



Minchinbury Public School

9 November 2021

202 McFarlane Drive
Minchinbury, 2770

Principal: Miss Webster

<https://www.facebook.com/minchinburyps>

www.minchinbur-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/

Principal's Message

2022 Kindergarten Students

I am currently interviewing all of our 2022 Kindergarten families.

If you know of anyone who intends to send their child to Minchinbury Public School next year, could you please encourage them to contact our school office now.

Our staffing for next year needs to be organised this year. If we have a lot of families turn up unexpectedly at the beginning of next year, we may not have the teachers needed to give the students the attention they need.

2022 Returning to MPS

Last week, we sent home a note to all families asking if they intend to send their children to MPS in 2022. Please fill this out and get this back to us as soon as possible.

Please don't assume that we just know that you will be returning next year.

In the same way that we need to know our Kindergarten student numbers to organise staffing, we also need to know if we are going to be losing or gaining students in our Year 1 to Year 6 grades for next year, as this will impact the number of teachers that we are able to employ.

Tell Them From Me Survey

I have now sent home to families a reminder note about the Tell Them From Me Survey. This is our annual parent/carer feedback survey.

I want to encourage as many families as possible to complete this survey. This will assist us with providing you with the connection that you want with our school.

As a result of the feedback that we have had from the Tell Them From Me Surveys, our school changed or responded in the following ways:

- Parent/teacher interviews were implemented at the end of Term 2 so that parents/carers could discuss their child's progress with the teacher;
- Playground was upgraded from a dirt bowl to an area that students could play on in any season;
- Kindergarten toilets (F Block) upgraded;
- Monday morning assembly RSL awards no longer include canteen vouchers.

The above dot points are only some of the changes that were made as a direct result of parent/carer feedback.

If you want your voice heard, please complete this survey and return it to the school as soon as possible.

Kind regards,

Miss Rebecca Webster
Principal

We had our first SRC meeting since the end of Term 2 last week. Two SRC reps from Year 1 were so concerned that their teacher would forget the meeting, that they encouraged their teacher to write it on the board so that SHE didn't forget!
This is why Minchinbury is such a great place to be.

2021 Term 4 Calendar

The following events are scheduled to occur. If there are changes to this schedule, we will inform community members as soon as possible.

Key: Leadership Events

2022 Kindergarten

School Events

All MPS students are now expected to back on the school site engaging in face-to-face learning.

Week 6	8 Nov 9am: Monday morning virtual assembly 2022 ES1 Enrolment Interviews	9 Nov 2022 ES1 Enrolment Interviews	10 Nov 2022 ES1 Enrolment Interviews	11 Nov 2022 ES1 Enrolment Interviews Reports go home	12 Nov 2022 ES1 Enrolment Interviews
Week 7	15 Nov 9am: Monday morning virtual assembly	16 Nov 24 Prefect speeches filmed	17 Nov 9.00: OC Test in the library 1.00: Lockdown drill	18 Nov 9.15 – 11: Prefect speeches shown to Y2 to Y5 students; Voting for students takes place straight after viewing.	19 Nov
Week 8	22 Nov 9am: Monday morning virtual assembly	23 Nov World Teacher's Day Celebration	24 Nov Y5 candidates told if they are in the 2022 leadership team	25 Nov	26 Nov 9.30 – 10.30: 2022 House Captain elections Ice Block Day – Stage 3 Fundraiser
Week 9	29 Nov 9am: Monday morning virtual assembly	30 Nov	1 Dec	2 Dec	3 Dec ** 4 December – Local Elections**
Week 10	6 Dec 9am: Monday morning virtual assembly	7 Dec	8 Dec Year 6 Farewell	9 Dec	10 Dec
Week 11	13 Dec K-6 Celebration Day	14 Dec S3 Presentation Day S2 Presentation Day	15 Dec ES1 Presentation Day S1 Presentation Day	16 Dec Year 6 Graduation Day Term 4 last day	17 Dec No students or staff on-site

Points to note about the events

- No parents/carers to come on-site for school events
- 2022 student leadership team – Elections are no longer based on gender. Next year we may have two female school captains or one male and one female school captain or two male captains. The Year 5 students have already been spoken to about this.
- Reports will be sent home in Week 6. Reports will focus on the Learning from Home period of learning.
- 2022 ES1 enrolment interviews will take place either on-site or via Zoom. Interviews will only take place on-site for those adults that are fully vaccinated and wear a mask to the interview. Bookings are to be made via the SOBS system.



Enrolment policy

Information for parents

The Enrolment of Students in NSW Government Schools policy is in place to assist schools to meet their obligations under the *Education Act 1990* - to ensure that every student has a place at their local school. The policy also communicates to staff and the community a transparent enrolment process.

Why was the enrolment policy revised?

Across the state, many communities are changing. Some are growing at rates never seen before. Some schools that used to be able to accept out-of-area enrolments, no longer have the room to do so.

The revised policy is designed to support schools to manage all enrolment applications, encourage greater consistency in decision-making and make sure the enrolment choices are clear for parents.

What are the changes?

The enrolment cap

The enrolment cap is the number of students that can be enrolled at a school based on the school's permanent accommodation. The enrolment cap tells us whether the school will be able to accept non-local enrolments. It is not a target or limit on the number of local enrolments a school can take.

Schools with a local intake area have a cap set by the department from Term 4 2019.

Within the enrolment cap, a number of enrolment places (the buffer) must be kept aside for the likely number of local students who will need to enrol during the year. For this reason, a school will not take non-local students once they reach their buffer, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

100-point residential address check

Parents planning to enrol their child at a school that is near or at its buffer or cap will be asked to complete the 100-point residential address check to confirm they live within the school's designated intake area. This means parents will need to provide documents to verify the child's current address.

So that schools only seek information relevant to the child's enrolment, a list of approved documents for the residential address check is available from the school or the department's website at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/enrolment-of-students-in-nsw-government-schools>.

Selection criteria for non-local enrolment

Sibling enrolments are now clearly prioritised (where possible) and selection criteria for non-local enrolment will not include student ability, performance or achievement.

What has not changed?

Schools will continue to enrol students who live in their local intake area, regardless of the school's cap status.

Enrolment procedures for students accessing particular education settings (for example selective schools, distance education, specialist support classes for students with disability, Intensive English Centres) are not affected by the revised policy.

In schools with available places, there are no changes to enrolment rights of siblings of non-local students. Each enrolment application is considered on its merits, including if siblings currently attend the school. At schools below their cap, out-of-area applications for siblings of current students will be given enrolment priority.

Schools will continue to provide families with support and advice during the enrolment process, including assessment of exceptional and compelling circumstances particularly for vulnerable students and their families.

Schools will also continue to apply the policy fairly and consistently using transparent and accountable processes when making decisions about enrolment applications. Parents have a right of appeal to determine whether the stated processes have been applied in a procedurally fair manner.

But what do the changes mean for me?

What if my child is already enrolled but we do not live in that school's intake area?

Your child will remain enrolled at the school as the revised policy does not affect students already enrolled in NSW Government schools.

We were in area when my child was enrolled in the school. The department has since changed the school's boundary and our residence is now out of area. I have other children and I want them all to go to the same school. What are my options?

At times it is necessary for the department to make adjustments to a school's local enrolment intake area. This could mean a family with a child/children already enrolled is then outside the local intake area. When this happens, the family will still be able to enrol siblings together at the school, regardless of whether the school is over the buffer or cap.

I already have a child enrolled as an out-of-area student in a NSW Government school. Can I enrol my other children at that school too?

This will depend on the cap set for the school:

- If the school is **not near its buffer**, then siblings should be able to be enrolled at the school. In fact, siblings of students currently enrolled will be prioritised, where possible, over other non-local enrolment applications.
- If the school is **nearing its buffer**, then the school will form a non-local enrolment panel. The panel considers non-local enrolment applications when the number of non-local applications received exceeds the number of places available below the buffer. Again, in this instance, siblings of students currently enrolled will be prioritised, where possible, over other non-local enrolment applications.
- If the school is **over its buffer**, it will not accept non-local enrolment applications unless there are exceptional circumstances.

What is the criteria for enrolment in a school that is not my local school?

Schools that are able to accept non-local enrolment applications establish a non-local enrolment selection panel, if demand exceeds the number of places below the school's buffer.

Schools are required to make the selection criteria available to the school community.

My circumstances are challenging and I think this school is best for my child. We live outside the school's intake area. What should I do?

We understand that not everyone's circumstances are the same, and that there are instances where exceptional and compelling circumstances will need to be considered.

If this is the case, you should talk to the principal of your local school.

Contact

For general enquiries contact: 1300 679 332

For enrolment enquiries, speak to your local school. Find school contact details at:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/going-to-a-public-school/finding-a-public-school>

2022 Kindergarten Students

Miss Webster has been having a wonderful time meeting our Kindergarten students for 2022.

If you are intending to send your child to Kindergarten next year and have not yet contacted our office, please do so now.

If you know someone who is intending to send their child to our school next year, could you please let them know that they need to contact our school office now.

Contact us on 9832 1488.

Minchinbury Public School Pride Moments

Recycling Program

If you have Return and Earn recycling at home, please feel free to send it to school with your child. Your child can then just pop that recycling in one of the purple bins around the school.

And, yes...we are accepting beer bottles and other glass bottles.

And, no...we will not think that your children are drinking alcohol! 😊

Below are images of our SRC brainstorming ideas and mobilising to make life better at our school.



MPS Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) Focuses

Term 4 2021

Week	PBL Focus
6	Wearing a School Hat to Play
7	Wearing a School Hat to Play
8	Following Teacher Instructions Immediately
9	Following Teacher Instructions Immediately
10	Speaking Politely
11	Speaking Politely

Primary School Ethics

Want to do something life-changing in 2022? Why not volunteer at Minchinbury as an ethics teacher!

Ethics classes can only be offered as an alternative if we have volunteer teachers. Volunteers can come from our parents, grandparents, friends and local community, from every walk of life. Primary Ethics offers full, free training, lesson scripts and teaching support.

Ethics encourages children to listen closely and to develop their opinions through ethical reasoning. Ethics helps kids develop confidence and empathy. As an ethics teacher, you'll get a lot out of it too!

If you have an hour a week and want to ensure children at our school can access this valuable program, go to:

<https://primaryethics.com.au/volunteer/ethics-teacher/>



Volunteer as an ethics teacher in 2022!

"I love observing the kids develop their thinking skills before my eyes"

Primary ETHICS

www.primaryethics.com.au/volunteer

MPS Notifications

MPS School Gates

Our school gates will be closed during the day for the safety of our students.

Back gate: Open at 8.20am. Closed and locked at 9.15am.
Opened at 2.45pm.

Front gate: Open at 8.15am. Closed and locked at 9.20am.
Opened at 2.45pm.

Please note that the car park is only to be used by staff members. Families dropping their children at school are not to do so in the staff car park. This is for Work Health and Safety reasons.

Please do not walk with your child/children through the staff car park.

No parents/carers are currently permitted on the school site.

NOTES HOME

Date	Grade	Title of note
28 October 2021	All Students	2021 The Partners in Learning Parent Feedback Survey
28 October 2021	Year 1 turning 8 in 2022 Year 2 to Year 5	2022 Swimming Carnival
2 November 2021	Year 6	2021 Year 6 End of Year Events
4 November	All Students	Preparations for 2022
5 November 2021	Year 5	2022 Year 6 Shirt

Notes sent home will have a deadline for payments and for notes to be returned to the school. No payments or notes will be accepted after the deadline has passed. If you will not be able to meet the deadline and wish your child to be involved in the 'note activity' you must contact the office **BEFORE** the deadline has passed.

Road Safety – Bus Stop and Stopping Zones

Please pay attention to the road rules and signs outside of our school gates.

There is an area at the front of the school for families to drop students off.

Please do not drop students off next to the grey metal fence. This is not safe. Drive further up the road so that when students open the door they are able to step straight on the footpath rather than be on the road.

There is a bus stop across the road from the front gate. Please do not park in the bus stop.