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PARENT HANDBOOK

2024



Parent Handbook 2024



Principal	Mr Tom Black
Address	266 Kitchener Road, Stafford Heights, Q 4035
Telephone Number	(07) 3624 2222
Enquiries Email Address	admin@somersetillsss.eq.edu.au
School Website	www.somersetillsss.eq.edu.au
Office Hours	8:00AM – 3:00PM Monday - Friday

Welcome to Somerset Hills State School

Welcome to Somerset Hills State School where every child is encouraged to reach for the stars.

We pride ourselves on creating a safe and supportive learning environment that supports our learners to be confident, creative and critical thinkers. There is a strong sense of belonging in our exceptional community with staff, parents and the broader community working in partnership to shape our future leaders and changemakers.

Learning and wellbeing is our core business. Our dedicated staff are committed to improving learning outcomes for all students. We establish high expectations and practice unconditional positive regard for each individual. We understand that for learning to happen, a relationship built on trust, respect and belief in each student is essential.

This handbook has been designed to support your transition into our community, covering all the essential information to set your child up for success. As always, if you have any questions please contact your class teacher, administration or myself.



Tom Black
Principal

OUR PURPOSE

A united community that strives to create a safe and supportive environment where students experience a sense of belonging and achieve success. Together, we foster a love of learning and encourage our future leaders and changemakers to reach for the stars and build a bright future.

OUR VISION

At Somerset Hills State School, we are committed to delivering our purpose through:

- Innovative and inclusive teaching practices that cater for each individual
- A positive culture for learning where relationships between staff, students, parents and community are integral to every child realising their potential
- Curriculum and wellbeing programs that facilitate the development of self-awareness, effective communication, collaboration, resilience, complex thinking skills and citizenship
- A belief that for every year of schooling, each child achieves a year of growth, regardless of their starting point.

OUR VALUES

Respect

For self, others and our environment

Connect

A culture of community and belonging

Grow

In character, skill and knowledge

SCHOOL TIMETABLE

SCHOOL WEEK - MONDAY to FRIDAY	
SCHOOL DAY COMMENCES	8:15 am
CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION COMMENCES	8:25 am
FIRST BREAK FOR ALL CLASSES	10:30 am – 11:10 am
SECOND BREAK FOR ALL CLASSES	1:00 pm – 1:30 pm
SCHOOL DAY CONCLUDES	2:30 pm

CURRICULUM

At Somerset Hills State School, we plan, teach, assess and report on the Australian Curriculum from Prep – Year 6. Students are immersed in the learning areas of:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities and Social Science
- Health and Physical Education
- The Arts
- Technologies
- Languages (Auslan)

Students attend weekly lessons with specialist teachers for Physical Education, The Arts, Technologies and Languages (Auslan).

SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING

To develop the social and personal capability of every student we teach the wellbeing program, You Can Do It! Aligned to the Australian Curriculum, this evidence-based program focuses on teaching children five keys to success – confidence, persistence, organisation, getting along and resilience.

Each week students participate in a fifty-minute lesson that explores these keys to success and provide strategies for them to apply and practice in their life.

For more information go to: <https://youcandoiteducation.com.au/>

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR AND OUR STAR EXPECTATIONS

To ensure all students are successful we explicit teach, practice and recognise our school wide behaviour expectations. They are:

We are SAFE

We are a TEAM

We are ACCOUNTABLE

We are RESILIENT

We are STARS!



Each of these behaviour expectations are taught in alignment with our social-emotional learning program and clearly deconstructed in our behaviour matrix, located in our school Code of Conduct.

MULTI-TIERED SYSTEM OF SUPPORT

At our school, we are committed to ensuring the success and well-being of every student. Our multi-tiered system of support is designed to address the diverse needs of our students. We provide three levels of support: differentiated and explicit teaching, focused intervention and intensive, specialised teaching and support. Our dedicated Student Support Team, which includes our Principal, Head of Inclusion, Guidance Officer and Social Worker, work collaboratively with the Classroom Teacher to provide targeted programs that cater to each student's individual needs and goals. The Somerset Hills multi-tiered system of support promotes academic achievement, engagement

and overall well-being. We are dedicated to fostering a supportive and inclusive learning environment, where every student has the opportunity to thrive and reach for the stars.

ZONES OF REGULATION

Somerset Hills State School implements 'The Zones of Regulation' from Prep to Year 6.

The Zones of Regulation® is a framework and easy-to-use curriculum for teaching students strategies for emotional and sensory self-management.

Embedded in cognitive behavioural therapy, The Zones approach uses four colours to help students identify how they are feeling in the moment given their emotions and level of alertness. By understanding how to notice their body's signals, detect triggers, read social context and consider how their behaviour impacts on those around them, students learn improved emotional control, sensory regulation, self-awareness, and problem-solving abilities.

Concepts from the Social Thinking Methodology are incorporated throughout the curriculum to help students develop awareness of how their behaviour impacts the thoughts and feelings of others. By integrating Social Thinking concepts, lessons on self-regulation become more meaningful to the students' lives as they gain a deeper understanding of the impact their behaviour has on their relationships.

Using this cognitive behavioural approach, students are frequently engaged in modelled lessons and reflection time to assist them in recognising and regulating the range of zones. The four zones are represented by different colours:

The **Red Zone** is used to describe extremely heightened states of alertness and intense emotions. A person may be elated, euphoric, or experiencing anger, rage, explosive behavior, devastation, or terror when in the Red Zone.

The **Yellow Zone** is also used to describe a heightened state of alertness and elevated emotions, however individuals have more control when they are in the Yellow Zone. A person may be experiencing stress, frustration, anxiety, excitement, silliness, the wiggles, or nervousness when in the Yellow Zone.

The **Green Zone** is used to describe a calm state of alertness. A person may be described as happy, focused, content, or ready to learn when in the Green Zone. **This is the zone where optimal learning occurs.**

The **Blue Zone** is used to describe low states of alertness and down feelings such as when one feels sad, tired, sick, or bored.

All of the zones are natural to experience, however the framework focuses on teaching students how to recognise and manage their zone based on the demands of their environment and the people around them.

ARTS EXTRACURRICULAR

Somerset Hills State School celebrates and promotes The Arts not just through classroom instruction but also: -

- School Choir
- Weekly Instrumental Music lessons
- Somerset Hills Has Got Talent (Term 4)

ENROLMENT INFORMATION

Somerset Hills SS has an Enrolment Management Plan. Any student whose principal place of residence is within the school's catchment area(s) is (subject to the Act) entitled to enrol at the school. The school Principal will reserve places for students who move into the catchment area throughout the school year.

Parents or legal guardians who wish to enrol their child at the school will need to demonstrate that the student's principal place of residence is within the catchment area. Current proof of residency at the address indicated can be provided by way of one of each of the following:

- One primary source—a current rental/lease agreement, or rates notice, or unconditional contract of sale
- One secondary source—a utility bill (e.g. electricity, gas) showing this same address and parent's/legal guardian's name.

As outlined in the Department of Education's enrolment procedure, parents or carers will be required to bring either a **Birth Certificate (original) or Passport (with Visa for International students)**. This evidence must be presented with the Enrolment Form.

Copies of documents relating to parenting orders (residency and contact orders) should be made available to the school as soon as they are issued by the Family Court / Government Department.

Furthermore, if your child has any medical conditions, health plans or advice from therapists, these documents should be made available at enrolment.

PREP ENROLMENT YEAR

Children turning 5 years between 1st July 2023 and 30th June 2024 are eligible to be enrolled in the Preparatory Year in 2024.

BIRTH DATE	2024	2025	2026	2027
Child born 1 July 18 to 30 June 19	Prep	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3
Child born 1 July 19 to 30 June 20		Prep	Yr 1	Yr 2
Child born 1 July 20 to 30 June 21			Prep	Yr 1

ADMISSION TO ALL YEAR LEVELS

Admission of all students (every year level) will be after an initial interview with the Principal and parents or carers has taken place.

SCHOOL DRESS CODE POLICY

Somerset Hills State School students take great pride in their appearance and how this impacts the overall culture and tone of their school community. Students are taught to recognise their attention to uniform standard impacts how they represent themselves and their school.

As such, it is part of our school expectations, endorsed by the Somerset Hills State School P&C that students, supported by their families, adhere to the school uniform policy.

Clothing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Somerset Hills State School polo shirt - Somerset Hills State School dress - Somerset Hills shorts (or plain blue school shorts) - Somerset Hills skort
Winter Clothing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plain blue jumper or jacket (no hoodies) - Plain blue tracksuit pants
House Clothing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Amaroo, Goorari or Patonga shirt - School shorts or skort - House coloured hair accessories - Worn on HPE days and sports carnival days ONLY
Sun safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Somerset Hills State School broad-brimmed hat. Caps are not allowed. - See our <i>Sun Safety policy</i> for further details
Jewellery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Watch (smart watches are not allowed) - Small studs or sleepers in ear lobe only - One necklace for religious, cultural or medical reasons only - Bracelets and other jewellery for medical reasons only - No rings
Hair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tied back at all times if hair is longer than collar length - Hair to be 'natural' colour - Hair style should be neat and tidy or as deemed appropriate by the Principal - Small neutral or Somerset Hills State School coloured hair accessories e.g., blue or yellow hair clips and bows
Footwear	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Closed-in black shoes/joggers – lace up or Velcro - Plain white or black ankle/crew socks - Footwear may be removed in classrooms (at discretion of the teacher) and to access areas of playground equipment surrounded by sand
Free Dress Days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dress must be sun smart at all times - No inappropriate logos, slogans or wording - Clothes are to have similar shape and design as school uniform - Fully enclosed footwear

FOOD / DIET

We encourage all parents / caregivers to support our school's healthy eating philosophy by sending appropriate food for lunch and afternoon tea. The Smart Choice program – "Healthy Food and Drink Supply Strategy for Qld Schools" informs decision making. More details can be obtained from their website:

<https://education.qld.gov.au/student/Documents/smart-choices-quick-guide.pdf>

Suggestions:

First Break - Simple wholesome sandwiches, wraps and fruit.

Second Break - Fruit, Cheese, Cracker Biscuits, Yoghurt, Muesli Bars.

HOMEWORK

All Queensland state schools have a homework policy. The Somerset Hills community acknowledges the importance of allowing sufficient time for daily family, recreation, community and cultural activities.

At Somerset Hills we provide homework recommendations to support the foundational skills that require repeated practice.

- Our collective aim is to promote a love of **reading**. Each week students will be provided with the opportunity to borrow at least one book. Each year level will have a recommendation on how you can assist in supporting this aim.
- **Mastery of basic number facts**. As adults, we use mental computation (calculating answers without calculators) more than 75% of the time when we encounter numerical problems. Our goal is for students to become confident and efficient in their use of mental and written computation methods. Each week students will be provided homework to build mastery.
- Each term teachers provide families with a **curriculum overview**. We recommend that you join your child on this journey and create opportunities to explore topics at home. Home learning experiences could be a discussion at the dinner table or a family excursion on the weekend.

Homework is provided weekly and should take no more than 15 – 20 minutes per day and will be varied and differentiated to individual learning needs.

INCLUSION

At Somerset Hills State School *Inclusive Education* means that all students can access and fully participate in learning, alongside their similar-aged peers, supported by reasonable adjustments and teaching strategies tailored to meet their individual needs.

Inclusion is embedded in all aspects of school life, and is supported by culture, policies, and everyday practices.

Inclusive education differs from the following approaches and practices in significant ways:

- Integration — students are placed in schools or educational settings with their similar-aged peers, but adjustments are not made to meet their individual needs. This limits their ability to fully access or participate in learning. Integration is not inclusion.
- Segregation — students learn in separate environments, designed, or used to respond to their needs or impairment, in isolation from other students.
- Exclusion — students are unable to access any form of education.

At Somerset Hills we have high expectations of **all students**, recognising that, with the right support, **all students can succeed**. Every member of our school community, including teachers, support staff, volunteers, families, and students, works collaboratively to ensure ALL students can access and participate in all aspects of school life. Curriculum is provided to all students in ways that are age appropriate and responsive to diverse learning needs. Our commitment means that ALL students from all social, cultural, community and family backgrounds, and of all identities and all abilities can:

- access and participate in a high-quality education and fully engage in the curriculum alongside their similar-aged peers
- learn in a safe and supportive environment, free from bullying, discrimination, or harassment
- achieve academically and socially with reasonable adjustments and supports tailored to meet their learning needs (A 'reasonable adjustment' is a measure or action taken to assist a student with disability to participate in education on the same basis as other students. An adjustment is reasonable if it achieves this purpose while considering the student's learning needs and balancing the interests of all parties affected, including those of the student with disability, the education provider, staff, and other students)

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM

An Instrumental Music Instructor visits our school each week and provides free tuition to children wishing to learn Woodwind, Brass or Percussion instruments.

These instruments are provided by the school or families. Children from Year 4 upwards are eligible to be included in the program. Auditions are carried out the year prior to joining. The program operates on a contribution scheme to help cover expenses.

This is an annual levy of \$120. Children who are part of the program are expected to participate fully over the course of their program involvement. There is a commitment to regular practice, attending lessons / performances, proper care of instruments and purchasing performance uniforms.

LIBRARY

Somerset Hills State School is very proud of its library. We encourage its use and ask that the library procedures be adhered to when using or borrowing. Students are encouraged to use a library bag for borrowing purposes.

The Library is available during lunch break and each week the classes visit the library to borrow.

Students are to bring their library items back on time so that other students can access them. Any lost, misplaced or damaged items are to be fully replaced or paid for by parents or caregivers.

DIGITAL LEARNING

Somerset Hills State School is committed to the authentic integration of Information Technologies throughout curriculum delivery. As digital natives, our current and future learners, must harness the power of working with technology and the classroom is the best place to model this process.

From Year 1 – 4 we are launching a 1:1 program in 2024 where every student will have an iPad that is used daily to support the teaching and learning process. Our Year 5-6 students use laptops and our Preps have access to a shared bank of iPads.

An agreement is sent home each year that includes a consent form outlining how student data is used and stored on the various learning applications we use in the classroom.

HOUSE SYSTEM

Our school has three houses: AMAROO, GOORARI and PATONGA for Inter-House Athletics and other sporting and cultural activities held during the year. Students are allocated to a particular house on enrolment and remain permanently in that house. Children in the same family are allocated to the same house.

HOUSE COLOURS ARE:

AMAROO - RED

GOORARI - YELLOW

PATONGA – GREEN

Upper primary year levels participate in intra-school sports on Friday afternoons at various times throughout the year. The sports played are seasonal but may include: Volleyball, Touch Football, Soccer, Tee-ball and Modified Cricket. Children have the opportunity to trial for selection in school sport leading to district, regional, state team selection.

SWIMMING, SPORTS, EXCURSIONS

At varying times classes leave the school grounds to attend performances and visit places of interest. Notes are sent home detailing these activities at the appropriate time.

All children are expected to participate in Swimming and Physical Education lessons unless they provide a note from a parent / caregiver excusing them.

SWIMMING

Children will require swimwear, towel, bathing cap and waterproof carry bag (**all clearly named**) to attend swimming lessons. Goggles are optional. For sunsafe practices, swimwear (togs) should minimize exposure to the effects of the sun. All students are required to wear a sunsafe shirt and bathing cap during swimming lessons.

Children suffering from any type of infection, sores, skin complaints or wearing bandaids will be excluded from swimming. No jewellery or hair clips / ties to be worn in the water during swimming lessons.

We greatly appreciate the commitment of our parent volunteers particularly during terms 1 and 4 swimming lessons. We respectfully request that parents model appropriate sunsmart swimming attire and are fully dressed after leaving the pool precinct.

SENDING MONEY

Please ensure you label your envelope with name, class and reason money is being forwarded together with your completed permission form. EFTPOS and credit card facilities are available at the school office only or our **preferred payment** is online via **BPoint**.

OTHER EXPENSES

Other activities occur occasionally throughout the year and involve additional expenses for parents or caregivers and may include:-

- Arts Performances (usually 1- 2 performances per year)
- School Photographs
- Sport activities
- Class Excursions arranged by the class teachers
- Special exhibitions or show performances
- Extra-curricula activities
- End of Year activity
- School Camp (Years 5 & 6)

BOOK CLUB

Approximately twice each term, Scholastic Pty Ltd, forward to our school, pamphlets for distribution to students. In these pamphlets are listed many popular and recent publications, and they are organized according to age and interest levels of students (different pamphlets for different age levels). These books are usually reasonably priced as well. It is considered worthwhile to distribute these regularly, thus giving everyone the opportunity to order books if they choose. Participation in Book Club is optional.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE

Before and After School Care is provided on the school premises by Team Kids.

Hours of operation are from 6:30am – 8:15am and 2:30pm - 6pm daily. Vacation care is also available. For enquiries please Phone: 1300 035 000.

SCHOOL RECORDS

Please notify the school office immediately of any contact information change. This ensures that we have up-to-date and accurate details should an emergency arise. The prompt provision of this information avoids distress for your child.

ATTENDANCE

All students deserve a year's worth of learning and instruction.

Regular and punctual attendance at school is a legal requirement. Any student absence from school or late to arrive must be explained by a parent with a '**reasonable explanation**' in the form of a short note, telephone call, email or personal contact. If a child has to leave the school before the end of the school day, a written note or conversation explaining the circumstances is necessary.

All absences without valid reason will result in a text message or phone call requesting an explanation of such absence. No response or further unexplained absences will result in formalised action. Those children who do not attend regularly are placed at a disadvantage throughout their school career.

Early departure and late arrivals are documented in the school Administration. Parents must complete this process before removing students from campus before 2:30pm or escorting them to class after the 8:25am school start.

TRAFFIC, PARKING AND SAFETY RULES

- Observe 40kph speed zones before and after drop off or pick up.
(7:00am to 9:00am and 2:00pm to 4pm)
- **The staff car park outside administration and the library is for staff only.** Parents are not to use this car park for OSHC drop off or collection.
- Our school utilises a **DROP OFF / PICK UP ZONE in the BCC car park.** This area is signified by clear signage and road that runs along the perimeter of the car park.
- **You are required to stay in your car, unless you are helping your child load or unload school bags. At no time are you to leave your car parked in this area during these times.**
- If you use drop off zones, please educate your children to wait in an area so that they can see you pull up, to enable car movement to occur smoothly during peak times. At pick up, students will remain inside the school gates until the staff on duty advise them it is safe to proceed to the car.
- The school provides Teacher Aide supervision at the Drop Off/Pick Up Zone until 2:50PM.
- Parking outside this marked area is permitted any time of day. If you have an appointment or wish to accompany your child into the school grounds, please use one of the many parking spots in the BCC carpark.

FOR OUR CHILDREN'S SAFETY WE EXPECT ALL DRIVERS TO ADHERE TO THESE TRAFFIC RULES.

BICYCLES & SCOOTERS

Bicycles and scooters must be housed and locked at the bike racks down the lower school entry. Students are responsible for their own locking device. Bicycle helmets must be worn at all times.

COMMUNICATION - STAYING INFORMED – A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN SCHOOL AND HOME

Somerset Hills State School recognises the partnership between home and school as critical to both parent and student confidence in understanding and connectedness to our school. The administration and teaching staff welcome and encourage open communication.

As such, quality communication is essential. The school offers multiple communication strategies:

- School website
- Fortnightly newsletters (electronic)
- Community notifications via email
- Class communication via the Parent Representative Scheme
- Term newsletters and timetable for each class that also includes curriculum and assessment focus, key dates and classroom expectations
- Parent Teacher interviews Terms 1 and 3
- Formalised reports emailed Semester 1 and 2
- Opportunities to email/arrange appointments with class teachers

SHARING CONCERNS AND COMPLAINT MANAGEMENT:

From time to time you may find a need to query a certain aspect of school. Your child's teacher is the first point of contact. To allow the appropriate time for your concerns to be given consideration, an appointment is necessary. If further consultation is required, a meeting with a member of Administration will be made available.

NEWSLETTER:

Our school newsletter is published every fortnight (Friday), and it is through this publication that the parents or caregivers and the local community are kept informed about the latest happenings at the school, the Parents and Citizens' Association activities, and what is happening in our community.

This publication is sent electronically and is also online at: <https://www.somersethillsss.eq.edu.au> You can ask the office to add you to our email link by contacting admin@somersethillsss.eq.edu.au

As the need arises, additional school notices are forwarded home. These relate to school matters only, and are not for public distribution. It is essential that you take the time to read the newsletter thoroughly. Your child's education is enhanced through your efforts to keep yourself informed. The newsletter is available for community notices. All notices need to be handed into the school office the day before publication.

ASSEMBLY:

A whole School Assembly is held fortnightly (even weeks), on Monday afternoon at 2:00pm in our Hall and all members of the school community are welcome to attend.

CLASS HELPERS – VOLUNTARY WORKERS:

Many teachers encourage and appreciate parents/carers assisting with planned program of instruction. If you would be interested in helping in this way, please speak to your child's teacher. The decision to have parent

volunteers rests with the individual teacher. Having extra adults in the school enriches the students' lives. Before assisting in the classroom, a Parent Volunteer Handbook is required to be collected from the office and our Volunteer Agreement forms need to be signed and returned.

The Volunteer Handbook outlines the expectations and responsibilities of all adults working within our school. The Code of Conduct applies to all volunteers. Volunteers, other than parents or carers of a child currently enrolled, must hold a current **Working with Children Check Suitability Card** sighted by the office.

All volunteers are requested to report to the office, sign in and out, and collect an identification badge. Students know to look for these badges as a symbol to authorize unfamiliar personnel within the school.

PARENTS / CAREGIVERS IN THE PLAYGROUND:

Parents / caregivers are always welcome in our school and invited to join activities. However, under no circumstances, should parents / caregivers approach children, other than their own, in the playground. If a dangerous or unacceptable situation is observed, parents should bring this promptly to the attention of the nearest staff member or to the office. Your co-operation with this will make our school a safe, calm and supportive learning environment.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

If your child should become sick, the Administration staff will notify you. If this fails, we will notify a nominated emergency contact person to collect the child.

If your child develops symptoms such as spots, rashes, a temperature, a headache, diarrhoea, vomiting, conjunctivitis, severe coughing or sore throat, you will be advised immediately. We will also contact you if the student has had any injuries above the shoulders.

In case of minor illnesses, please use discretion when deciding whether or not to send your child. A child who is unwell will not enjoy or benefit from school and may spread the illness to others.

Playgrounds are to be used only during school hours when under teacher supervision. Before and after school use of playgrounds is not permitted.

ACCIDENT POLICY: During the school day your child will be under the supervision of the teachers but accidents still may happen. The procedure we follow is that if possible, the parent or caregiver is immediately notified so that a course of action can be determined. Parents/caregivers will always be notified if there is an injury above the shoulder/head area. If injuries appear too severe to allow this procedure, an ambulance will be called and the child will be taken to hospital. A staff member will accompany the child until a parent arrives at hospital.

HEAD LICE:

Headlice infestation is prevalent throughout Queensland at times. We have a joint responsibility to inform each other should headlice be detected. Treatment advice is provided to our families upon request.

IMMUNISATION:

We recommend that all children receive the full range of immunisation against the usual variety of childhood diseases. The only exception to this may be children who have an adverse reaction to immunisation. Full details of immunisation programs are available through the Brisbane City Council Health Department or Family Doctor.

MEDICATIONS:

For medication to be administered at school or during school-related activities, there must be medical authorisation for the student to have that medication, and the medication must be in its original container with intact packaging.

Examples of medical authorisation include:

- ✚ a pharmacy label with both the student's and doctor's name on it;

- † a signed letter from a doctor;
- † a medication order from a dentist;
- † an Action Plan signed by a doctor or nurse practitioner

A consent to administer medication form is to be completed in the office by the parent or carer.

Non-prescribed medication such as analgesics and cough mixtures are not to be brought to school and will not be administered by school staff.

NO SMOKING

For the health and safety of school community members, Government policy excludes smoking within Government facilities such as school buildings and grounds and within 5 metres of the school boundary.

FIRE and CRITICAL INCIDENT DRILLS:

Drills are carried out at least twice per semester to familiarise staff and students with procedures to be followed for evacuation and lockdown of the school premises.

CARE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY:

School equipment has been provided for the educational, recreational and social development of all the students attending Somerset Hills State School and must be handled with care at all times. Destruction of such property will not be tolerated and replacement / repair of any school item will be the responsibility of the student and the student's parents or caregivers.

VALUABLES AT SCHOOL:

We actively discourage children from bringing valuables to school. Children should not bring any more money than is necessary.

JEWELLERY:

For various reasons, including safety, the only jewellery a child is permitted to wear is a watch, studs or sleepers by a student with pierced ears and a bracelet or medallion on a chain bearing medical information. No other jewellery will be allowed.

FORBIDDEN ARTICLES:

Water pistols, guns and caps, matches, pocket knives, chains, chewing gum and other objects staff consider dangerous, will be temporarily removed by any staff member as per the Student Code of Conduct.

MOBILE PHONES:

Mobile phones and all electronic devices (labelled with your child's name) are to be brought to the school office prior to the commencement of the school day and collected at the conclusion of the school day.

LOST PROPERTY:

Please label your child's clothing, books etc. clearly with the child's name. This applies to such items as school bag, hat, jumper, raincoat, shoes and lunchboxes. Lost property is located outside the reading room and if your child loses something, do follow this up by checking the contents of this box. Any valuables and the like are kept inside the office. Any lost property left at the end of each term is returned to any labelled owners or the uniform shop for recycling or given to a local charity.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES:

If your child contracts an infectious disease e.g. chickenpox, measles or school sores please contact the school immediately. In certain cases children will be required to be kept at home until the disease is no longer infectious. You will be informed of the period of exclusion when you contact the school.

An exclusion table is attached and more information can be obtained from the school. Your local doctor also can provide this advice.

Further information regarding Time Out / Exclusion period for infectious diseases for Schools is available at the Queensland Health Departments Website at <http://www.health.qld.gov.au>

BOOK LISTS

Students from Prep to 6 will receive in November the following year's class book list. Parents / carers have the following three (3) options to arrange their students 2024 Booklists:-

- purchase a complete book pack from the 2024 book supplier – Bedrock Books.
- purchase all items themselves
- purchase some items from the book supplier and some items themselves.

You will have only one opportunity to purchase book packs from the book supplier. These packs will be ordered in December and delivered to parent's homes prior to the commencement of the school year. Payment is to be made to book supplier directly with orders.

SOMERSET HILLS STATE SCHOOL

PARENTS AND CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION

The P & C Association of your school meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.
You are cordially invited to attend all meetings,
which start at 6:00pm and are held in the Library.

By attending these meetings, you will become more acquainted with the working of your school and be given the opportunity also to put forward ideas that will promote the interests of the children attending the school.

Somerset Hills State School is a proud school community that shares a commitment to ensuring our students access a broad range of educational and extra-curricular activities in a learning facility that matches the quality of the educational programs delivered and encourages a sense of pride in the students. The Somerset Hills State School P&C's partnership with the school is critical to ensuring these goals are attained.

The SHSS P&C also coordinates the school's Uniform Shop and Tuckshop. These endeavours add to our students' school experience and are a convenient service to our school community.

Our School P&C is reliant on our parent and caregiver community. There are many opportunities to volunteer within the P&C and support fundraising efforts. It is also an avenue to extend and strengthen relationships within our very special school community. We would love your help!

If you would like to know more about the P&C fundraising activities, or you would like to get involved, contact the P&C at shsspandc@hotmail.com or attend our next meeting on the second Tuesday of the month, at 6pm.

UNIFORM SHOP

OPEN DURING THE SCHOOL TERM

WEDNESDAY 8:30am – 9:00am

Uniform shop accepts cash and all major credit cards.

Alternatively, uniforms can be ordered any time via QuickCliq and collected from the school office once payment is confirmed. Online ordering is available at www.quickcliq.com.au

TUCKSHOP

The school tuckshop is available on **Wednesdays and Fridays**. The preferred method for tuckshop orders is through the QuickCliq app. The tuckshop accepts cash or card orders before 8:30AM on

SOMERSET SEALS SWIMMING CLUB

Somerset Hills SS Amateur Swimming Club offer:

- Heated pool
- Experienced and quality coaching
- Competitive rates\
- Learning to swim class
- Swimming for fitness
- Friday night club meets
- Kids from any school are welcome