

PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOL

Quality learning in a caring environment...



*Public Education
Proud to belong*



NSW
GOVERNMENT

Education

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Welcome to Paterson Public School.

Paterson Public School is situated in the village of Paterson in the Hunter Valley. With an enrolment of approximately 112 students, we provide a quality education program that is personalised and nurtures the talents and passions of all students. Our school has been established for over one hundred and thirty years and is situated in a unique bushland setting. We have consistently achieved academic success over a number of years. We have a family atmosphere and we know, value and understand every student. Our school promotes active, safe and healthy living practices and positive behaviour for learning. We are active participants in our local community and continue to strengthen partnerships with community organisations. Our school provides access to the latest educational technology and we have a dedicated and highly trained staff who work in close partnership with families to optimise the learning and development of each student. Our parent community is a positive and supportive group and works tirelessly to support and improve our school.

Some of the features of the school include:

- An experienced and dedicated staff providing quality programs designed to meet the needs of all students, with differentiated learning programs for all stages of learning. Our 2024 NAPLAN results demonstrated excellent academic success across all assessed areas and we consistently perform above national standards.
- A comprehensive sporting and fitness program culminating in wide participation and excellent results in swimming, athletics and cross-country carnivals as well as a range of interschool sporting activities and participation in the Premier's Sporting Challenge, range of sport gala days and representative pathways for senior students.
- A 21st Century Learning Focus. We use a digital technologies scope and sequence to build the skills of our students from K-6. Our P&C have generously supported the technology program and we have recently expanded our laptop and iPad collection, purchased a range of robotics equipment, and accessed STEMShare kits which include 3D printing and Virtual Reality kits. All students have opportunities to participate in a Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths (STEAM) and selected students

compete in coding, engineering and robotics challenges. We use Microsoft Teams as an online classroom and educational tool for any type of remote learning scenario.

- A well supported creative arts program. We have opportunities to participate in vocal groups, music, ukulele, percussion and guitar. We have a dance group which participates in a very high quality NSW Department of Education Star Struck performance every second year.
- An excellent partnership with our parents who contribute to and participate in the running and management of our school through involvement in a wide range of activities, which includes an active and inclusive Parents and Citizen Association (P&C). Our community is actively involved in our school every day and assist with learning in the classroom, canteen and fruit break, special learning interest groups, and on excursions. We encourage community use of our facilities and we have a number of groups using our hall throughout the year. If you would like to use our school buildings or grounds, please contact the school.



Our Vision

Together, we inspire all students to achieve personal excellence in a supportive learning environment, empowered by a culture of high expectations, effective teaching, and positive relationships.

Our strategic directions are as follows:

STRATEGIC DIRECTION 1 – Student Growth and Attainment

Purpose: Our goal is to optimise our learning environment to support every student in reaching their full potential. We will focus on supporting ongoing growth in reading and numeracy and on enabling students to excel. Our professional development will focus on explicit teaching practice, differentiation of learning and data driven decision making.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION 2 – Student Wellbeing and Engagement

Purpose: Student wellbeing and engagement will be strengthened through positive partnerships, strong transitions, and whole-school approach to developing a positive wellbeing culture. Together with the community, there will be a planned approach to developing whole school wellbeing processes to enable effective learning where our students connect, succeed, and thrive.



OFFICIAL SCHOOL HOURS & PUPIL SUPERVISION

BELL TIMES	A TYPICAL DAY
8.30 am	Playground supervision commences
8.55 am	Morning bell
9.00am	Morning learning session
11.00 am	Lunch
11.40 pm	Middle learning session
1.40 pm	Recess
2.10 pm	Afternoon learning session
2.55 pm	Afternoon Assembly
3.00 pm	Home time.

Please note that supervision of students begins at **8.30am** and students should not be at school until that time.



ENTERING AND LEAVING THE SCHOOL GROUNDS

Traffic congestion at the beginning and end of the school day is a concern. Observation of safety rules by parents will help reduce traffic hazards in front of the school. Parents are asked to observe the No Standing and No Parking signs and take extreme care when driving around the school. The school crossing operates from 8am – 9.30am and from 2.30pm – 4pm and the speed limit during these times is 40km/h. Each class undertakes lessons in road safety every year, but children often become distracted and do not have their full attention on crossing the road safely. Please ensure that you role model safe road crossing and take the utmost care when supervising children around the school. Students who ride their bicycles are able to use the bike rack but no responsibility can be taken by the school.

SCHOOL CAR PARK

This area of the school is **not** to be used for parking by parents or accessed by students. ***Parents are not to use the school car park to pick-up/drop-off their children.***

Deliveries are made via the car park and there is often vehicle movement throughout the day, making the area very dangerous for children. Your cooperation in dropping your child off at the front gate and on the side nearest the gate would be much appreciated. If you possess a disabled parking permit you are permitted to park in the school car park where designated parking is provided. If this is the case, please discuss this with the Principal so that we can ensure the safety of any students moving through the car park.

School Uniform

A committee made up of representatives from the P&C and staff from the school makes decisions about our school uniform. Please find our current uniform requirements below.

SCHOOL UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS FOR PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOL

BOYS	GIRLS
Summer Uniform	Summer Uniform
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Navy shorts• Navy short sleeve polo shirt with PPS emblem• White socks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Navy blue short sleeve polo shirt with PPS emblem• Navy shorts or skirt• White socks
Winter Uniform	Winter Uniform
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Navy long pants• Navy polo• White socks• School Jacket - available by order	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Navy long pants with navy polo shirt with PPS emblem• Navy stockings/white socks• School Jacket - available by order
All students wear:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Navy hat with brim, available by online order <i>'No hat, No play policy' in Suncare/Health section)</i>• Black school shoes	

Changeover Dates:

To Winter - Monday after Mothers' Day
To Summer - Day One, Term 4

All clothing items are to be ordered from the uniform shop at the website: www.patersonpandc.com.au or phone Kate on 0421361475 or email: hello@patersonpandc.com.au. Payments are made to the P&C, not directly to the school.



LOST PROPERTY

Lost property is kept just outside the PE store and Kindergarten room. It can be inspected at any time. Other areas to check are the spaces where students store their bags. Please ensure that **all** items of clothing, lunch containers, stationery and necessary personal items are clearly labelled with your child's name.

SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

We publish a newsletter every week via School Bytes, School Website and our Facebook page. It contains all the latest school and community news and information, including lots of photos and recounts of our celebrations.

Our Facebook page allows you to stay informed of any last-minute changes and events at school and to share some of our news. Please 'like' us to stay in touch.

The School Bytes app is used for attendance, finance, activities and general communication. You will be provided with instructions on how can join School Bytes on enrolment.



MONEY COLLECTION

At times it will be necessary to ask parents for additional sums of money for such things as voluntary contributions, incursions (*performances and events at school*), camps, swimming pool entrance fees, bus fares, excursion expenses etc. We aim to minimise expenses to parents as far as possible, so these charges are carefully considered before parents are asked to pay these additional costs. We asked where possible all monies to be paid **on our online School Bytes payment platform where possible.**

Parents are very welcome to pay for the costs of activities like excursions or their voluntary contributions by instalments. The school has some funds set aside to help parents meet costs when times are tough. Please contact the Principal if you are experiencing financial hardship. This contact is always treated in strictest confidence.



ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING

Each year you will receive two written reports on your child's achievement at school. The information contained in this report is a summary of your child's achievement and is one of several ways our school communicates with you about his/her progress. Our school also provides opportunities for you to meet with your child's teacher to discuss ways to work together to help your child. Parents may also arrange an interview at any time throughout the year. However, it is necessary for an appointment to be made with the teacher beforehand to reduce disruption to classes and to enable the teacher to prepare relevant information.

Our school will provide, on request, information about how your child's achievement compares with the performance of their school year group.

- For students in years 1-6, reports include your child's achievement for each learning area, over the last half year, using a five point scale (explained below);
- An effort scale for each learning area.

A – Outstanding Achievement:	The student has an extensive knowledge and understanding of the content and can readily apply this knowledge. In addition, the student has achieved a very high level of competence in the processes and skills and can apply these skills to new situations.
B – High Achievement:	The student has a thorough knowledge and understanding of the content and a high level of competence in the processes and skills. In addition, the student is able to apply this knowledge and these skills to most situations.
C – Sound Achievement:	The student has a sound knowledge and understanding of the main areas of content and has achieved an adequate level of competence in the processes and skills.
D – Basic Achievement:	The student has a basic knowledge and understanding of the content and has achieved a limited level of competence in the processes and skills
E – Limited Achievement:	The student has an elementary knowledge and understanding in few areas of the content and has achieved very limited competence in some of the processes and skills

- For kindergarten students, achievement on the five-point scale is not reported. Kindergarten students also receive a report based on the 'best start assessment' that takes place before they begin school.

Teachers plan teaching and learning programs using syllabus documents developed by the NSW Education Standards Authority. The documents describe standards that apply across Australia for each learning area. Your child's teacher uses their syllabus knowledge and understanding of the children in their class to plan their teaching and learning programs. Teachers use a range of assessment tools and their professional judgment about each child's achievement against the statewide standards to award an A, B, C, D or E. If your child has achieved a C then he/she has achieved what is expected at their stage of development. If your child has achieved an A or B then he/she has achieved above the expected level for their stage. If your child has achieved a D or an E, then he or she has not yet achieved what is generally expected compared to other children of a similar age.

The Key Learning Areas include:

1. English - *Speaking and Listening, Reading and Viewing, Writing and Representing (includes Handwriting and Spelling)*
2. Mathematics – *Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, Statistics and Probability*
3. Science and technology
4. Creative Arts (*Music, Art, Dance, Drama*)
5. Personal Development/Health/Physical Education (*PDHPE - Sport, Fitness, Drug Education, Road Safety, Child protection, etc.*)
6. History and Geography (formerly Human Society and its Environment) – *includes Civics and Economics*

High Potential and Gifted Education (HPaGE)

The High Potential and Gifted Education Policy at our primary school promotes engagement and challenge for every student, regardless of background, across intellectual, creative, social-emotional, and physical domains. We are committed to supporting every student to achieve their educational potential through talent development opportunities and differentiated teaching and learning practices to ensure that their specific learning and wellbeing needs are met. Tailored resourcing and support are provided to cater to the different learning needs of high potential and gifted students, responsive to collaboration between school, child and families.

LIBRARY

At Paterson Public School, we love to read.



We are proud of our school library. Through both school funds and the generous support of the P&C, we have a great range of quality books for students of all ages to choose from, including lots of titles for the Premier's Reading Challenge.

The library is open most days at lunch break, with a teacher or library monitors operating the computerised borrowing system. Children are given specific class times to borrow but are also encouraged to use the library as often as they like. The primary aim of our librarian is to encourage reading for pleasure and a love for learning. Children are therefore encouraged to borrow frequently. Books can be returned weekly on the designated day or at lunchtimes. Each child on Kindergarten entry is supplied with a **library bag** (*cloth or plastic bag*) to carry borrowed books home. You can support your child by ensuring they have their library books and bag on their designated library lesson day (this information is provided at the beginning of each year).



SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

Throughout the year, Book Club brochures will be sent home to each family to enable students to purchase books. Parents are under no obligation to purchase these books. The school benefits from sales by earning points which are traded in for bonus books at the end of the year for the school library and presentation night. All orders are to be processed online at: scholastic.com.au/LOOP. If you have any issues with ordering online please contact the school office. These books will be still given to children on arrival at school. However, if the books ordered are for a gift and you do not want them to be handed to your child, please let the office staff know.

BUS TRAVEL

We have two bus companies who provide transport to and from our school. Grace Coaches provides bus travel to Martins Creek Road, Duns Creek Road, Butterwick and Woodville Road, Paterson as far as the Duns Creek intersection. The LINQ bus services the Horns Crossing Road, Vacy, Hildale, Martins Creek township and parts of the Dungog and Gresford Roads back to Paterson. Only children eligible to travel on the bus with a valid bus pass are allowed on the bus. The LINQ bus also provides transport to after school care at Vacy. Teachers supervise the children boarding the bus. It is important that students understand that excellent behavior is expected whilst travelling to and from school on the bus.

CONVEYANCE

To be eligible for private conveyance subsidy, students must:

- live more than 1.6km radius from the school and travel more than 1.6km in the mode of transport for which subsidy is claimed;
- be 4 years and 9 months of age or older;
- travel in a motor vehicle owned by the student's family. A special trip morning and afternoon must be made for this purpose.

Application for private conveyance subsidy is to be made online at: transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive. These forms must be filled in for each child on enrolment at the school. Please note that checks are conducted on the authenticity of each claim.

EXCURSIONS

All school excursions are undertaken with an educational goal in mind and provide 'first hand' practical experiences, which are important in learning. As the regulations state that no child can be permitted to take part in an excursion without written consent from a parent or guardian, you are urged to sign excursion forms when the occasion arises and return them promptly to the school. ***Financial assistance is available to support families who are in need of it.*** Please contact the principal if you wish to access this support. Students in Stage 2 and 3 participate in overnight excursions (e.g. Great Aussie Bush Camp, Sydney, and Canberra). Younger students enjoy day trips (e.g. Wetlands, Art Gallery).



Health

NON-SMOKING ZONE

As of 18 July 1998, smoking is totally prohibited in all NSW Department of Education and Training premises including buildings and grounds.



ABSENCES

Regular attendance at school is important for students to reach their full potential. The school is required to record the reason for any absence as a way of ensuring that students are absent from school only when they are sick or have another good reason for missing school.

When your child is absent from school you may phone the school on the morning of the absence or respond to our School Bytes communication platform. This platform also give you the ability to enter planned absences prior to the day.

Class rolls are marked first thing in the morning. If for some reason your child is late arriving at school you must bring them to the school office and complete a late arrival notification. This will ensure they are only marked as a partial absence and not as a whole day absence. This is a legal requirement and is very important in case of an emergency at the school. If rolls are not accurate we cannot account for the presence of each child.

It is important that all children are ready to begin the morning session at 9:00am. Students who arrive after this time interrupt the learning program not only for themselves but also for all other students in the class. ***Partial absences are also recorded on student reports.*** For a child to leave school within school hours, written or verbal consent must be received from the parent before the child may leave the school grounds and they must be signed out at the office by an adult.

Everyday Matters...



ADMINISTERING MEDICINE TO SCHOOL PUPILS

The Department of Education and Training has issued a policy concerning medication to be given at school. When necessary, medication can be given by the school provided that a written request is received from a medical practitioner giving details of dosage and time to be given is supplied with the medication.

All medicines are to be clearly labelled with the child's name and class and it is stressed that only a single day's dosage is to be brought to school. All such requests together with the medication are to be taken to the office upon arrival at school. For prescribed medications that must be taken regularly, an interview with the Principal or delegate will be necessary beforehand and a medical form will need to be completed.

ASTHMA

If your child suffers from asthma you will be required to complete a medical plan on enrolment at the school or on diagnosis if in later years. Children are permitted to carry puffers on them at all times. You may wish to leave a puffer at the school office for your child's use. All puffers should be clearly marked with child's name. Asthma plans must be renewed with your child's GP annually and an updated copy provided to the school.



ANAPHYLAXIS

If your child is known to suffer from allergies and requires either an Epipen or medical assistance, please notify the school on enrolment or diagnosis. An action plan will be completed.

MEDICAL EMERGENCIES

If a child becomes ill or has been involved in an accident at school, we make every endeavour to contact parents. For this reason parents are asked to supply current telephone numbers at home and at work and those of a contact person nominated by parents in case of emergency. If parents cannot be contacted and the child is in need of medical attention, an ambulance will be called to transport the child to hospital. All children enrolled at this school are automatically covered for Ambulance Cover arranged by the school. Minor abrasions, etc. are treated by the staff. Please notify the school at any time if you change your address or when family circumstances change. This information helps us to keep our records up to date, to be able to contact parents in the event of an emergency.

IMMUNISATION REQUIREMENTS

The NSW Public Health Act (1991) requires that parents, with children starting school in Kindergarten, present an Immunisation History Statement at the time of enrolment. The Immunisation History Statement is available from:

- A. Your General Practitioner
- B. Medical Officer of Health or your nearest Public Health Unit
- C. Community Health Staff

Children who are NOT immunised will have to stay home from school during the outbreak of an infectious disease, such as measles or whooping cough. This is for their own protection and protection of family and friends.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES - ISOLATION & EXCLUSION FROM SCHOOL

This information can change. It is worth checking with your local health provider or the school first.

Acute Conjunctivitis	Until all discharge has ceased
Chicken Pox	Until fully recovered - for at least 5 days after the first spots appear.
Diphtheria school until the	Isolate immediately. Take to hospital. It is necessary to stay away from Doctor gives a certificate.
Glandular Fever	Until recovered or until a medical certificate is produced.
Infectious Hepatitis	Until all symptoms have disappeared or until a doctor issues a certificate. At least 7 days from first sign of jaundice.
Measles	At least 5 days from appearance of rash.
Mumps	Until fully recovered. For at least 10 days after swelling occurs.
Rubella German measles	Until fully recovered. For at least 5 days after the rash appears. Please advise the school immediately if your child has German Measles.
Whooping Cough	Isolate immediately. Exclude from school for at least 3 weeks, from the onset of the whoop, until fully recovered or a medical certificate is obtained.
Impetigo	Your family doctor should be consulted. If the sores are being treated and are properly covered by a clean dressing; children are allowed to attend school. If they are not covered and are on exposed parts of the body such as scalp, hands or legs, exclusion is necessary until sores have healed.
Ringworm	Until appropriate treatment has begun. The School may ask for a medical certificate to say this has happened.
Scabies	Until proper treatment has begun. The school may ask for a medical certificate to say that this has been done.
Head Lice	If your child complains of an itchy head or is often scratching examine the child's head, particularly around the nape of the neck. Your child may have head lice. Look for small whitish specks stuck to the hair, especially behind the ears and on the back of the neck. These are nits (eggs). The brushing of the hair up and over from the neck in the sunshine makes them easier to see. This discourages the lice and also makes the eggs easier to comb out. If you see lice or find nits, buy from a chemist either A200 liquid or KP24 liquid shampoo or any other similar brand. You will also need to buy a fine toothcomb. Inspect the hair of everyone in the family and treat the same way if affected. KP24 will kill lice as well as nits. Wash the whole family's brushes and combs and dry them in the sun. Change and wash all pillow cases and sheets.

CANTEEN

Our school canteen operates on a Friday. The canteen menu is given out at the start of the year and updated regularly. Spare copies are always available from the school office. The newsletter also provides information on special menu items and theme days.



The canteen menu has been selected to conform to the Healthy Kids – School Canteen Association strategies, with foods in categories of red, amber and green. Foods are placed into these categories according to their levels of saturated fats, added sugars and/or salt content. Green and amber foods feature predominantly on the menu - the more green foods the better! The canteen's profits are used to provide extra resources for the pupils of Paterson Public School.

Students order their lunches on a paper bag, with their name, class and lunch order written on it. Re-useable lunch bags are available for purchase through the canteen. The money for their order is enclosed in the bag. They place their orders in a special canteen tub located in their classroom. Our canteen also has special lunch order bags available which are long lasting and allows change to be more safely contained when the orders are handed to the students.

Volunteers to assist in the canteen are always welcome. It is a lovely way to meet new people and be part of the day to day routine of the school. The students enjoy seeing parents at school and value you being part of their day.

Fruit Break



We are committed to improving children's health through education, in particular the teaching of nutrition in the Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE) syllabus and by supporting children to establish healthy eating habits at school. All students are allowed to have water bottles on their desk (*Sipper tops only*). At around 10.00am each day, all children have the opportunity to eat either a piece of fruit or some yummy vegetables in their classroom. Please provide a small piece of fruit or veggie sticks (*peeled if necessary*) as requested for fruit break.

SUNCARE

Our school has a Suncare Policy which states ***“No Hat: No Play in the Sun”***. Children are encouraged to bring our school broad brimmed hat to school. This is worn during fitness, sport and all breaks. All children not wearing a hat must play under the shaded quad only. The school does provide “blockout” sunscreens for use during outdoor activities such as swimming.

BUDDIES

A wonderful aspect of our small environment is that your child will know almost every other student in the school. This creates an even stronger sense of unity and community spirit within the school. In the playground groups of children from all stages are often seen chatting and playing together. It is not necessarily age that draws children together – after all adults don’t use age as a pre-condition for making friends! Students at Paterson mix happily and develop friendships across the school.

To help our Kindergarten students have a great start to their school career, we have a "buddy" system in place. Each child in kindergarten is paired up with a buddy from Year 5 or Year 6. This helps build a very real sense of community within the school and develops leadership skills in our senior students. Buddies help make the transition to school much easier.



PHOTOGRAPHS AND PERMISSION TO PUBLISH



During the year the children sometimes have the opportunity to have their picture published in the school newsletter, local media the school website and our Facebook page. We use photos of the children in the Annual School Report and documents like this Information Booklet. Each year, families are asked for permission to use their child's image for these purposes. You may choose to give permission for any or all of these uses, or none at all. We do not use any child's image without permission.



Positive Behaviour for Learning

At Paterson Public School we use the Positive Behaviour for Learning framework to support our students in meeting high community expectations for behaviour. Early in 2016, staff, parents and students were consulted about the values that they believed were the highest priority for our community. Our school values and expectations are as follows:

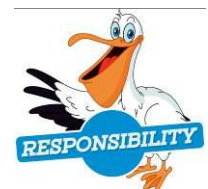
Respect

- I wait my turn.
- I listen carefully.
- I follow instructions.
- I look after our environment.
- I speak kindly and politely.
- I keep myself and others safe



Responsibility

- I am accountable for my actions.
- I move around the school in a safe and careful manner.
- I take care of personal and school property.
- I use my manners at all times.
- I take ownership of my learning.
- I look after the environment.



Resilience

- I can adapt when something unexpected happens.
- I persist until I am successful.
- I choose to keep on trying when things don't go my way.
- I understand that making mistakes is an important part of the learning process.
- I am resourceful and seek help when needed.
- I think positively during difficult times.



All students participate in regular lessons on how to meet our expectations in all settings at school and when representing us in the community. Each week in our newsletter, the value and expectation focus for the week is listed, and it would help to reinforce our PBL program if you could discuss what this means with your child.

At our assembly each fortnight, students in each grade receive awards for demonstrating our PBL values.

Our PBL 'mascot' is Pat the Pelican. Pelican cards are given to students for meeting expectations and contribute to the class based rewards.

The consistency guide below explains the process for positive and undesired behaviours in the classroom and playground:



PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOL

Behaviour Consistency Guide



RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY RESILIENCE

Classroom consequences options

Follow Classroom Management plan
Teacher managed consequence

Behaviour Management Strategies used
5 (+) minutes loss of play (CT to address)
Reflection procedures
Parent contacted by CT
Record on Sentral

Record on Sentral
Immediately notify exec
Loss of whole play session (s) reflection with exec/CT
Referral to LST
Interview organised with parents/carers including CT and AP.

Level 1 Minor

- *Calling out
- *Not using friendly talk
- *Out of seat
- *Interrupting
- *Being unsafe
- *Not using manners
- *Out of bounds
- *Littering
- *Not moving on the bell
- *Disobeying teacher instructions

Level 2 Minor

Continued level 1 behaviours after signal or verbal prompt given - plus:

- *Disrespecting people or property
- *Put downs
- *Continued disobeying teacher instruction
- *Back chat
- * Indirect swearing
- *Physical contact—non serious but inappropriate

Level 3 Major

Consistently displaying level 1 or 2 behaviours

Major Behaviours such as:

- *Hands on and hurting others
- *Breaking property
- *Leaving room without permission /absconding
- *Abusive language
- *Continued Defiance
- *Harassment
- *Aggressive behaviour

Level 4 Major

- *Direct Swearing at Others / Teacher
- *Bullying
- *Aggressive Behaviour
- *Violence
- *Racism (refer to ARCO)
- *Weapons
- *Smoking or use of prohibited substances
- *Property destruction with intent

Playground consequences options

Verbal warning
Response continuum
Time out—silver seats
Teacher conference (on duty)

Teacher managed consequence (on duty)
5 minutes (+) of play in time out
Record on Sentral

Record on Sentral
Notify exec & class teacher
Loss of whole play session (s) reflection with exec/CT
Formal caution
Communication by phone to parents / carers by CT

Record on Sentral
Refer to Principal and Executive
Loss of privileges or representation at School events
Suspension warning
Suspension

Grow Your Mind Program

At Paterson Public School we value the wellbeing of our students, staff and community. We implement a school-wide consistent approach to teach ways we contribute to our own and others' wellbeing. Our goal is to make an invisible concept like wellbeing, visible in our school and our loves.

About the program:

Grow Your Mind is a positive mental health program that is all about enhancing resilience and wellbeing. It is for pre and primary school aged children, educators and parents. We link social and emotional education directly to the brain with a playful animal analogy that resonates with young and old(er).

The program is built upon four pillars to promote mental health and wellbeing: positive psychology, social and emotional learning, public health and neuroscience. The program draws on the Collaborative for Academic, Social and Emotional Learning's (CASEL) model of the 5 social and emotional learning competencies (self-awareness, social awareness, self-management, responsible decision-making, and relationship skills) to help children. The Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) underpins the pre-primary and primary school curriculum.

Grow Your Mind brings together a range of wellbeing topics such as growth mindset, character strength education, gratitude, mindfulness, healthy relationships and emotional regulation and ties it back to basic neuroscience. Grow Your Mind is one of a small number of programs recognised by beyond Blue's BeYou director.

<https://growyourmind.life/frequently-asked-questions/>



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Parents are essential partners in the education of their children at Paterson PS. We have an 'open door' policy and parents are welcome to discuss any aspect of their child's learning or school management. Structures such as the P&C and the School Council have been set up to ensure that the needs of all concerned in the educational process are being met.

How can I help?

Parents are encouraged, welcomed and invited to participate in our school. This can be done in numerous ways. You could join the P&C, help in the classroom, with working bees and the canteen or volunteer for school committees. Volunteering in our school is highly valued and there are many benefits to our students.

You could help by:

- Familiarising your family with this handbook;
- Joining our P&C and attending meetings;
- Participating in the decision-making processes at our school including involvement in various groups such as the TOCAL committee;
- Helping to coach a sport team;
- Attending class meetings or parent information sessions;
- Reading the school newsletter and discussing it with your family;
- Attending assemblies and other whole school activities;
- Paying your voluntary contribution;
- Assisting in the classroom;
- Volunteering for canteen duty, fruit break or the garden club;
- Speaking with school staff if you have concerns or problems; and
- Promoting a positive image of our school in the general community.

Volunteer Induction Process

In order to ensure the safety of all students and volunteers, the Department of Education requires all volunteers to complete an induction process before working with students in the classroom. This includes a Work Health and Safety information session incorporating awareness of child protection issues, a discussion about our expectations when you are in the school, and the provision of a copy of photo id.

PARENTS & CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

The P&C welcomes parents and any interested citizens to join in and make a valuable contribution to their child's schooling. The P&C meets on the third Monday of each month at 7.00pm in the library. All parents and community members are welcome. The P&C acts in consultation with the school in considering and developing education programs and to raise funds to provide items and amenities not provided by the Department of School Education. So much is accomplished by working together. Our healthy canteen, for example, is run solely by parent volunteers. Parents also play an invaluable role in grounds maintenance and when transporting students to and from functions held outside of school, such as sporting events and performances. Paterson PS receives wonderful support from the school community for all its programs and activities.

CELEBRATIONS

Each year our school celebrates special events such as Education Week, Book Week parade and fortnightly assemblies, inviting our parents and friends to visit and share in your child's learning. Friends and relatives are always welcome to join in any celebrations.

Student achievement is celebrated fortnightly at a special whole school assembly. Awards are given to pupils to encourage learning, excellence and positive behaviour. Great work is shared and students often perform songs, poetry and plays. The student leaders play a key role in organising the assembly.



BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE – HUNTER KIDS PATERSON

Paterson Public School (Ages 3-12)

Hunter Kids Paterson is a small caring, fun and supportive community-based service that promotes individuality and inclusion of all children's, abilities, cultures and racial and gender identities. We prioritise children's health, wellbeing and safety and our educators are committed to providing a caring, safe and inclusive environment.

Before and After School Care and Vacation Care

Session Times: Monday to Friday

Before school: 7am-9am

After school: 3pm-6pm

A Typical Before and After School Care Session:

7-8.30am: Children arrive, light breakfast on offer.

7-9am: Children are offered a variety of activities from quiet reading, games, craft, and puzzles – depending on each child's preference. The morning session is to have the children ready for a full day of learning at school.

Afternoon

3-4pm: Roll call, afternoon tea, free play and homework.

4-6pm: Programmed activities as per timetable. Indoor and outdoor activities, art and craft.

Hunter Kids is an approved provider for Child Care Subsidy with permanent and casual bookings available.

Please call: Elaine McCourt: 0410 647 153

Or Email: hunter20kids@gmail.com



Paterson Public School

Contact Details

Address: **Webbers Creek Road**
PATERSON NSW 2421

Telephone: **02 4938 5114**

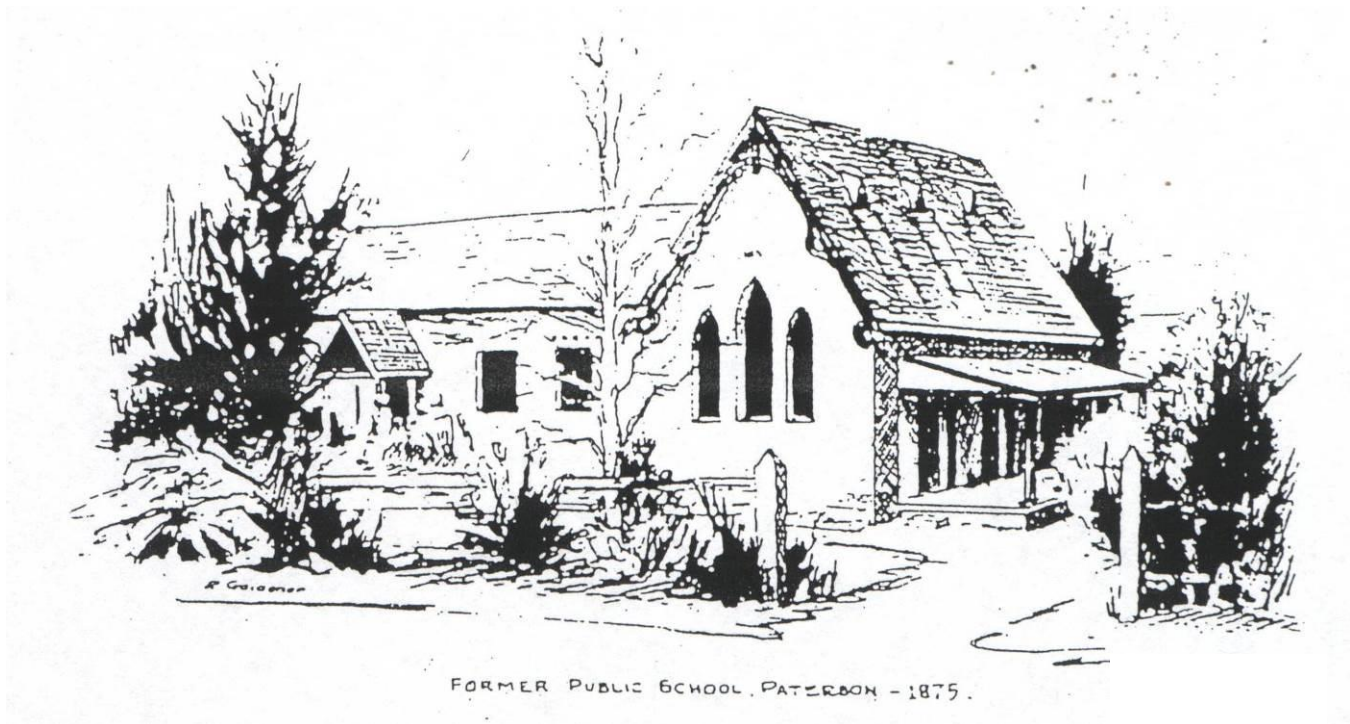
Fax: **02 4938 5226**

Email: **paterson-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au**

Web Address: **<http://www.paterson-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/>**

Facebook: **<https://www.facebook.com/PatersonPublicSchool>**

The office is open from 8.30am – 3.30pm each day. Outside office hours an answering machine is available to take any messages.



Paterson Public School was established in 1875 and for many years the old school was situated next to the Police residence. The school moved to the present site in 1971 as a result of growing enrolments.