

## Family Information Booklet

Telephone: 5332 4544

Website: <u>www.blackhillps.vic.edu.au</u>

Email: black.hill.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Compass: <a href="https://blackhillps-vic.compass.education/">https://blackhillps-vic.compass.education/</a>

Principal: Donna Bishop
Assistant Principal: Penny Westlake

#### **SCHOOL VALUES**



## Welcome to BLACK HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear Parents/Carers,

On behalf of the Black Hill Primary School community, we would like to extend you a warm welcome. We hope your association with our school will be a happy and productive one. We look forward to getting to know both you and your family.

We thought it would be a good idea to share some useful facts to assist your child to settle into Black Hill Primary School. If you are a Prep parent then you should read this in conjunction with the Prep Parent Information booklet.

Black Hill Primary School is an inclusive primary school, offering the very best in educational, social, sporting, and performing and visual arts opportunities. We are proud of our school and the part we play in our community.

We welcome you to Black Hill Primary School.

#### **Kind Regards**

Donna Bishop Principal

Telephone: 5332 4544

Email: black.hill.ps@education.vic.gov.au



**OUR COMMUNITY, WORKING TOGETHER TO ACHIEVE...** 

#### **CONTENTS**

| TERM DATES   |      |
|--|------|
| SCHOOL HOURS   |      |
| ABSENCES   |      |
| ASSEMBLIES   |      |
| BLUEPRINT  | 6    |
| BICYCLE AND SCOOTER RIDERS   | 6    |
| CAR DRIVERS/WALKERS PLEASE NOTE                                      | 6    |
| CHILDCARE - OUT OF HOURS CHILDCARE AND VACATION CARE                 | 6    |
| CHILD SAFE CODE OF CONDUCT   | 7    |
| CHILDREN'S HEALTH  |      |
| CHILDREN'S RIGHTS:   |      |
| CHILDREN'S RESPONSIBILITIES:   | ,. J |
| CLACCROOM DELIAVIOLID.   | פ    |
| CLASSROOM BEHAVIOUR:BLACK HILL BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS MATRIX (DRAFT) | 9    |
| BLACK HILL BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS WATKIX (DKAFT)                     | 11   |
| COMMUNICATION AND REPORTING  |      |
| COMPASS  EXCURSIONS AND CAMPS  | 12   |
|  |      |
| DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES   |      |
| FOOD   |      |
| GAMES  | 14   |
| HOMEWORK   | 14   |
| HOME PROGRAMS  | 14   |
| HOUSE SYSTEM   | 14   |
| IMMUNISATION CERTIFICATE   | 14   |
| INFECTIOUS DISEASES  | 15   |
| LIBRARY  | 15   |
| LOST PROPERTY  | 15   |
| LUNCH ORDERS   | 15   |
| MEDICATION   |      |
| MEDICATION   | 12   |
| MONEY AND VALUABLES  | 15   |
| MUSIC TUITION  | 16   |
| PERFORMING ARTS  | 16   |
| PARENT/CARER CONTACT DETAILS   |      |
| PARENT PARTICIPATION AND INVOLVEMENT                                 | 16   |
| PARK AND WALK INITIATIVE   | 17   |
| PERMISSION TO LEAVE THE SCHOOL GROUNDS                               |      |
| PHYSICAL EDUCATION   | 18   |
| SWIMMING   | 18   |
| POLICIES   | 19   |
| PLAYGROUND   |      |
| PUNCTUALITY  |      |
| Qkr! SMARTPHONE APP  |      |
| SCHOOL CONCERT   | 20   |
| SCHOOL COUNCIL   |      |
| SCHOOL CURRICULUM FEATURES INCLUDE:                                  | 20   |
| SCHOOL DOCUMENTATION   |      |
|  |      |
| SCHOOL UNIFORM   | 71   |
| SIGNING YOURSELF AND YOUR CHILDREN IN AND OUT OF SCHOOL              |      |
| STUDENT AND CLASS MATERIALS AND SERVICES CHARGE                      |      |
| STUDENT ENGAGEMENT POLICY  |      |
| STUDENT LEADERSHIPSTUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL 'KIDS VOICE'        | 22   |
| STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL 'KIDS VOICE'                          | 22   |
| STUDENT WELLBEING  | 22   |
| VISUAL ARTS  |      |
| SCHOOL MAP   | 24   |

#### **TERM DATES**

#### 2023

Term 1: 27 January (school teachers start) to 6 April
Students start 30 January

Term 2: 24 April - 23 June

Term 3: 10 July 15 - September

Term 4: 2 October - 20 December

#### 2024

Term 1: 29 January (school teachers start) to 28 March Students start 30 January

Term 2: 15 April - 28 June

Term 3: 15 July 20 - September

Term 4: 7 October - 20 December

#### **SCHOOL HOURS**

#### Instruction times are as follows:

Session 1&2 8:50 am - 10:50 am

Fruit break 10:00am

Recess 10:50 am - 11:20 am

Session 3&4 11:20 am - 1:20 pm

Fruit break 12:20pm

Lunch eating break (in rooms) 1:20pm - 1:30pm Lunch time 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm Session 5 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm

After school care is available from 3:20pm-6:00pm, and before school care from 6:30-8:45am.

Pupil Free Day and holiday childcare is available.

Details to follow under 'Childcare'.

#### **ABSENCES**

We request that parents notify us via telephone, email, or Compass before 8:50am if your child will be absent. A phone call will be made to parents at approximately 10:00am if a student is absent with no notification.

Our school seeks to have all children at school every day and we will assist you at any time should you have issues with getting your child to school. Just speak with your child's teacher.

#### **ASSEMBLIES**

School assembly is held each Friday afternoon in the school gymnasium. School student leaders facilitate the running of assembly. It is expected that all students are **active participants** in assembly. **Parents and friends are most welcome to attend and join in our assembly celebrations.** Students are seated by 2:45pm.

#### **BLUEPRINT**

The Blueprint is a weekly school news video that is produced by a group to student leaders. The Blueprint is viewed by students on a Friday afternoon after Assembly. Parents can watch the Blueprint by accessing it on our website each week.

#### **BICYCLE AND SCOOTER RIDERS**

To ensure the safety of our bicycle and scooter riders we ask parents to observe the following:

- 1. VIC ROADS recommends that <u>children under 12 years DO NOT ride on the road unsupervised.</u>
  Children under 12 and supervising adults may ride on footpaths.
- 2. Bicycle racks are used to store bicycles and scooters. The bike shed is locked during school hours.
- 3. Before children are allowed to ride to school, they should know the appropriate road rules.
- 4. Students riding or scooting to school must wear approved Australian Standard helmets.
- 5. Only bicycles of the appropriate size and in road worthy condition should be ridden to school.
- 6. Bicycle bicycle and scooter riders should be particularly careful when they are arriving and leaving the school as the streets surrounding the school are very busy.

#### CAR DRIVERS/WALKERS PLEASE NOTE

Please obey all signage around the school regarding legal parking times, places and time limits. In addition, please ensure you use the designated school crossings at all times when walking to and from school. These are put in place to ensure the safety of you and your children and you are the role model that they will build their understanding of road behaviour on.

#### We are all responsible for our students' safety.

- 1. The staff car park off Edwardes Street (behind Gymnasium) and the parking area on the Chisholm Street oval at the eastern end of the The Learning Centre is for staff only.
- 2. Parking is available along Sherrard and Chisholm Streets.
- 3. The Taxi Zone near our Chisholm Street entrance is for *TAXIS* and *EMERGENCY* vehicles only.
- 4. Please ensure your children use the official crossings which are supported by a Crossing Supervisor. The crossings are supervised between 8:15-8:45 a.m., and 3:15-3:45 p.m.

**PLEASE DO NOT** call your children across the road under any circumstances.

#### **CHILDCARE - OUT OF HOURS CHILDCARE AND VACATION CARE**

Camp Australia works with Black Hill Primary School to provide the Out of School Hours Care (OSHC). Camp Australia is the nation's leading provider of quality, safe, fun and professional OSHC. Each day the children receive healthy snacks and participate in a range of fully supervised activities.

All families wishing to use the program must be registered. This is to ensure that Camp Australia has the correct child and guardian information, are notified of any medical or development needs, and know your booking choices, billing procedure and Child Care Benefit information.

To obtain a registration form please see the Out of School Hours Care (OHSC) staff at the program or contact Camp Australia Head Office.

For further information: <a href="https://www.campaustralia.com.au">www.campaustralia.com.au</a> OSHC - 0423 795198 or Camp Australia - 1300 105343

#### CHILD SAFE CODE OF CONDUCT



## Black Hill Primary School Child Safe Code of Conduct Policy

Child Safe Standards 3 and 5

#### PURPOSE:

 All staff, volunteers, contractors and visitors to Black Hill Primary School are required to observe child safe principles and expectations for appropriate behaviour towards and in the company of children. As per Department of Education and Training Child Safe Code of Conduct.

#### AIMS:

- Black Hill's Child Safe Code of Conduct provide all staff, volunteers, visitors and contractors with a set of clear principles about how they should behave with children.
- Black Hill's Child Safe Code of Conduct establish clear behavioural expectations and boundaries for personnel interacting with children.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION:**

#### All personnel of Black Hill Primary School are responsible for supporting the safety, participation, wellbeing and empowerment of children by:

- adhering to Black Hill Primary School child safe policy at all times
- · taking all reasonable steps to protect children from abuse
- treating everyone with respect
- listening and responding to the views and concerns of children, particularly if they are telling you that they or another child has been abused and/or are worried about their safety or the safety of another
- promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of Aboriginal children (for example, by never questioning an Aboriginal child's self-identification)
- promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of children with culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds (for example, by having a zero tolerance of discrimination)
- promoting the safety, participation and empowerment of children with a disability (for example, during personal care activities)
- ensuring as far as practicable that adults are not left alone with a child
- reporting any allegations of child abuse to Black Hill Primary School's Principal and/or Assistant Principal or and ensure any allegation is reported to the police or child protection
- reporting any child safety concerns at Black Hill Primary School to the Principal and/or Assistant Principal
- if an allegation of child(ren) abuse is made, ensure as quickly as possible that the child(ren) are safe
- encouraging children to 'have a say' and participate in all relevant organisational activities where possible, especially on issues that are important to them.

#### Staff, volunteers, contractors and any other members of the school community involved in child related work must not:

- develop any 'special' relationships with children that could be seen as favouritism or amount to grooming behaviour (for example, the offering of gifts or special treatment for specific children)
- exhibit behaviours with children which may be construed as unnecessarily physical (for example inappropriate sitting on laps.)
- ignore behaviours by other adults towards students when they appear to be overly familiar or inappropriate
- do things of a personal nature that a child can do for themselves, such as toileting or changing clothes

- engage in open discussions of a mature or adult nature in the presence of children (for example, personal social activities)
- use inappropriate language in the presence of children
- express personal views on cultures, race or sexuality in the presence of children
- discriminate against any child, including because of culture, race, ethnicity or disability
- ignore or disregard any suspected or disclosed child abuse.

#### Staff and volunteers must be conscious of their child safe responsibilities and their relevant professional responsibilities with respect to:

- Contact with a child or their family outside of the school
- Online contact with a child or their family
- Photographing or videoing a child in a school environment

By observing these standards you acknowledge your responsibility to immediately report any breach of this code to BLACK HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL Child Safety Officer (The Principal / leadership).

Fulfilling the roles and responsibilities contained in the procedure does not displace or discharge any other obligations that arise if a person reasonably believes that a child is at risk of child abuse.

If you believe a child is at immediate risk of abuse phone 000.

#### **EVALUATION:**

This policy is to be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

This policy was accepted by School Council in August 2016.

Reviewed August 2019

#### **Statement of Commitment to Child Safety**

**Child Safe Standard 2** 

Black Hill Primary School is committed to safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. This will be the primary focus of our care and decision-making.

Black Hill Primary School has zero tolerance for child abuse.

Black Hill Primary School is committed to providing a child safe environment where children and young people are safe and feel safe, and their voices are heard about decisions that affect their lives. Particular attention will be paid to the cultural safety of Aboriginal children and children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, as well as the safety of children with a disability.

Every person involved in Black Hill Primary School has a responsibility to understand the important and specific role he/she plays individually and collectively to ensure that the wellbeing and safety of all children and young people is at the forefront of all they do and every decision they make.

In addition, the Statement of Commitment may describe the school's principles for child safety. For example 1:

"In its planning, decision-making and operations Black Hill Primary School will

- 1. Take a preventative, proactive and participatory approach to child safety;
- 2. Value and empower children to participate in decisions which affect their lives;
- 3. Foster a culture of openness that supports all persons to safely disclose risks of harm to children
- 4. Respect diversity in cultures and child rearing practices while keeping child safety paramount;
- 5. Provide written guidance on appropriate conduct and behaviour towards children;
- 6. Engage only the most suitable people to work with children and have high quality staff and volunteer supervision and professional development;
- 7. Ensure children know who to talk with if they are worried or are feeling unsafe, and that they are comfortable and encouraged to raise such issues:
- 8. Report suspected abuse, neglect or mistreatment promptly to the appropriate authorities;
- 9. Share information appropriately and lawfully with other organisations where the safety and wellbeing of children is at risk; and
- 10. Value the input of and communicate regularly with families and carers."

Adapted from Our Community (2016) Child Protection Toolkit: What every not-for-profit organisation must do now.

#### **CHILDREN'S HEALTH**

We encourage regular attendance at school, but please remember that sick children must be kept home. Whilst our sick bay and on site first aiders provide for minor upsets at school, the school policy is to contact parents if the illness is protracted, could be of a serious nature or an injury is suffered, so that the child may be taken home.

#### **CHILDREN'S RIGHTS:**

Children have the right to:

- Work and play without interference.
- Have a happy, safe and secure environment.
- Be valued and treated with respect.
- Feel secure to express themselves.

#### **CHILDREN'S RESPONSIBILITIES:**

In order that these rights can be observed we expect our students to:

- Respect the rights of others.
- Behave in a socially acceptable way.
- Respect their own and other's property.
- Respect the environment.
- Be concerned for and tolerant of others.
- Play safely.
- Be courteous and well mannered.

#### **CLASSROOM BEHAVIOUR:**

All classrooms will establish a set of classroom agreements concerning appropriate and respectful behaviour so that students clearly understand the expectations of that particular classroom.

These classroom agreements will reflect the school Student Engagement Policy.





#### Black Hill Primary School Behaviour Flowchart

In any instance, where a student displays inappropriate behaviour, the Behaviour Expectations Matrix (BEM) must be referred to. Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships (RRRR) must be taught, modelled, praised and reinforced.

| Classroom |   |  |           | Yard   |  |  |
|-----------|---|--|-----------|--|--|--|
|           | Behaviours  | Response   |           | Behaviours   | Response   |  |
| revel     | Interrupting Calling out Work avoidance Wandering around Disrespect of equipment              | Reminder of appropriate behaviours and values and consequences for continued behaviour Teach RRRR Personal Strengths  Time out in classroom in line of sight of teacher Continue level 1 response      | 2 Level 1 | <ul> <li>Interfering with others' play</li> <li>Littering</li> <li>Disrespect of equipment</li> <li>Running in the buildings area</li> <li>Kicking balls on</li> </ul>                                 | Reminder of appropriate behaviours and values and consequences for continued behaviour  Model and reinforce RRRR Emotional Literacy  Walk with yard duty teacher  Continue level 1 response  |  |
| revel     | <ul> <li>Distracting the teaching and learning</li> <li>Put downs and name calling</li> </ul> | Teach and reinforce RRRR Personal Strengths      Time out in support class – for the   | Level     | the tennis courts Hands on Play fighting   | Teach and model RRRR Help Seeking     Student sent to office (off the yard)  |  |
|           |   | duration of the learning session Continue level 1 response Teach RRRR Problem Solving  | Level 3   | <ul> <li>Climbing trees</li> <li>Throwing sticks<br/>and stones</li> <li>No building<br/>pass</li> <li>Put downs and</li> </ul>  | Confinue level 1 response Teach, model and Praise RRRR Help Seeking  |  |
|           | <ul> <li>Continuation of<br/>above<br/>behaviours</li> </ul>                                  | Parent meeting with classroom teacher Teach and reinforce RRRR Problem Solving  Compass  | Level 4   | name calling  Continuation of above behaviours   | Parent meeting with classroom teache Reinforce, model and praise RRRR Hell Seeking   |  |
| c level 3 | Throwing materials Defiance or non-compliance Disrespectful language or swearing              | Inappropriate behaviours addressed Time out in support class Teach, model and reinforce RRRR Positive Coping Parents notified by classroom teacher if warranted  Compass                               | Level 5   | <ul> <li>Defiance /non-compliance</li> <li>Throwing sticks or stones</li> <li>Verbally fighting</li> <li>Disrespectful language or swearing</li> <li>Inappropriate use of school facilities</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Inappropriate behaviours addressed</li> <li>Walk with yard duty teacher</li> <li>Teach and model RRRR Fair and Friend Play</li> <li>Parents notified by classroom teacher warranted</li> </ul>  |  |
|           | <ul> <li>Disrespect to<br/>staff</li> </ul>   | Leadership contacted for support     Student time out in office     Teach RRRR Stress Management     Parents of children involved notified by leadership   | Level 6   | <ul> <li>Disrespect to<br/>staff</li> <li>Damaging<br/>property</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>Leadership contacted for support</li> <li>Model and reinforce RRRR What's Fair's What is violent?</li> <li>Student time out in office</li> <li>Parents of children involved notified by leadership</li> </ul>                                 |  |
| , 12422   | Hurting or<br>causing injury to<br>others   | Leadership contacted for support     Teach and model RRRR Stress     Management     Parents of children involved contacted by leadership     Early pick up from school                                 | Level 7   | <ul> <li>Hurting or<br/>causing injury to<br/>others</li> <li>Physically<br/>fighting</li> </ul>   | Leadership contacted for support     Teach and model RRRR Positive Gender Relations     Parents of children involved contacted by leadership     Early pick up from school     Behaviour meeting (SSG) with parents, teacher and leadership     Compas |  |
|           | Repeated high<br>level behaviours   | Behaviour meeting (SSG) with parents, teacher and leadership Teach, model and reinforce RRRR Stress Management Students support plan developed Student services involved if needed Suspension  Compass | Level 8   | <ul> <li>Repeated high<br/>level behaviours</li> <li>Ongoing<br/>bullying</li> </ul>   | Behaviour meeting (SSG) with parents, teacher and leadership Reinforce and praise RRRR Gender Relations Students support plan developed Student services involved if needed Suspension   |  |

Corporal Punishment must not be used at Black Hill Primary School under any circumstances

#### **BLACK HILL BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS MATRIX (DRAFT)**

| Black I                     | niii  | Responsibility &   | Respect & Integrity  | Teamwork   |
|-----------------------------|---|--|--|--|
|                             | 5   | Aspiration   | mospect a megney   | , cantivork  |
| Every                       | where   | ☐ I move around in the school sensibly. ☐ I play in the correct areas. ☐ I follow the school and playground rules. ☐ I play appropriate games safely. ☐ I ask an adult for help if my respectful problem solving strategies don't work. ☐ I take care of others. ☐ I am Sunsmart ☐ I look after the environment. | I use respectful words/language.     I respect others and their belongings.     I use equipment correctly.     I use my manners.     I listen respectfully.     I speak politely and kindly to adults and children when they talk to me.     I own up if I have done the wrong thing.     I keep my hands to myself. | I play by the rules and play fairly.     I play well with others.     I am patient while waiting my turn.     I work cooperatively when playing games     I encourage and involve others in games.     I model positive sportsmanship, fairness and decision making. |
| rard<br>ea                  | Buildings<br>area                                       | ☐ I walk in the building area.☐ I play quietly and calmly in passive areas.☐ I put my rubbish in the bin <u>before</u> going outside.  | ☐ I respect the school gardens and grounds.  | ☐ I play safely and carefully with others.☐ I encourage others to play safely.   |
| Buildings Yard<br>Duty Area | Canteen   | ☐ I spend my own money. ☐ I put my rubbish in the bin. ☐ I stay in the canteen area to eat my food. ☐ I only eat the food that I've bought.  | ☐ I line up patiently and respectfully. ☐ I wait for my friends away from the line area.   | I encourage others to behave<br>appropriately while at the canteen.  |
| Build                       | Sandpit   | ☐ I use the equipment properly.☐ I keep the sand in the sandpit.☐ I clean the sand off myself and my shoes before returning to class.  | ☐ I respect people's creations and stay<br>clear of their work.  | I work cooperatively with others in the sandpit.      Ishare the sandpit and equipment with others.  |
| ea                          | Courts  | ☐ I play bouncing and throwing ball games. ☐ I stay off the fence and equipment. ☐ I try my best during games.   | ☐ I share the Basketball/Netball rings.  | ☐ I share the basketball courts with other students.   |
| grass Yard<br>Duty Area     | Grass area  | ☐ I follow the paths in muddy weather.   | ☐ I respect the garden and work shed.☐ I take care of our gardens.   |  |
| Grass Yard<br>Duty Area     | Playground<br>areas                                     | ☐ I use the equipment sensibly and safely.☐ I play on the correct play equipment.  | □ I wait my turn for the equipment.  | ☐ I share the equipment with others.   |
| Oval                        | Oval  | I help someone if they are injured.     I play carefully and notify the teacher of wet areas.     I stay off the banks.  | ☐ I respect and share the equipment.   | ☐ I share the playing spaces with others.  |
| Passive                     | Passive Play<br>area                                    | I play in the outside area unless it is raining. I pack up my equipment when the music starts or an adult asks. I will leave my own toys in class.   | I speak nicely to the people in Passive Play. I respect others' creations. I listen to instructions. I play quiet activities. I use a quiet voice.   | ☐ I share the equipment with others.   |
|                             | Toilets   | I use the soap and taps responsibly. I only go to the toilet when I need to and leave straight away. I wait patiently for a cubicle in the toilets. I use the toilet in my break time (before school, recess and lunch). I let the teachers know if there is a problem.  | □ I respect people's privacy.     □ I use an inside voice.     □ I practise good hygiene, eg. washing hands.     □ I leave the toilets in good condition.  | ☐ I wait for my friends outside. ☐ I take a friend with me during class time (Years P-2) ☐ I use the correct toilets.  |
|                             | Learning spaces (clessrooms/ specialists/ indoor greas) | I follow the digital Technologies Agreement. I follow class expectations and instructions. I concentrate and let others learn.   | I stay on task to complete my own work.      I use open spaces respectfully.   | I am prepared to work with a variety of people.     I contribute when packing up.     I share ideas and listen to others.  |
|                             | Office/Admin  | I wait patiently and quietly for my turn.     I leave the doorways clear.     I wait outside for my friends.   | <ul> <li>I show respect and cooperate with the<br/>office staff.</li> </ul>  | 0  |
|                             | Assembly  | ☐ I wait quietly, showing the school values. ☐ I join in singing. ☐ I sit in the appropriate space.  | □ I sing our Black Hill song/National     Anthem respectfully.     □ I come prepared if I am speaking or presenting.   | I support and encourage the speakers an presenters.  |

#### COMMUNICATION AND REPORTING

Avenues of effective formal and informal communications exist to provide opportunities for teachers and parents to establish a friendly, supportive and co-operative working relationship.

These include:

Compass Parent Portal – has a newsfeed with any important messages from the school. When messages are posted, you will receive a notification via email or through the app (if you have it downloaded) that there is a new message in the newsfeed. Up to date information on school events will be on the Compass calendar. In addition, you can notify the school via Compass if your child will be absent.

Communication Books/Diaries – These are used by all class teachers and are a means of daily two-way communication between home and school. It is important that parents check these daily.

School notes are usually placed in the communication book.

School Newsletters - These are published weekly, are available on the school website and Compass on a Wednesday. We encourage families to log in to Compass or access the school website <a href="https://www.blackhillps.vic.edu.au/newsletter">https://www.blackhillps.vic.edu.au/newsletter</a> in the interest of saving paper.

Three Way Conferences - These discussions assist teachers, parents and students to build a positive relationship to ensure three way communication. They aim at sharing information about student achievements, and provide an opportunity to set goals, discuss success and assist with strategies for improvement. Three Way Conferences are conducted twice a year and you will be notified when bookings are opened.

Written Reports - These will be issued to parents in June and December. The report will cover both the academic and social development of the child. Reports will be made available via the Compass Parent Portal, and you will receive notification when they are available.

#### Black Hill Primary School Website

This contains the most recent School Newsletters, up to date School Policies, weekly episode of The Blueprint and general school information.

Black Hill Facebook page. This is used as another communication tool to give parents more access to school information.

#### **COMPASS**

Compass is our electronic school management system which we use for attendance, reporting, analytics (student assessment data), behaviour tracking, conference booking, staff newsfeed and much more. Parents have access to a Compass Parent Portal, which allows you to see your child's progress, access a Newsfeed with important school information, access your child's semester reports, see the school events calendar, notify the school of absences and much more. Parents are given a login and temporary password, which they are promted to save upon the first login. If you forget your login or password, the office staff are always happy to help you retrieve your login, or reset your password.

#### **EXCURSIONS AND CAMPS**

Camps and excursions provide practical experience as an extension or reinforcement of classroom

activities. They relate closely to the school curriculum and provide meaningful learning situations. Social skills, leadership, respect for the environment and enjoyment are the aims of these activities.

Prior to an activity, full details are circulated to parents.

All costs related to camps and excursions are borne by the parents.

In exceptional circumstances some financial assistance may be available.

Such matters may be addressed confidentially with the Principal.

The safety and well being of the group is to be considered at all times. The school reserves the right not to include students in the educational excursions and camps programs due to behavioural and safety reasons.



#### **DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES**

Each student from Years 3-6 has the opportunity to take part in the iPad 'bring your own device' (BYOD) initiative. Students in Years Prep – 2 will have the opportunity to work on iPads in their classrooms along with other digital technologies. We understand that Digital Technologies are an important learning tool that our students need to be very familiar with. Every classroom has a large screen TV which is used by both teacher and students as part of the interactive classroom. For more information on the BYOD initiative, please see the BYOD Policy on the Black Hill Primary School Website.



https://www.blackhillps.vic.edu.au/school-resources

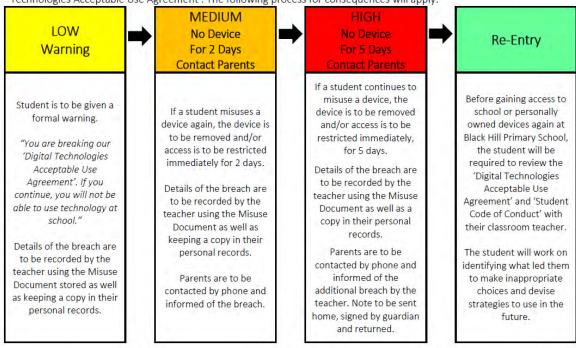
## Breaking the Digital Technologies Acceptable Use Agreement

#### Our view on Digital Technologies:

iPads, Netbooks and digital devices are great tools for enhancing education when used properly. It is important as a staff and a school community that we develop the effective use of digital technologies by our students to maximise their learning opportunities.

#### Consequence Procedure:

If a student misuses their device, they are in direct breach of the 'Digital Technologies Policy' as well as the 'Digital Technologies Acceptable Use Agreement'. The following process for consequences will apply:



#### **HIGH Breaches**

For all high level breaches, please refer the issue directly to either the Assistant Principal or Principal.

#### Levels of Misuse - Examples:

| LOW   | MEDIUM   | HIGH   |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| Using a device at an inappropriate time (for example, when walking around school grounds or at the beginning/end of the day) Leaving a device in an unsupervised or undesignated area Consuming food/drink near devices | Interfering or misusing someone else's device Using, uploading or publishing photographs or videos of peers/teachers without permission Using a device for unrelated or inappropriate activities | <ul> <li>Accessing and altering the files and folders on the school network</li> <li>Participating in any form of cyberbullying</li> <li>Intentionally damaging a device</li> <li>Consistently disobeying an adult's/teacher's instructions</li> </ul> |  |

Digital Technologies are not to be used for non-learning purposes during learning time or recess and lunch breaks.

Only designated school apps are allowed to be used while at school.

#### **FOOD**

Lunch is eaten in classrooms under supervision. Lunch should be substantial and healthy. Rubbish is a major issue for our school and in order to keep our yard tidy, we would appreciate families sending 'nude food'.

We encourage waste minimisation and hope that you will use environmentally friendly/reusable lunch containers. Fruit or vegies may be eaten in classroom fruit breaks and water only may be used in classroom water bottles.

#### **GAMES**

No games involving tackling, grabbing, hitting or throwing dangerous objects at other people are allowed. Black Hill Primary School follows a 'hands off' policy.

#### **HOMEWORK**

Student homework requirements and excursion details are outlined in the student diaries for students in Years 3-6. Please talk with your child's classroom teacher for further details, or see the Homework policy on the school website.

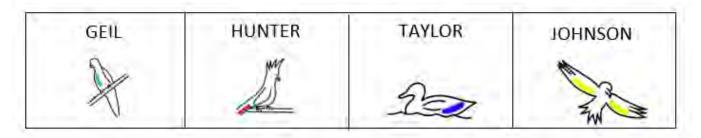
#### **HOME PROGRAMS**

Reading with your child and talking about what they are reading is a vital factor in improving literacy results. This partnership between home and school is vital to us all. We would ask that parents and their children participate in the home reading program. Your child's class teacher will chat with you about their specific requirements. In addition, work on number facts and working mathematically are extremely important. Estimating the cost of weekly shopping, adding the cost of two or more items and working with money generally and mental computations are all important aspects of familiarising your child with how to work mathematically. Don't overlook the importance of having the times tables displayed in your home and working on automatic recall of these tables each night.

#### **HOUSE SYSTEM**

A house system operates throughout the school with new students being allocated to the same house as older brothers and sisters.

The four houses are: Taylor (Blue) Mascot: Tulum (Black Duck); Johnson (Gold) Mascot: Bunjil (Wedge Tailed Eagle); Hunter (Red) Mascot: Karraka (Red Tailed Black Cockatoo); Geil (Green) Mascot: Porrgil (Rainbow Lorikeet). The senior students of each house are able to apply to be Sports Leaders. The Sports Leaders are presented with badges at a special assembly at the beginning of the year. The selection process can be found on our website in Term 4 each year.



#### **IMMUNISATION CERTIFICATE**

All children enrolling in Prep level of Primary School are required to have presented on their behalf an "Immunisation Certificate" before commencing school. Parents of children starting in Prep grade must obtain an Immunisation Certificate from their Local Council Health Department.

#### **INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

Children suffering from infectious diseases shall be excluded for the periods described in the following table

| German Measles (Rubella)    | Until fully recovered at least seven days from the onset of the rash.   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Measles At least four days. |   |
| Whooping Cough              | Medical Certificate or four weeks.                                      |
| Head Lice                   | To be excluded until treated. The most effective lotion may be obtained |
|                             | from your Pharmacist. The school office can provide advice.             |
| Scarlet Fever               | Medical Certificate.  |
| Hepatitis                   | Medical Certificate.  |
| Ringworm                    | To be excluded until treated.   |
| Impetigo (School Sores)     | Excluded until treated. All sores must be covered.                      |
| Mumps                       | Until fully recovered.  |
| Chicken Pox                 | Until fully recovered.  |
| Conjunctivitis              | Until eye discharge has ceased.   |

The School may be contacted for further information including infectious diseases not shown in this table. The School Medical Service checks all children in Prep and parents are notified of any concerns resulting from these checks.

#### **LIBRARY**

All classes use the library facilities. Borrowing routines are taught and children are encouraged to borrow regularly. All children must use a library bag to house any borrowed books. Parents may be responsible for the cost of replacing unreturned or damaged books.

#### **LOST PROPERTY**

All personal property should be clearly labelled to ensure ease of identification and return of lost items. A lost property box and clothing rack can be found at the office and is used to store unclaimed items. Parents are encouraged to check these regularly.

Schools have been requested to inform parents that private property brought to school by students is not insured, nor is DET or the school responsible for any loss.

#### **LUNCH ORDERS**

Each Wednesday, Thursday and Friday lunch orders are available for our students. A list of available items and their costs is available at the office and on the school website. Orders and payment are made with the Qkr! app on your smartphone. Orders must be made before 7:30am on the of the lunch. Lunches are delivered to the school shortly before eating time at 1:20pm.

#### **MEDICATION**

If medication is to be taken at school, a Medication Request Form must be completed and the medication handed to the office staff with the student's name marked clearly on it.

#### **MONEY AND VALUABLES**

Electronic games, mobile phones and valuable swap cards or other items must not be brought to school without express permission of the Principal.

Money sent to the school for excursions, and school payments should be in an envelope bearing the child's name, class and purpose. If mobile phones are necessary for a specific reason, they must be handed to the class teacher for the day.

#### **MUSIC TUITION**

We have a variety of private music tuition classes available to students. Please contact the office for an information sheet.

#### **PERFORMING ARTS**

- The aim of our Performing Arts program is to develop and strengthen the enjoyment and understanding of Music, Drama and Dance.
- All children have a Performing Arts class each week with a specialist teacher.
- Our program includes developing an understanding of music, dance and dramatic elements plus exploration and discussion, creation, performance and reflection.
- Students participate in playing music, singing, choreographing and performing dances as well as a
  variety of dramatic play. They are exposed to a range of genres and famous performers and pieces
  and gain a deeper appreciation of the Arts.

#### PARENT/CARER CONTACT DETAILS

It is imperative that the school has your daily phone number AND that of a responsible friend or relative. If confidential contact information changes, please notify the school immediately. This includes changes to your address and telephone numbers.

#### PARENT PARTICIPATION AND INVOLVEMENT

At Black Hill Primary School we believe that parents have both a right and responsibility to actively participate in their child's education. The implementation of the school's philosophy of developing each student requires an active and dedicated school community. The school community is strengthened by actively encouraging a wide ranging participation of all parents at all levels of its operation.



#### **Areas of Participation:**

Parents are encouraged to participate in a wide range of areas including:-

- School Council,
- Classroom assistance,
- Curriculum Committee,
- Fundraising,
- Excursions,
- Sporting programs.

Parents are invited to indicate their interest and availability to become involved in these programs by contacting the Principal, or your child's classroom teacher.

#### **Benefits**

Through these areas of involvement parents and students will be able to gain the following benefits:

- Insights into the school programs and planning.
- Sharing and passing on ideas to benefit the student's schooling.
- Raising funds for improving school facilities.
- Improved student performance because of parental interest shown.

### WALKING IS A GREAT WAY TO KEEP FIT AND HEALTHY.

Just 30 minutes every day can increase heart fitness, strengthen bones, reduce excess body fat and boost muscle power and endurance.

It's free and doesn't require any special equipment or training.

This map has been designed to help and encourage primary school students to walk safely to school.

There are 4 'Park and Walk' areas on the map. These areas have been chosen as a good place for parents driving students to school to drop them off so they can walk the rest of the way on their own or with other students.

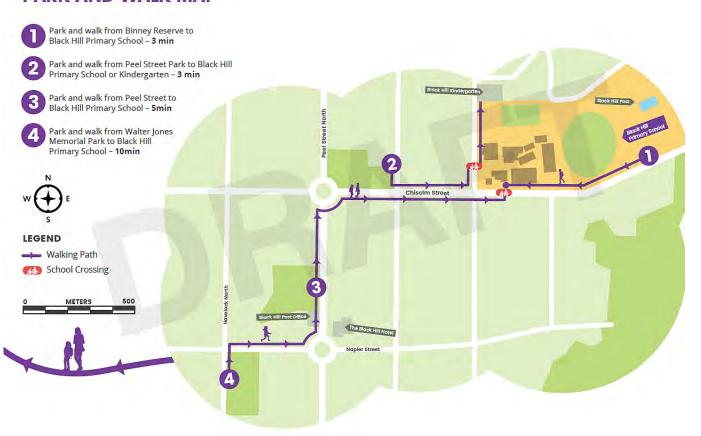
Park and walk is only recommended for students who are responsible enough to walk independently. Parents are encouraged to initially walk with their child until they are confident to go solo.

With more students walking to school this will reduce the number of cars on the road and traffic jams during the busy drop off and pick up

The routes on the map are also suitable for scooters and bicycles. The map clearly marks school crossings, main streets and can be used by anyone.



#### Black Hill Primary School PARK AND WALK MAP



#### PERMISSION TO LEAVE THE SCHOOL GROUNDS

Children are not permitted to leave the school grounds during the day unless this is specifically requested in writing or in person **by a parent or carer**. It is essential that the procedure be adhered to, to ensure that the school has appropriate records in an emergency.

#### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Black Hill Primary School inspires students to be involved in physical activities that develop individual skills, team skills and develop healthy attitudes and habits. Students participate in weekly Physical Education sessions using a range of different spaces including the indoor gymnasium, tennis courts and oval.

Students develop their Fundamental Motor Skills including run, leap, throw, catch, kick, strike, punt, vertical jump, dodge and bounce and use these skills when taking part in games and activities. Students undertake activities such as athletics, cross country, ball handling skills and team games such as basketball, netball, Futsal, soccer, European handball, football, sof-crosse and hockey.



Athletics are concentrated on in Term 1, culminating in an interschool athletics competition for Years 1 - 6 at Llanberis Reserve.

Appropriate footwear and clothing is essential eg. Sandshoes, football boots, t-shirt, shorts / skirt, tracksuits.

During Term 3 each year the indoor gymnasium is turned into a Gymnastics space with everything from tumble mats to climbing apparatus. In addition, there are many opportunities for students to be involved in clinics both within school and by outside organisations for various sports including badminton, volleyball, AFL, tennis, baseball and many more.

Students at Black Hill Primary School also have the opportunity to represent the school in many varied district sports events and many

go on to compete at a Division, Region and even State level.

#### **SWIMMING**

Black Hill Primary School considers swimming to be an essential part of our Health and Physical Education Program. Students in Years 3 to 6 take part in an intensive water safety program at the start of Term 1 each year at the Black Hill pool and then weekly at the Ballarat Aquatic Centre, Students in Foundation - 2 take part in water safety lessons in November/December at the Ballarat Aquatic Centre. Students are taught by classroom teachers, Austswim instructors and volunteers.



#### **POLICIES**

Please find below a list of current school policies which can be found on the school website. Other school policies can be viewed by request.

- Administration of Medication Policy
- Anaphylaxis Policy
- Asthma Policy
- Bullying Prevention Policy
- BYOD Policy
- Camps and Excursions Policy
- Canteen Policy
- Cash Handling Policy
- Child Safe Code of Conduct
- Child Safety Responding and Reporting Procedures Policy
- Digital Technologies Policy
- Duty of Care Policy
- Electronic Funds Management Policy
- Equal Opportunity, Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy
- eSmart Policy
- Face Book & Social Media Policy
- First Aid Policy
- Gifts, Donations and Hospitality Policy
- Health and Humas Relationships Policy
- Health Care Needs Policy
- Homework Policy
- Identifying and reducing Risks of Child Abuse Policy
- Incident Management Policy
- Inclusion and Diversity Policy
- Internet Banking Policy
- Intervention Policy
- Leave Policy
- Managing Challenging Behaviour Policy
- Maths Policy
- Mental Health Wellbeing Policy
- Mobile Phone Student Use Policy
- Occupational Health Safety and Wellbeing Policy

- Occupational Violence and Aggression Policy
- OHS Inspections Policy
- OHS Policy
- Parent & Community Policy
- Parent Concerns and Complaints Policy
- Parent Payment Policy
- Physical Avitivity and Movement Policy
- Policy Development Policy
- Privacy Policy
- Purchase Card Policy
- Reportable Conduct Policy
- Restraint and Seclusion Policy
- Risk Management Policy
- Safe Environments Policy
- School Purchasing Policy
- Sexual Health and Wellbeing Policy
- Staff Code of Practice Policy
- Staff Health & Wellbeing Policy
- Staff Mental Health & Wellbeing Policy
- Statement of Values
- Student Attendance Policy
- Student Enrolment Policy
- Student Welfare Policy
- Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Sunsmart Policy
- Time in Lieu (TIL) Policy
- Uniform Policy
- Visitors Policy
- Volunteers Policy
- Working with Children Check Policy
- Yard Duty Supervision Policy

#### **PLAYGROUND**

#### **School Buildings**

Students are able to enter their classrooms upon the sounding of the 8:45am bell, provided there is a teacher present. Classes commence at 8:50am.

Students will be able to access the indoor areas of the school during recess and lunchtime with a building pass obtained from the teachers on duty.

#### **Playground Areas**

Designated play areas for students will be allocated at the start of each school year and will be clearly identified to all students to avoid confusion and conflict. We have a large outdoor area, that will be supervised by teachers on duty at each break. Staff on duty are able to be identified by their fluorescent vests. These staff are able to deal with all issues that present in the yard and should be a student's first point of contact should they require assistance. There are also Playground Mentors (Student Leaders) to assist children in the yard.



#### **PUNCTUALITY**

Please ensure that your child arrives at school on time. Punctuality is an expectation for all of us.

Learning time at our school begins at 8:50am. We seek your help to ensure a prompt start to the school day. The school day begins with reading so please speak with your child's teacher if you feel you are able to help at this time.

Children should not be at school before 8:40am. It is also expected that all children will have left the grounds at the end of the day by 3:45pm. School crossings are supervised until this time. Please telephone the school should you be arriving late at the end of the school day.

Should your child/children not be collected by 3:45, they will be required to move inside to the general office area to be supervised until collection. A bell will sound at 3:40 Monday & Tuesdays (due to staff meeting) and 3:45 Wednesdays Thursdays and Fridays, indicating it is time to move inside.

#### **Qkr! SMARTPHONE APP**

Black Hill Primary Schoool has teamed with MasterCard Labs to offer an innovative free mobile phone app for Apple and Android called Qkr! which facilitates payment for all school charges including camps, excursions, booklists, and lunch orders. This not only makes it easier for parents, but also streamlines processes within the school making administration much more efficient.

#### **SCHOOL CONCERT**

The school presents a School Concert every 2 years, which is an outstanding event and very much a part of the community cultural calendar. All students are involved in the concert, many finding their talents for the first time!

#### **SCHOOL COUNCIL**

The School Council is the governing body of the school. It consists of members elected from 2 categories: those in some way employed by the Department of Education and Training (DET) and those who are not employed by DET.

The Council responsibilities embrace school curriculum, finance, buildings and grounds, personnel, and policy.

Elections are held every year in March, at the AGM. The serving term is two years and casual vacancies are for twelve months.

The Council meets monthly. Members of School Council serve on a variety of sub-committees covering various functions of the school.

#### **SCHOOL CURRICULUM FEATURES INCLUDE:**

- Kindergarten Prep transition program,
- Year 6 to year 7 transition program,
- Interschool sport,
- Camps and excursions program,
- Program for Students with Disabilities,
- Buddy Program for Prep students,
- Cross Country,
- Bi-annual School Concert & Arts Week,
- Athletic sports,
- Support groups for children experiencing difficulties,
- Library,
- LOTE (Italian),
- Environmental programs Environmental Monitors
- Information nights for community,
- Social Skills Programs,
- Speech Therapy,
- Thorough assessment program,
- Life Skills,





- Intervention Programs delivered by our Educaton Support Staff:
  - QuickSmart,
  - Multi-Lit (Making up lost time in Literacy),
  - Speech and Articulation Program (STAP),
  - Bridges
  - 2021 Tutoring Program

#### **SCHOOL DOCUMENTATION**

Our **Strategic Plan** provides an overview of our goals and priorities for a four year period and sets the directions in which we move and outcomes we hope to achieve. Resources are allocated according to the goals / priorities that are set.

The **Annual Report** is tabled at school council and available to the community in March each year and provides the data which measures the achievements of our Strategic Plan year by year.

#### **SCHOOL UNIFORM**

It is expected that all children take pride in their school by wearing the complete Black Hill Primary School uniform.

#### <u>UNIFORM – BOYS and GIRLS</u>

- Gold polo shirt/skivvy
- Navy blue windcheater (with LOGO)
- Navy blue shorts/Navy track pants
- Navy blue check dress
- Navy blue polo shirt for Grades 5 and 6 (with LOGO)
- Black shoes or black sneakers
- School broad brimmed hat: with LOGO (Children must wear hats which protect the face, neck and ears whenever they are outside)



As we are a SUNSMART school the wearing of broad brim hats outside is compulsory from 1st September to 30th April.

<u>Clothing may be purchased from the school's supplier CROCKERS</u> located at 4 Armstrong St. North, Ballarat. Shop hours are Monday – Friday: 9:00am to 5:30pm & Saturday – 9:00am to 1:00pm. Phone No: 53 313222

WE SUGGEST THAT YOU LABEL ITEMS OF CLOTHING INSIDE THE WAIST BAND, POCKET OR COLLAR AND THAT YOU USE A PERMANENT MARKER.

#### SIGNING YOURSELF AND YOUR CHILDREN IN AND OUT OF SCHOOL

All parents must notify the office of their presence at the school at all times other than when dropping children off at the start of the school day or picking them up at the end of the school day. Simply sign in at the office on your way in, and sign out when you leave. This enables us to identify everyone present in the school should there be an emergency. Also, if your child needs to leave the school for an appointment, please sign them out and back in again upon return.

If collecting children early, please report to the office to collect children. Do not go directly to your child's room. You will need to sign the 'early departure' book.

#### STUDENT AND CLASS MATERIALS AND SERVICES CHARGE

The school charges a class material and services charge to cover the cost of classroom requisites and your child's individual requisites. This charge covers requisites in all classes including specialist, library and digital technology apps.

Each year the fee is set at the November School Council Meeting. Parents who have difficulty in meeting this requirement should discuss the matter with the Principal.

#### STUDENT ENGAGEMENT POLICY

Black Hill Primary School has a School Engagement Policy based on the DET Student Engagement guidelines designed to promote student attendance, positive behaviour and safe, supportive environments.

Our Student Engagement Policy:

- reflects the rights, responsibilities and expectations of the whole school community
- incorporates information about how the school will prevent and intervene in instance of bullying and cyberbullying
- documents how the school:
  - creates a positive and engaging school culture
  - promotes school attendance
  - adopts a staged approach to promote positive behaviour and take disciplinary measures.

#### STUDENT LEADERSHIP

We recognise the importance of developing leadership skills in our students. Year 6 students are involved in leadership roles as School and Vice Captains, Sports Leaders, Library Assistants, and Playground Supervisors. Years 5 and 6 students can be Performing Arts Monitors, Visual Arts Monitors and Learning Advisors. Playground Mentors and Digi Kids are in Year 5, Canteen Monitors in Years 4 and 5. Years 3-5 students are involved as Environmental Monitors. All of these positions help to develop skills in leadership organisation, cooperation and developing goals.

Students at our school are encouraged to initiate activities. Our School Leaders Program is an example of how children are demonstrating responsibility. These children are wonderful role models for the other children to relate to. This enhances our positive school atmosphere.

#### STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL 'KIDS VOICE'

This group consist of two members from each class from Years 1 to 6. Members are elected by the children in their class.

These children then meet on a regular basis. Suggestions are put forward by members on any matter concerning the school. Usually these suggestions are talked about in the classroom during a class meeting.

#### STUDENT WELLBEING

The wellbeing of students in our school is of utmost importance.

Children are given the opportunity to discuss issues individually, or in groups, as the needs arise.

Some programs currently operating in our school are: -

- 1. Support groups for children experiencing difficulty or require additional needs.
- 2. Behaviour modification/intervention programs.
- 3. Social Skills introduction, demonstration and rehearsal of specific skills. (RRRR program)
- 4. Mentoring Program.
- 5. Program for students with Disabilities as well as providing an opportunity for all children to be involved in school programs, our Disabilities Program provides support for teachers and parents as well.

Any issues or concerns you may have related to Student Wellbeing should be directed to the Principal & Assistant Principal or your child's classroom teacher.

It is clearly parents' responsibility to ensure that the school has an adequate supply of medication for your child. Children are not permitted to self medicate at any time.

If your child suffers from asthma or anaphylaxis it is required that an inhaler/Epipen be kept at the school and that you consult your G.P. regarding an asthma/anaphylaxis management plan.

# VISUAL ARTS We are very proud of our Visual Arts program. This program provides all of our students with opportunities to creatively express themselves through a variety of media with experiences in painting, drawing, threads and textiles, modelling, construction, printing and collage. We have community exhibitions and student work is regularly exhibited around our school. Our Visual Arts program is second to none!

