:45am, when home reading commences.

The Australian Curriculum is designed for a five day per week program. Prep is now a compulsory year of schooling, therefore all students must attend for the full five days to gain full benefit from the program.

## **AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM**

We use the Australian Curriculum in English, Mathematics, Science, Geography and History. Miles State School is implementing the Prep component of these Curriculum areas.

## **EARLY YEARS CURRICULUM**

Our Prep year is a new learning environment with exciting things to do, see, touch and experience. Your child will find friends to share with and teachers who respect them as capable and competent learners. Learning involves developing a relationship of trust. We aim to create a relaxed, secure and supportive environment where children are encouraged to investigate and explore to their individual potential.

The Australian Curriculum for Prep incorporates the following:

- supporting play as a context for learning;
- understanding each child as an individual;
- developing supportive partnerships;
- providing flexible learning environments; and
- assisting children in exploring the world around them and the ways in which they learn.

## **EARLY YEARS (PREP) PROGRAM AT MILES STATE SCHOOL**

Everything your child does within our school has a purpose for learning. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to ask us.

The following factors have been identified to contribute to success in learning:

- *Social and emotional competence* with a focus on social and personal learning and independence;
- *Health and physical wellbeing*, particularly in making healthy choices, gross-motor and fine-motor development;
- *Active learning processes* with a focus on thinking, problem solving, investigating, imagining and responding; and a
- *Positive approach* to learning.

## ***OPEN DOOR POLICY***

The Prep classroom opens at 8:45am in line with all other classes throughout the school. This gives staff adequate time to prepare their room/s and attend any meetings that are scheduled before this time. Please do not enter the room before this time unless you have an appointment, or have made prior arrangements.

When children come into the classroom, they are expected to be responsible for their own belongings. Please encourage your child to follow the routine outlined by the teacher. Initially, the children will be asked to share a book with an adult – staff member or parent, before playing. As the year progresses, the children will be required to take a more active role, to the point where they are reading to an adult.

## ***PARENT MEETINGS/INTERVIEWS***

Parent teacher interviews are offered at the end of Terms One and Three. For any other interviews, please speak with your child's teacher for a suitable time.

## ***TRAVEL TO AND FROM THE CLASSROOM***

We require parents to notify us of arrangements regarding bus travel and After School Care **at the start of each term**. Temporary changes to these requirements may be communicated through their child's message book as necessary.

Please notify us, personally or in writing, when someone else will be collecting your child from the school. School finishes at 3.00pm. If you know that you are going to be late, please contact the school office on 4628 0333 and notify them of your delay.

For the safety of your child, there are pedestrian crossings located outside the school grounds. Please ensure that you use the crossings and parking areas outside of the school grounds.

Please remember:

- children must be collected from outside the classroom at 3:00 pm - unless travelling on a bus, or other arrangements have been made;
- do not park in the school grounds; and
- use pedestrian crossings.

## ***OUTDOORS***

The outdoor learning environment is perfect for children to explore and use their gross motor skills, e.g. running, climbing and hopping. It also promotes body strength, balance, coordination, and supports growth in thinking processes and social learning.

We are a Sun Smart school and very conscious about sun safety. Please dress your child in shirts with sleeves. We recommend that you apply sunscreen prior to your child's arrival at school. Hats are compulsory for outdoor play all year round. Hats should have a brim of at least 8cm and no caps are allowed.

We strongly adhere to the school rule – **NO HAT, NO PLAY**

Shoes with good grip are recommended for school to ensure safety when climbing on equipment and running. Please choose shoes your child can manage independently e.g. velcro tabs. **No thongs or slip on shoes please.**

## ***BIRTHDAYS AND OTHER CELEBRATIONS***

Everyone loves a birthday and other special celebrations, as these are wonderful ways to build understanding about each other. Cupcakes are the most ideal and fair way for children to share their special event with their friends.

If your child has special dietary requirements, please discuss alternative birthday/celebration treats with your Teacher.

## ***TREASURES FROM HOME***

Toys and trinkets from home very often become lost or broken at school, so it saves a lot of time and heartache if these are left at home.

Any toys that find their way to school will be cared for in the office until the end of the day. Staff cannot assume responsibility for any loss or breakage.

## ***COMMUNICATION***

Your child will have a Communication Book, which is to come to Prep every day. Please check it daily. If you have any messages for your teacher, record them in the message book, telephone, email, or talk to your teacher when you arrive in the mornings. Please initial and date any notes that you receive.

## ***SHARING INFORMATION***

Events in family life, such as illness, new babies and visitors can be a prime source of excitement or concern for young children, and so affect their behaviour at home and/or at school. It is important for the home and school to share information that may affect children, and we would appreciate it if parents would inform us of any unusual happenings of this nature. Please feel free to discuss any problems or queries with your teacher that you may have about your child's progress, the school or the program. We look forward to working with your child and yourself in building a supportive partnership!

## ***CLASS REQUIREMENTS***

Daily, your child will need:

- **Large** school bag, so children can pack everything into their bags independently;
- Wide brimmed hat for outdoor play (we are a Sun Smart school);
- Healthy snack for Crunch – fruit, nuts, seeds or vegetables
- Lunch and afternoon tea in a lunchbox, and
- Water bottle.

The book list is included in your package on a separate page. It will also be available from the school website, [www.milesss.eq.edu.au](http://www.milesss.eq.edu.au) at the end of the year or the local newsagency.

## ***CRUNCH AND LUNCH BREAKS***

Crunch – during first session

Lunch 11:00 - 11:45

Afternoon Tea 1:30 – 2:00

We encourage healthy eating and suggest: sandwiches, salads, wraps, rice, eggs, yoghurt, pasta, cheese, fresh and dried fruit. We would prefer no lollies, fried food, chips or chocolate.

Due to health and safety regulations, we are not able to heat foods for the children.

If your child is going to require cutlery, please include some from home.

With so many new routines to learn, Tuck Shop will be available to Prep students from Term 2. Please order your Tuck Shop through the Flexischools App.

The Prep Teacher/s and Teacher Aide/s have the same break times as the rest of the school. During this time, they may be on duty. Other staff members may also have a duty in the Prep area.

## ***NAMES AND LABELS***

As young children often do not recognise their own belongings, **we cannot emphasise enough, the need to label absolutely everything** – bags, shoes, lunch boxes, hats, library bags, and clothing. If you label clothing with your surname, for other siblings to wear in future years, please teach it to your child. A single button stitched to the school hat, makes it easy to identify when all the hats are together.

## ***WHAT TO WEAR***

Our school encourages all students to wear the endorsed school uniform. It is most important to dress your child in fitted play clothes that wash easily. **Much of the worthwhile play that goes on at school will be messy.** Long, loose clothing can be a hazard on the obstacle course. Jewellery is limited to watches and sleepers or studs. Necklaces are dangerous on climbing and balancing equipment, as are loopy or dangly earrings.

## ***LINKS WITHIN THE SCHOOL***

Students will take part in specialist lessons, Parade and special events (e.g. Sports Day and Cross Country) just like those in the rest of the school. Most lessons will include Music, Physical Education and Geography/History. Prep students will attend Parade on Mondays and Fridays. Parents are always welcome to attend Parade.

## ***PREPARING YOUR CHILD FOR THE EARLY YEARS***

Teach your child to:

- toilet independently and wash hands every time;
- blow own nose;
- communicate using words – speak clearly and properly;
- take turns;
- share materials;
- listen to and follow simple directions;
- seek help if they have a problem;
- use common manners—please, thank you, etc;
- ‘have a go’ at new activities and always try their best;
- recognise their own possessions;
- recognise and write their name;
- recognise numbers on birthday cards, remotes, signs, books, games;
- pack their own bag;

- open their own lunch containers, yoghurts, popper straws;
- use scissors;
- use pencils and crayons, using a tripod grip;
- pack up after themselves;
- wear a hat in the sun, and
- dress themselves independently, including shoes.

### ***What will my child be doing at Prep?***

- investigating interests;
- making choices;
- talking with staff and other children;
- planning with their teacher about the things they might do, and carrying out their plans;
- designing and making things;
- drawing and painting;
- listening to and reading stories;
- playing games indoors and outdoors;
- climbing, balancing, jumping;
- using computers to draw pictures, make signs, play games, learn and find out about the world;
- participating in everyday experiences like gardening and tidying up;
- writing;
- counting;
- measuring; and
- learning about size and shape.

### ***TRANSITION STATEMENTS***

Transition Statements are completed each year by your child's Kindergarten Teacher. These documents are important in helping us plan for each child's needs and interests and we ask that they please be passed on to the school

**Miles Prep**



Dawson Street, Miles.  
PO Box 63, Miles, 4415

**School:** 07 4628 0333



# 2024 School calendar Queensland state schools

DECEMBER 2023	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL
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OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY 2025	FEBRUARY 2025
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  School terms  
   School holidays  
   Public holidays  
   Staff professional development/student free days  
  Part public holiday after 6 pm

## SCHOOL CALENDAR 2024



**Term 1:** Monday 22 January – Thursday 28 March

**Term 2:** Monday 15 April – Friday 21 June

**Term 3:** Monday 8 July – Friday 13 September

**Term 4:** Monday 30 September – Friday 13 December

We hope you have an enjoyable and rewarding year with us. We also look forward to working closely with you to ensure the best possible start in education for your child and sharing a happy and productive year with you both.