

# **BULIMBA STATE SCHOOL**

## **PARENT HANDBOOK**



**SINCE 1866**

**PROVIDING OUR COMMUNITY  
WITH QUALITY PRIMARY EDUCATION  
FOR OVER 150 YEARS**

Revised July 2023  
2022/School Policies/Parent-handbook-July 2023

Bulimba State Primary School  
Oxford Street  
BULIMBA Qld 4171



SINCE 1866

*Dear Parents and Caregivers*

*May we take this opportunity of welcoming you to Bulimba State School.*

*We are pleased to welcome you as members of the team, which has the overall development of your child as its chief priority. Our school is an integral part of the community and we regard education as a three-way process involving teacher, parent and child.*

*The information in this Handbook will assist you and your child to settle into our school. Nothing, however, can replace the close personal liaison between a parent and his/her child's teacher. Please endeavour to foster a co-operative teacher/parent partnership during your association with our school.*

*To ensure that your child gains most benefit from the opportunities offered at our school, we ask you to consider carefully the following:*

- think of Bulimba State Primary School as your school and take pride in your association with it*
- familiarise yourself with the information contained in this booklet*
- maintain regular contact with your school through involvement in school activities*
- work in partnership with the school to foster the academic, social, emotional and physical development of your child.*

*Kind Regards*

*Nicole King  
Principal*

## OUR COMMUNITY

Bulimba, an old gateway to Brisbane, was originally called Tugulawah, an Aboriginal word meaning “heart shaped” indicating the “bend of the river”. The name Bulimba, although having many meanings, is believed to originate from the Aboriginal work ‘bulumba’ meaning place of magpie larks. Both Turrbal and Jagera tribes shared this area. The name Bulimba was adopted by the early European settlers.

The giant Queensland Blue Gum in Vic Lucas Park could well be the last surviving native tree before European settlement within the area. Bulimba originally was a farming community that was established in the early 1850’s. The fertile soil produced such crops as cotton, sugarcane, maize, wheat and bananas.

## OUR SCHOOL

Bulimba State School was opened on the 16 July 1866 in the Wesleyan Chapel.

Bulimba State School today offers a broad curriculum including many innovative programs. The school provides education for children from Prep to Year 6.

The school is staffed by a Principal, Deputy Principals, Guidance Officer, Head of Special Education (HOSES), Heads of Department (Curriculum), Classrooms (permanent and part-time Teachers), Specialist Teachers - Physical Education, Classroom Music, Instrumental Music and Inclusion, Business Managers, Administration Officers, Teacher Aides, Cleaning and Grounds staff.

## SCHOOL SITE PLAN



**SCHOOL MOTTO**

PLAY THE GAME

**OFFICE HOURS**

8:00am – 3:30pm Monday to Friday

**SCHOOL ADDRESS**Bulimba State School  
Oxford Street  
BULIMBA QLD 4171**TELEPHONE:**

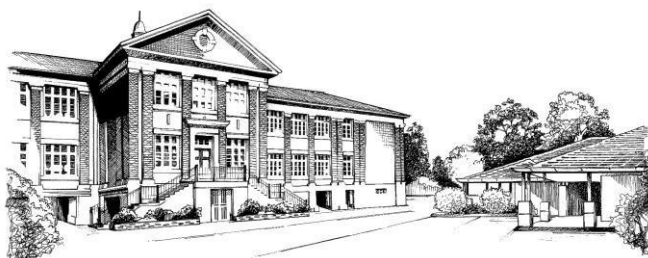
School Office	07 3395 9666
Student Absence	07 3395 9667
Tuckshop	07 3395 9623
OSHC	07 3395 9622

**ABSENTEE EMAIL:**[absent@bulimbass.eq.edu.au](mailto:absent@bulimbass.eq.edu.au)**EMAIL:**[admin@bulimbass.eq.edu.au](mailto:admin@bulimbass.eq.edu.au)**WEBPAGE**<https://bulimbass.eq.edu.au>**SCHOOL HOURS**

8:40am – 3:00pm

**NOTES:**

- (1) Students should not arrive at school before 8:15am unless attending Outside School Hours Care or a school-organised activity e.g. Choir, sport coaching, etc.
- (2) A bell is rung at 8:40am for students to enter their classroom in preparation for the day's work, beginning at 8:45am.
- (3) Formal lessons begin at 8:45am
- (4) Prep student times 8:45am – 3:00pm

**P. & C.**Meets once a month. Dates, times and venues can be found on the P&C's website [www.bulimbasspc.org.au](http://www.bulimbasspc.org.au)

# CURRICULUM

## The Australian Curriculum

The Australian Curriculum describes a learning entitlement for each Australian student. It sets out what young people should be taught and an expectation of the quality of their learning. The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) is responsible for the development of a national curriculum from Foundation to Year 12 in specified learning areas. At Bulimba State School, the Australian Curriculum will be planned, taught, assessed and reported on in all eight learning areas in all year levels from Prep to Year 6.

The learning areas outlined in the Australian Curriculum are:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities and Social Science (History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship, and Economics and Business)
- The Arts (Dance, Drama, Media Arts, Music, and Visual Arts)
- Languages (Italian)
- Health and Physical Education
- Technologies (Digital Technologies, and Design and Technologies)

The Australian Curriculum also outlines seven general capabilities to be taught to students from Prep to Year 10. In the Australian Curriculum, general capabilities refer to an integrated and interconnected set of knowledge, skills, behaviours and dispositions that can be developed and applied across the curriculum to help students become successful learners, confident and creative individuals and active and informed citizens. These are Literacy, Numeracy, Critical & Creative Thinking, Personal and Social Capability, Ethical understanding, Intercultural Understanding and Digital Literacy capability.

The Australian Curriculum identifies three cross-curriculum priorities to be addressed through the learning areas; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures, Sustainability and Australia's engagement with Asia. These priorities provide students with the tools and languages to engage with and better understand their world at a range of levels.

At Bulimba State School, we have adopted a combination of a 'purposefully connected curriculum' alongside a 'single curriculum' curriculum approach.

A purposefully connected curriculum:

Is responsive to the needs and interests of students building connections to students' lives and the world through engaging in meaningful learning contexts

- aligns teaching and learning across two or three curricular areas with assessment tasks, and enables reporting along curricular area lines.
- provides practical solutions to programming the range of learning areas and subjects that comprise the Australian Curriculum.

Over the next few years, teachers will be familiarising, planning and implementing Version 9 of the Australian Curriculum in accordance with the Department of Education's timeline for implementation. As outlined by the Department of Education, all learning areas from Version 9 of the Australian Curriculum will be implemented by the end of 2026.

Many opportunities await your children during their time at Bulimba State School. Below is a snapshot of what your child will experience as they move through our school.

<b>Prep</b>	Italian, Music, HPE, Year 5 buddy program, Disco, Sports Days, Swimming Carnival
<b>1</b>	Italian, Music, HPE, Disco, Sports Day, Swimming Carnival, Choir, Music Concert
<b>2</b>	Italian, Music, HPE, Disco, Sports Day, Swimming Carnival, Choir, Music Concert
<b>3</b>	Italian, Music, HPE, Disco, Sports Day, Swimming Carnival, Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden (SAKG) program, Choir, Music Concert
<b>4</b>	EcoMarines Program, Tangalooma Island Camp, Gala Day, Sports Day, Italian, Music, HPE, Disco, Code Club, Student Council, Swimming Carnival, Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden (SAKG) program, Choir, Music Concert, Instrumental Music Program, Science Day
<b>5</b>	Sunday Creek Camp, Mega, Gala Day, Sports Day, European Handball, Instrumental Music Program, Rock Band, Ukulele and Percussion, Disco, Code Club, Student Council, Swimming Carnival, Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden (SAKG) program, Choir, Leadership Program, Music Concert, interschool STEM program at Balmoral High School.
<b>6</b>	Beef n' Reef Camp, Mega, Gala Day, Sports Day, European Handball, Instrumental Music Program, Rock Band, Ukulele and Percussion, Disco, Code Club, Student Council, Bulimba Buzz Student Newspaper, Swimming Carnival, Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden (SAKG) program, Choir, Music Concert

### **Inquiry at Bulimba SS**

Inquiry-based learning is an approach to learning that emphasises the student's role as central in the learning process. With the teacher acting as facilitator, the students are encouraged to explore materials, ask questions, make connections and share ideas. Inquiry enables students to build and refine a set of skills and dispositions that will enable them to continue lifelong learning and equip them to solve real-life problems.

#### **In an inquiry classroom, Bulimba students will be:**

- Talking to each other
- Accessing technologies and other resources
- Setting and reflecting on personal goals
- Engaging in tasks that are organised around a broad sequence of phases that moves them from an exploration of their prior knowledge, through to deeper understanding as a result of research, analysis and synthesis.
- Actively investigating questions, problems and challenges
- Negotiating with teachers and others about learning tasks and how they will approach them.
- Generating, recording and exploring questions
- Recording and documenting their thinking, making their thinking visible
- Expressing ideas and opinions
- Self and peer assessing
- Talking about their learning and sharing their thinking.

# General Information – Alphabetical Order

## **ABSENCES**

If your child is absent the school requires written notification or by contacting our Student Absence line on 3395 9667, through QParents or on the Absentee email [absent@bulimbass.eq.edu.au](mailto:absent@bulimbass.eq.edu.au) stating the reason for the absence. e.g. sick, family reasons, holiday, etc.

- ❖ If a child has been absent for 3 days without notice, the school will contact the child's parents.
- ❖ All unexplained absences are recorded on student report cards.

## **ACADEMIC PROGRESS**

Throughout the year, teachers will use a variety of ways to assess the work of students. Teachers moderate students' work to ensure consistency across all classes.

School report cards are sent home at the end of each semester for all children from Prep to Year 6.

Formal Parent/Teacher Conferences for Prep-Year 6 are held in Term 1 and Term 3.

## **APPOINTMENTS**

If you would like to discuss matters of interest:

- ❖ arrange a time to speak first with child's teacher
- ❖ arrange an appointment time with the Deputy Principal of your child's sector
- ❖ plan a time which is acceptable to both parties

## **ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL Years 1 - 6**

It is strongly recommended that your child arrives at school after 8.15am. Children arriving prior to this time are required to sit in the pergola area outside the office. Classrooms do not open until 8.40am. Children are not permitted on verandas before the first bell rings at 8.40am.

Children arriving before 8.15am are only those children participating in Tennis, Choir, Band, Run Club, Swim Club, sport's training organised by teachers, or children enrolled in Outside School Hours Care (OSHC). OSHC is recommended for students arriving earlier than 8:15am.

## **ASSEMBLY**

This gathering of students, teachers, support staff and parents is designed to build school spirit and morale through sharing information of common interest and to celebrate student achievement.

## **ATTENDANCE**

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their education best and increase their career and life options. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child can build and maintain friendships with other children.

Consistent attendance improves student outcomes, increases career options and helps students build relationships and confidence.



Arriving at school and class on time is another important aspect of attendance. Being punctual ensures that students are engaged in all learning, assists with establishing good routines and reduces classroom disruption.

We are obliged to contact parents after three days absence if we have not been contacted. This is a Departmental requirement.

Please advise the office if your child is diagnosed with a medical condition which will impact on their attendance.

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Please refer to the school website for information.

## **CAMPS AND EXCURSIONS**

The camping program at our school has been developed to progressively introduce children to the ideas and concepts involved in such a program. These include independence, social responsibility and interaction, environmental, historical and cultural knowledge and life experience.

Year 4	Tangalooma	2 nights
Year 5	Sunday Creek	3 nights
Year 6	'Beef n Reef'	5 nights

## **CARE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY**

Please ensure your child cares for their belongings by:

- ❖ ensuring your child's belongings (clothing and school requisites) are named
- ❖ inspecting the lost property area (located in the Pergola) at anytime

Uncollected and unnamed items are donated to charity each fortnight.

## **CLASS TERM NEWSLETTERS**

These letters are:

- ❖ designed to keep you informed of the learning/teaching programs planned for your child's class
- ❖ sent home at the beginning of each term

## **CONCERNS**

At Bulimba, we believe that positive partnerships with parents are the cornerstone of successful outcomes for students. As such, we encourage you to raise any concerns with your child's teacher or with school administration (33959666 or [the.principal@bulimbass.eq.edu.au](mailto:the.principal@bulimbass.eq.edu.au)).

## **CONTRIBUTION TO LEARNING**

Bulimba State School is a great school made up by a community that cares about and participates in educating its children.

Your much-appreciated financial assistance to “**Contribution to Learning**” can be provided in



the following three ways:

- A donation to the Bulimba State School Building Fund.  
The BSSBF offer **TAX DEDUCTIBLE** status to any donation over \$2.00. All contributions will be receipted by the Building Fund as a Deductible Gift Recipient for tax purposes. The Deductible Gift Recipient category of School Building Fund covers funds established and maintained solely for the acquisition, construction or maintenance of school buildings and grounds.
- A donation to the Bulimba State School Public Library Fund.  
This donation is also **TAX DEDUCTIBLE** for donations over \$2.00. The Deductible Gift Recipient category of School Public Library Fund covers public funds established to maintain solely the acquisition and maintenance of resources including technology for school public library

**Please make your voluntary “Contribution to Learning” payment to any of these options:**

1. Bulimba State School Building Fund
2. Bulimba State School Public Library Fund

We look forward to your assistance in creating a better future for our students.

## ***DEPARTURE/LATE ARRIVALS***

If you wish your child to leave school before the usual dismissal time:

1. Written authority (email) to the class teacher and copy to [admin@bulimbass.eq.edu.au](mailto:admin@bulimbass.eq.edu.au) or a phone call to the office is required.
2. Sign your child out at the school office.
3. Please collect your child from the office.

All students who arrive to school outside of the regulated school hours must be signed in via the school office.

## ***DOGS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS***

### **Rationale**

At Bulimba School, we have always encouraged families to take the opportunity to be healthy and green and walk to school to relieve traffic congestion. For some families with a dog, they also take this opportunity to exercise with their dog. This also provides students to see family pets as part of everyday life.

### **Procedures**

*The school will:*

1. Provide information about the “Dog Policy” in the newsletter at the commencement of the year.
2. Display signage that outlines school expectations regarding dogs entering the school ground.
3. Monitor dogs in school grounds and enact this policy.
4. The Principal has the option to exclude any dog from the school site and / or report the dog to the Brisbane City Council if these guidelines are not strictly followed.
5. The Principal may need to enact special instruction or procedure in relation to this policy.

*Dog owners will:*

1. Ensure dogs that enter the school grounds are not known to be aggressive or dangerous.
2. Bring only one dog onto the school grounds at a time.
3. Ensure that the dog is on a leash and in the control of an adult (short leash) at all times, students are not to be placed in charge of a dog while on school premise. No extendable leashed are allowed on the premises.
4. Not tie dogs to fences or buildings or leave dogs unattended.
5. Dog owners will immediately clean up and remove from the school ground any faeces

*Students will:*

1. Will be encouraged in the appropriate ways to approach dogs. This includes never approaching a dog without the owner's permission.

## **DRESS CODE**

The Bulimba SS School Dress Code provides guidance around our expectations. Some points to note:

### ***Earrings and Other Jewellery***

*Children are to wear studs only. Earrings that dangle below the ear are easily caught in sport and other play. Children are discouraged from wearing other forms of jewellery to school for health, safety and security reasons.*

### ***Nail Polish***

*Fingernail polish is not suitable for school wear. Students will be asked to remove nail polish if worn to school (see Student Dress Code).*

### ***Temporary Tattoos***

*While at school, tattoos are not regarded as suitable. Students will be asked to remove temporary tattoos if worn to school (see Student Dress Code).*

### ***Hats***

*It is school policy that hats with a broad brim or bucket style are to be worn whenever children are outdoors. Please refer to our Student Dress Code for hat requirements. NO HAT, NO PLAY, NO FUN TODAY!*

## **ENROLMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Bulimba State School is one of many schools in Queensland that currently have an Enrolment Management Plan. This means that the school has a designated catchment area and total enrolment limit to help manage the overall school enrolment. Students who live within the catchment area have automatic enrolment, once proof of residency is confirmed. For information on the catchment area for Bulimba State School please contact the school office.

## **EXCURSIONS**

If your child takes part in an excursion as part of a planned learning experience:

- ❖ your written consent is required through the permission form which must be completely filled in QSchools
- ❖ the wearing of uniform is mandatory
- ❖ behaviour is expected to follow our Student Code of Conduct
- ❖ parent assistance may be requested

## **EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

The following activities are available to interested students:

Tennis Coaching / Various Sports / Swimming Club / Self Defence Classes/ Speech and Drama Classes/Violin Classes/Piano Classes/Guitar Classes

Information is advertised in the School Newsletter. Also see our school website for contact details for these groups.

## **FIRE DRILL / LOCKDOWN**

Our school regularly practises evacuations and lockdowns to ensure everyone knows what to do in the case of an emergency situation. The procedures for these are prominently displayed in classrooms. Everyone (parents, staff, students, visitors) must follow the emergency procedures.

## **GROUNDS**

During out of school hours:

- ❖ riding of bicycles, skateboards, scooters and roller skates or blades is strictly forbidden
- ❖ permission for organised, supervised groups may be gained through application to the Principal
- ❖ the pool is out of bounds to unauthorised persons
- ❖ parents can assist in school security by immediately reporting unusual happenings to the Principal (ph. 3359 9666) or Police.

## **HEAD LICE**

This complaint is very common with school children and should not cause embarrassment. The frequency of the complaint can be reduced by parents making frequent checks of children's heads.

## **HOMEWORK**

Teachers allocate homework for each year level depending on their needs.

Parents can best help by making sure children have a quiet environment in which to work. Parents are not asked to take the role of teacher, but rather to supervise, give encouragement and discuss their child's work with them.

In some cases, teachers work closely with parents if children have a particular problem or require individualised tasks with an aspect of their work.

## **INCLUSIVE EDUCATION/SUPPORT SERVICES**

If you or the class teacher have concerns regarding your child's progress, they may be referred to the Student Welfare Action Team (SWAT). This team is composed on Head of Special Education (HOSES), Inclusion Teacher, Guidance Officer, Speech and Language Pathologist and Deputy Principal. They will work with your child's classroom teacher to further investigate your child's needs and collaborate on forming a plan of support.

If you become aware that your child has a disability, you may inform your child's class teacher and Head of Special Education and we will work with you to form a personalised learning plan with agreed reasonable adjustments. HOSES email: [gsm111@eq.edu.au](mailto:gsm111@eq.edu.au)

## ***INFECTIOUS DISEASES***

Students who are unwell and show any flu-like symptoms, rashes, fevers, sore throat, headaches etc, should not attend school. If your child becomes unwell at school, we will contact you so that your child can be collected.

For more information on exclusion periods, please go to <https://www.healthdirect.gov.au/school-exclusion-periods>

## ***INJURIES, ILLNESSES & SICK BAY***

Students who are ill or injured are sent to sick bay, which is located in the administration building. Members of the Bulimba State School staff hold current First Aid and CPR accreditation. You are requested to keep your contact records current to enable staff to contact you regarding your child/children at all times. If you are contacted to collect a sick student, it is expected that this be arranged as soon as possible for the benefit of the student and the general community. If your child is sick before school, it is generally advised that they are kept at home until well enough to return.

If your child develops any medical condition, you are requested to advise the school office in writing.

If your child sustains an injury that requires expert medical attention, you will be contacted, however if you cannot be reached, an ambulance will be called and your child will be taken to hospital. This is normally the Queensland Children's Hospital.

## ***INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM & CHOIR***

### **Instrumental Music**

An Instrumental Music Program is provided in which children in Years 4 – 6. There is a limit on the number of children who can participate in the program. The school has some instruments that can be used by some Year 4 students. All other students purchase their own.

Children:

- ❖ are tutored by our Instrumental Music teacher
- ❖ are withdrawn from normal classes to attend lessons
- ❖ are selected on the basis of commitment, aptitude and parental agreement with requirements
- ❖ Students are matched to instruments by the Instrumental Music teacher
- ❖ must attend a weekly practice

### **Choir**

- ❖ Students are selected at the beginning of the year
- ❖ Must show commitment to practise and attend various activities

## **INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOL (IPS)**

Bulimba State School became an Independent Public Schools in 2014.

Our school has a School Council that helps to set the strategic direction of the school.

## **LANGUAGES - ITALIAN**

- ❖ Lessons for Prep to Year 6
- ❖ Cultural Italian activities are held throughout the year

## **LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

Throughout their life at Bulimba State Primary School, all children will be offered many opportunities to develop their leadership skills. Major leadership opportunities are provided in the following areas for Year 6 students.

- School Captains, Vice Captains
- Student Council
- Music Captains, Band Captains Environmental Captain, Sport Captains, Italian Captain, Library Captains, Special Events Team, Technology Team, Arts Captains, Technology Captains, Playground Buddies
- EcoMarine Ambassadors

Children who are elected as school leaders play a vital role in the school because they represent the needs and wishes of all students in a variety of formal and informal forums and meetings. Their part in the total school development is taken very seriously.

## **LIBRARY**

- ❖ provides children with as much reading enjoyment as possible
- ❖ extends children's learning
- ❖ aids with children and teachers in resource use
- ❖ encourages all parents to become involved in the resource centre and its procedures
- ❖ assists children to be regular borrowers
- ❖ promotes a student monitor program

## **MEDICATION**

Medication can only be administered to a student if a doctor has prescribed it. The medication must be brought to the school office in the original container, clearly marked with the child's name, dosage and prescribing doctor's name and contact details. Parents must complete a "request to administer" medication form and the child must report to the office to receive the medication. It is the responsibility of the parent to notify the class teacher of the time the medication is required and the responsibility of the child to report to the office for the medication. At no time can students keep medication either prescribed or non-prescribed in their bags.

The only exception is for children suffering asthma who are able to self-administer asthma medication. The school office should be advised if this is required.

EpiPens are kept in the child's classroom. Additional EpiPens are stored in relevant locations around the school.

## **MOBILE TELEPHONES**

Students who bring mobile phones to school are required to sign them in the school office on arrival. Students may then collect their phones at 3pm or on departure.

## **NAPLAN**

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3 and 5.

The Years 3 and 5 tests are a National externally prepared and marked tests of Numeracy and Literacy skills for children in Years 3 and 5. The tests are conducted each year. When the results are returned to the school, parents are provided with a written report of their child's results.

## **NEWSLETTER**

Newsletters are sent electronically via email and published on the school website.

## **OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE (OSHC)**

The OSHC is a business unit of the P&C Association and has been established to support families with the care of their children before and after school, during the vacation periods and pupil free days. The OSHC is not for profit with all profits going back to the service and to benefit the wider school community.

Out of School Hours Care operates Monday to Fridays between 6.30am and 9.00am, and between 3.00pm and 6.00pm during school term time and between 6.30am to 6.00pm over vacation periods. Children must be enrolled in the program before care can be given. Please contact OSHC on 3395 9622.

### **OSHC Objectives**

- ❖ To provide a safe, supervised environment for school aged children to play and relax before and after school, and on vacation periods and pupil-free days.
- ❖ To provide programs which focus on developmental, social and recreational activities for children in a quality, caring environment.

Enrolment information can be sent via email – [oshcgeneral@bulimbass.eq.edu.au](mailto:oshcgeneral@bulimbass.eq.edu.au)

If you wish to discuss the OSHC program please contact the OSHC Office, [oshcgeneral@bulimbass.eq.edu.au](mailto:oshcgeneral@bulimbass.eq.edu.au) or 3395 9622.

## **PARKING AND COLLECTION**

### **Parking and vehicle access**

There is no parking available on the school grounds. There is also no vehicle access to the school grounds unless authorised by the Principal. Please ensure that you do not obstruct neighbours' property access when parking.

### **Drop off and collection of students:**

To ensure the safety of all students, two Stop Drop and Go zones are provided. These zones are located on Wentworth Parade and Oxford Street near the school hall. There is no parking permitted in these zones from 8.00am to 9.00am and 2.30pm to 3.30pm on each school day. Parents are reminded to use these zones correctly as police and transport officers regularly patrol these areas.

## ***PARENTS' AND CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION (P & C)***

The Bulimba State School P & C Association meets monthly and is made up of parents and members of the Bulimba community.

The P & C play an active role in providing the best possible learning environment for our children and to promote and direct parent involvement and participation in the decision-making processes of our school.

This involves working in co-operation with the school staff, providing services for parents and students and, of course, fundraising. Fundraising is a major part of the P & C workload as money raised provides resources for our school and special projects.

Within the Bulimba P & C we have a number of subcommittees which meet to focus on more specific matters. These include:

- ❖ Smartbites / Tuckshop Committee
- ❖ Swim Club
- ❖ Fundraising
- ❖ Out of School Hours Care
- ❖ Year 6 Graduation Working Group

The P & C also provides input into the School Strategic Planning. The P & C gives parents an organised structure to work within to provide the maximum educational opportunities for our children. All parents are cordially invited to participate in the many activities of the Bulimba State School P & C Association. We look forward to your input.

## ***PARENT/COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICER***

Our Community Liaison Officer works to liaise between the community and the school. Our Liaison Officer holds regular morning teas to greet any new families to our school community as well as being available to discuss any issues you may have. Working with our Liaison Officer is a band of volunteer Class Parent Representatives who liaise with our Liaison Officer and the classroom teachers to provide a valuable resource to our school. If you are interested in becoming a Class Parent Representative please advise our Liaison Officer or your classroom teacher.

## ***PARENT INFORMATION CENTRE***

This room is located in A block on the first floor and is overseen by our Community Liaison Officer. The room is available for informal meetings and has:

- ❖ noticeboards with school information, community groups, buy and sell, what's on in the local area etc.
- ❖ facilities for making coffee and tea
- ❖ pamphlets from Government departments and community groups

## ***PARENT/TEACHER COMMUNICATION***

It is important that parents communicate with class teachers regularly about changes, events or concerns that are happening for their child. This helps teachers develop a clear picture of what is important to be aware of when planning for each child. There are a number of shared teaching partnerships in our school therefore it is important to put in writing any vital information so that this information is communicated accurately between the teachers.



## **PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

While attending Bulimba State School, your child/children will have an opportunity to participate in a range of extra curricula activities. A number of these activities will require payment for participation. Notes will be sent home indicating the amount required. Invoices are also generated and emailed home. The preferred method of payment is via BPoint. The BPoint link is on the invoice.

EFTPOS is available at the office. Participation is dependent on payment. Invoices are paid through BPoint and non-invoiced payments can be made through the Qkr App. If families are experiencing difficulty in paying these costs, please contact the office. At the end of each term, a statement of account will be emailed to parents. Prompt settlement of these accounts is appreciated.

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**

Class, special groups and family photographs are taken annually. Details will be forwarded home to families prior to this date.

## **QParents**

The QParents app provides a more convenient, easier way for parents and legal guardians of Queensland state school students to interact with their child's school. Parents will have secure, online access to their child's student information, anytime, anywhere, through a smartphone, tablet or computer.

QParents allows parents to connect instantly with their child's school to access and manage their child's student information, including:

- Attendance and absence details, as well as the ability to notify the school of an absence
- Academic report cards
- Viewing unpaid invoice details, payment history, and making payments online
- Viewing and updating personal student details, including medical conditions and address
- Enrolment details
- Upcoming events list showing school events and excursions.

QParents will assist both staff and parents in sharing and responding to information in an efficient and effective way. You will receive an invitation code when your child has started at our school.

QParents won't replace the traditional ways you communicate with our school, but it will provide another way to communicate with us. More information about QParents can be found at

<https://qparents.qld.edu.au/#/about>

## **REPRESENTING THE SCHOOL**

Many children will represent the school in a variety of academic, sporting and cultural endeavours. These children will deservedly receive our praise, our support and accolades for outstanding effort. However, the highest standards of behaviour and dress will be expected of them as young ambassadors for our school.

At our school, children will be taught that, from the moment they leave home in the morning to the minute they arrive home in the afternoon, and at any other time that they wear the school uniform, their actions must reflect the highest values and standards of our school.

## RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION

Religious Instruction classes are:

- ❖ conducted on an ecumenical and combined basis for Years 1-6, with the Anglican, Uniting Church, Catholic and Baptist Church collaborating to provide a common program
- ❖ Voluntary

## SESSION TIMES

	<b>Prep, 1, 2 &amp; 3</b>		<b>Years 4, 5, 6</b>
8:40am	The bell sounds	8:40am	The bell sounds
8:45am	Morning Session	8:45am	Morning Session
11:00am	First Lunch	10:30am	First Lunch
12:00 noon	Middle Session	11:00am	Middle Session
1:30pm	Second Lunch	1:00pm	Second Lunch
2:00pm	Afternoon Session	2:00pm	Afternoon Session
3:00pm	Home	3:00pm	Home

## SPECIALIST OR SUPPORT TEACHERS

Our specialist and support staff includes:

- ❖ includes a Library Teacher and Teacher Aide, Physical Education Teacher, Languages Teacher, Chaplain, Instrumental and Classroom Music Teacher, Guidance Officer, Inclusion Teachers, Digital Technology Teacher
- ❖ Heads of Department - Curriculum
- ❖ English as an Addition Language or Dialect Teachers, Speech Pathologist, other Advisory Visiting Staff.

## SPORT

Sport is part of a comprehensive, carefully sequenced program from Prep to 6 in which:

- ❖ children participate in inter-school and intra-school programs with an emphasis on lifelong recreational relevance
- ❖ Our intra school sport houses and colours are: - Jupiter – Red, Mercury - Green, Saturn - Blue. On our Annual Sports' Days children are asked to wear a T-shirt in the house colour.

## STRANGER DANGER

Bulimba State School implements the *Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Curriculum* as part of our Health and Physical Education Key Learning Area. Through a series of lessons, students will learn how to recognise, react and report when they are unsafe or find themselves in situations that can have a significant detrimental effect on their physical, psychological or emotional wellbeing.

## **STUDENT COUNCIL**

The Student Council was formed out of a need for student representation in our school. We believe that children have a right to a say in the way their school operates. Therefore, the role of the Student Council is essentially to:

- ❖ maintain an open communication link between student, teacher, community
- ❖ provide a forum to voice their views
- ❖ allow students to operate in a leadership role

Some initiatives implemented by the Student Council so far are:

- ❖ discos for Prep - Year 6
- ❖ purchase and installation of water coolers
- ❖ composting
- ❖ table and chair settings
- ❖ fundraising for selected charities
- ❖ playground equipment for Years 4 – 6
- ❖ supporting School Captain initiatives

The Student Council is comprised of two elected class representatives from Years 4 - 6, as well as, the School Captains and Vice Captains. The latter perform the role of Chairperson and Secretary.

Fundraising and supporting local national and international charities, are a big part of the Student Council program.

## **SUN SAFETY**

Please refer to the school website for our policy.

## **SWIMMING**

Our swimming program forms part of the HPE Program during Summer, (Terms 1 and 4) for children in Years 1- 6 and Term 4 for Prep children.

Parents will:

- ❖ be required to provide written permission on initial enrolment
- ❖ receive details regarding times, hygiene and rules at the beginning of each season

Bulimba Swim Club is based at our school. Information regarding Swim Club activities are available by contacting the P&C.

## **TELEPHONE MESSAGES**

At times, parents need to contact their child/children at school. Under normal circumstances, a message will be passed on to them.

## **TRANSFERS**

If you are transferring your child/ceasing enrolment, contact the office to advise details.

## TUCKSHOP (SMART BITES)

Currently our tuckshop, which operates as a business unit of the P & C Association, provides the following services:

- *preparing nutritious, healthy and delicious food onsite to serve the needs of our students and staff.*
- *providing service on a daily basis during first break for online orders only. Online orders can be placed on a system called Qkr!*  
*More info on how to order at: <https://www.bulimbasspc.org.au/foodservices>*
- *offers an over the counter service on Wednesday and Fridays at second break for students to buy snacks and drinks only.*
- *invites all interested persons to volunteer to help with preparation and sales on Fridays – email Smart Bites for more info at [smartbites@bulimbasspc.org.au](mailto:smartbites@bulimbasspc.org.au)*
- *offers a café style service for parents before school selling barista made coffees and pastry treats*

The tuckshop relies on parent and community volunteers to enable it to operate. Each class is rostered on to volunteer once each year and the parent rep for each class will receive the class roster at the beginning of the year. Your support in volunteering is really appreciated and it is great way to meet other families!

## UPDATING INFORMATION

- If there is a change in your emergency contact number
- If you change address
- If any significant changes occur with regard to your child/children's health or medical details eg: Health Plan or medication.
- If there are any changes regarding custody or access to your child/children
- If you feel we should know of any other changes which relate to your child

## VALUES

Bulimba State School has 4 key values that are integral to all we do at school:

- ❖ Be Responsible
- ❖ Be Respectful
- ❖ Be Courageous
- ❖ Compassionate

These values are explicitly taught and communicated throughout your child's schooling at Bulimba. As a parent, you may assist by reinforcing these key values at home.



## ***WET WEATHER & EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS***

On very wet days:

- ❖ the lunch hour may be shortened and children move into their rooms for recreational activities.
- ❖ the school day is not shortened, unless, in rare cases, extreme weather conditions force this alternative.