



Pre-Primary

at Grace Christian School



WELCOME FROM THE PRINCIPAL & DEPUTY PRINCIPAL (PRIMARY)

Welcome to Pre-Primary at Grace Christian School.

In the early years of schooling, your child makes significant leaps in their development. In Pre-Primary, they will continue to enhance their language skills, grasp new numeracy and literacy concepts, and have the opportunity to refine social skills, practice fine and gross motor skills, and deepen their Biblical understanding.

We strive to create an environment in Pre-Primary that is both safe and challenging. We are intentional about providing opportunities for our students to grow, develop, and build resilience. The best avenue for this development is through play, which remains an integral part of your child's learning experiences, both inside and outside the classroom, fostering creativity and problem solving skills in collaboration with others.

Continuity between home and school is very important to us, and we look forward to getting to know you and your child throughout the year. We want children to see teachers and parents as partners in their education. Our aim is to build strong relationships with each child and their family, encouraging parents to be involved in the learning program.

We pray that this booklet will assist you and your child in making an informed and positive start to the wonderful experience that is Pre-Primary, and we trust that the year ahead will be filled with great memories for you and your family.



Mr Hugo de Ridder



Mrs Donna Holman

DAY-TO-DAY PROGRAM

Pre-Primary Session Times

The Pre-Primary day commences at 8.35am and concludes at 3.05pm. The Pre-Primary morning routine throughout the week is slightly different to accommodate the learning programs we run.

Monday – Thursday: The classroom will be open for you and your child to come inside at 8.25am and do an activity together until the siren sounds. At this time you say goodbye to your child, and your child will sit on the mat to start their day.

Friday: On Fridays we run our Perceptual Motor Program (PMP). When the classroom opens, all children will go to one classroom to get ready for PMP. Parents can assist by helping their child take off their shoes, before they say goodbye at the door.

Pre-Primary School Day – Miss Maple: Miss Maple is a mature Labradoodle who will be at school most Thursdays and Fridays with her owner, Mrs. Joss Barnes. She has a wool coat, making her a low-allergen breed. Miss Maple has undergone intensive training and has been cleared and approved by a veterinarian to be a school dog. She will be gently introduced to both the children and parents.

Every Afternoon: Children are to be collected by an adult. Please notify the staff if someone other than yourself is picking up your child. Children who catch a bus, will be escorted to the bus stop. It is important to notify the school if you are running late in the afternoon for pick up.

Playground: Students are not allowed on the playground before or after school



Attendance

In Pre-Primary, your child will attend five days per week.

Please be aware that some children may get tired as they adjust to the new routine. We provide an optional rest day for the first few weeks of school to assist with the transition. If you have any concern about your child and how they are settling in, please come and speak to us.

Arriving Late

If you arrive at school after 8.35am you will need to go to Student Services to collect a late note and take it to the class teacher.

Recess and Lunch Times

Students are required to bring recess and lunch to school each day. To support healthy eating habits food should be healthy, nutritious, and manageable for your child to eat independently. Please only pack the amount of food your child is likely to eat.

Containers and packaging should be easy for your child to open without assistance, as independence is encouraged during meal times.

A clearly labelled water bottle, containing water only, is required every day.

Lunch orders are available from the school canteen on Thursdays and Fridays and can be placed online at www.quikcliq.com.au.

Please Note: We are an allergy aware school, and request you do not pack any food that contains nuts.



SCHOOL UNIFORM

What to wear

The uniform for Pre-Primary needs to be purchased from the Perm-a-Pleat retail outlet located at U7, Hennessey Road, East Bunbury, and consists of:

- ♦ Early Childhood Polo shirt (Navy) with school logo, school shorts (elastic waist) with school logo, wide brimmed navy hat with school logo, suitable footwear; this may include sandals or joggers with velcro straps.

Please note: At Grace Christian School we uphold the 'no hat, no play' policy for all children in the Primary School. If your child does not bring a school hat to school they will be asked to play on the verandah.

Important: Please label all personal belongings. Order forms for naming labels are available through the uniform shop and front office reception desk. Naming should be done with indelible ink – full names only (no initials please) or using iron-on, sew-on or stick on labels.



Unisex School Navy Polo



Unisex White Under Shirt (optional)



Unisex School Track Top



Communication Bag



School Shorts with logo



School Pants with logo



Sandals or Joggers (velcro)

Spare clothing

Please ensure that your child has a set of spare clothes in their bag, ideally school uniform. It may be necessary to change during the day. If your child has a toileting accident or gets wet from water play, spare clothing should include underwear and socks, in a plastic or water proof bag.

Toileting

In the school setting it is important that children can toilet independently. This means they need to remove shorts/pants/underwear, wipe themselves, re-dress, flush and wash and dry their hands.

STUDENT LEARNING

Teaching and Learning programs in Pre-Primary are about children's knowledge and development guided by *The Early Years Learning Framework* for Australia and the Australian Curriculum (WA). The learning areas are:

- Bible and Christian Living
- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities and Social Sciences
- The Arts
- Health and Physical Education
- Technologies

Reports

Students will receive a formal report at the end of each semester to show progress in each learning area.

Homework Folder

- Term 1 & 2: Picture Cards (oral language development) and Letter Sounds (phonic cards, number cards, books).
- Term 3 & 4: Home readers, early sight words and phonic blends (cards) and number cards.

Excursions

Each year, students participate in excursions that provide valuable opportunities for out-of-class learning. Students on excursions will always remain under the direct supervision of staff members in small groups. Parental assistance may be requested at the discretion of the classroom teachers. Students may be excluded from attending an excursion if it is determined that their participation poses a safety risk to themselves or others. The safety of our students while off school grounds is our primary concern.

An annual excursion permission form must be completed by parents, which is accessible via our School Stream App. Parents will be informed by the classroom teacher when classes go on excursions.

Learning Enrichment

In addition to the support provided by classroom teachers, our Learning Enrichment staff are consulted if there are concerns about any aspect of your child's progress or development. The Learning Enrichment staff will collaborate with teachers and parents to provide the necessary support.



COMMUNICATION

You will receive a class letter at the beginning of the term outlining the focus areas for learning and information about special events.

To foster effective communication between school and home, several methods are provided for parents to stay connected.

School Stream App: This is the primary means of communication with parents. It is essential for all parents to download the app, which is available for free from the App Store or Google Play.

Email: Throughout the year, parents may receive emails from their child's teacher. Parents are also encouraged to use email to communicate directly with the class teacher.

Seesaw App: Messages, reminders, and photos will be sent to parents, making it a great way to stay connected with your child's learning.

Classroom Whiteboard: A whiteboard located outside the classroom keeps parents informed about classroom events and important reminders from teachers.

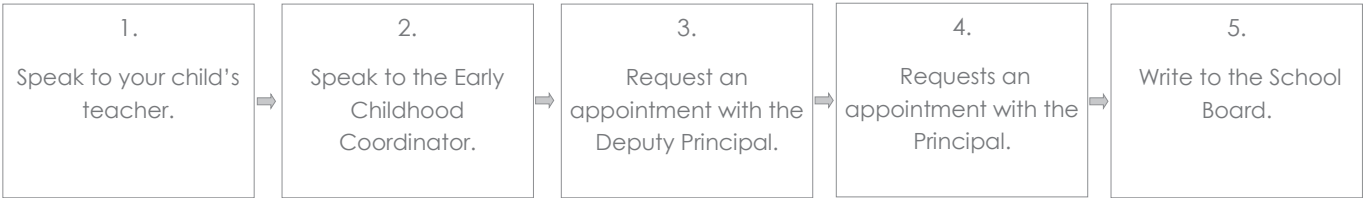
Social Media: Follow the school on Facebook and Instagram @gracechristianschoolwa for updates about the school community.

Parent Interviews

We encourage parents to attend parent interviews throughout the year. These interviews take place in Term 1 and Term 3, and class teachers will send out information about the meetings closer to the dates. They provide a great opportunity to hear about your child's progress in their learning. Additionally, if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's experience at school, please contact your child's teacher to arrange a meeting.

Communication / Concerns

We value partnerships with parents and encourage you to speak directly to your child's teacher with any concerns, queries or issues that impact your child. If this does not lead to a satisfactory resolution, please follow the steps below:



BEING INVOLVED

Parent Rosters

Parents are encouraged to get involved in the classroom by joining the parent roster. This opportunity allows parents to observe their child in their learning environment, assist the teacher and other students, creating a special experience for both parent and child. It is hoped that parents will enjoy their time in the classroom. If interested in participating, please add your name to the parent roster. The Perceptual Motor Program (P.M.P.) requires three parents (between the two classes) each Friday for it to operate smoothly.

Siblings are welcome to accompany parents; however, parents are responsible for supervising them. Please remember to sign in, and out at the Administration Office upon arrival.

Helping Out

Volunteers are always welcome and appreciated as part of school life. The school is eager to expand its volunteer base. For more information, please speak with one of the Administration Staff at Student Services.



HEALTH & WELLBEING

Absentees

By law, students are required to attend school. If your child is absent, please notify Student Services.

Students Leaving School During the Day

There may be times when you need to take your child out of school for appointments or family reasons. Whenever possible, please notify Student Services and the teacher in advance.

Parents or guardians collecting a student must report to Student Services, where they will be required to sign the student out and back into the school (if applicable).

Illness at School

Throughout the year, your child may occasionally be unable to attend school due to illness. We ask that if they are unwell, they stay home to rest until they are fully recovered, as this helps prevent cross-infection. The following illnesses require exclusion from school: Chickenpox, Head Lice, Conjunctivitis, Vomiting, Cold Sores, Diarrhea, Influenza, School Sores, Ringworm, Slap Cheek, Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease, Measles, and Mumps.

Any illness requiring three or more days off school will necessitate a medical certificate to be submitted to Student Services.

Medication at School

If your child needs to take medication at school, provide it to the Pre-Primary staff, who will ensure that it is administered correctly. Clearly label all medication with instructions and complete a 'Prescribed Medication Permission Form,' available from the Administration Office or the class teacher. Ideally, medication should be brought to school in its original packaging.

Medical Action Plans

Medical plans issued by a doctor for students with serious allergies or illnesses must be submitted to Student Services. If any changes occur regarding the care of your child, it is critical to notify the school to ensure that records and emergency contacts are accurate, and please inform the class teacher as well. Class teachers will receive a copy of the updated information.

Occasionally, a specialist may be needed to support your child. The school has access to a pool of allied health professionals who work with us to provide quality care for our students.

GOOD TO KNOW

Quiet Time

Each class will participate in a quiet time after lunch. Your child will need to bring a small cushion to school, which will remain in the classroom and be returned to you at the end of the year. Please ensure the cushion is labelled with your child's name.

Birthdays

We love to celebrate birthdays. On your child's birthday, parents may like to send along small cupcakes for sharing with classmates.

Please Note: If your child has an allergy, it is advisable to provide a small treat as an alternative. For more details, parents should consult with the teacher.

Bus Cards

SmartRider bus cards can be ordered through Student Services. Please let your child's teacher know which bus they will be catching.

Before and After School Care

Camp Australia provide before and after school care at Grace Christian School from 6.30am—8.30am and 3.05pm—6.00pm during school terms.

Should you need more information please contact Camp Australia directly on 1300 105 343 or email info@campaustralia.com.au.

Contact Information



Mrs Maritha van Deventer
Early Childhood Coordinator
Email: mvandeventer@grace.wa.edu.au

Student Services: 08 9726 4200

General: admin@grace.wa.edu.au

Absentees: absentees@grace.wa.edu.au



Pre-Primary Rooms



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Socials: [@gracechristianschoolwa](https://www.facebook.com/gracechristianschoolwa)

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