How Parents Can Help

The home and family environment plays an integral role in a child’s education. As parents, it is often worthwhile for us to consider the following:

- Do we take every opportunity to talk with our children, explain things and develop their understanding?
- Do we regularly listen to our children read?
- Do we ensure that our children have suitable material for reading?
- Do we take an active interest in our children’s school work both by talking with our children and by keeping in contact with the teacher?
- Do we limit and select television viewing?
- Have I discussed my child’s needs with staff at the school?

Afterlee Public School’s ongoing success is dependent on open and productive relationships between its staff and the community.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school to discuss your child’s educational needs, or any concerns you may have.

Phone: 66333163
**Values and Beliefs**

**Children:**

Each child is valued as an individual.

Every child will have opportunities to:

- develop as an individual;
- experience success;
- develop appropriate skills;
- develop social responsibilities;
- cope with their futures in a changing world.

**Parents:**

Parents are crucial in the provision of quality, holistic education.

They:

- participate in decision making in school;
- understand and support the school’s aims and programs;
- are involved in school activities;
- receive regular feedback from teachers on their child’s progress.

**Teachers and Staff**

Teachers are professionally trained educators.

Every staff member:

- participates in school decision making;
- pursues personal professional development;
- behaves in an appropriate and professional manner;
- accesses the necessary human and physical resources.

**Community**

Our school is a vital part of our community:

We ensure that:

- we fully utilise community resources – both physical and human;
- the community can access our resources;
- we respond to community needs in education of young people;
- the community values our efforts and makes a positive contribution to the work of the school.

**Health**

Parents are requested to inform the class teacher of any health problems, e.g. hearing, vision, asthma, etc. Staff must be informed of allergies and special dietary requirements. The following is a guideline for contagious diseases:

### Illness

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Illness</th>
<th>Exclusion Period from School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chicken Pox</td>
<td>7 days after first spots.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German Measles (Rubella)</td>
<td>4 days from appearance of rash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impetigo (School Sores)</td>
<td>If sores are exposed. (Covered sores are acceptable)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measles</td>
<td>4 days from appearance of rash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mumps</td>
<td>9 days from onset of swelling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whooping Cough</td>
<td>Exclude for 14 days from onset of illness or until 5 day of a 14 day course of antibiotics have been completed.</td>
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</tbody>
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**Other Illness:**

Please consider the welfare of all pupils and if in any doubt consult a doctor or hospital.

**Curriculum**

Lessons are provided in the six Key Learning Areas:

* English
* Maths
* Science and Technology
* Human Society and its Environment (HSIE)
* Creative and Practical Arts (CAPA)
* Personal Development/Health/PE (Physical Education)

Other curriculum areas integrated with these include:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures
- Asia and Australia’s engagement with Asia
- Sustainability
- Critical and creative Thinking
- Ethical Understanding
- Information and communication technology capabilities
- Intercultural understanding
- Personal and social capabilities
School Uniform

Rationale:
Wearing the school uniform enhances the school’s image and fosters a sense of pride and belonging. Staff and P&C endorse the wearing of uniform.

Items for Summer:
- Unisex Shorts Royal Blue
- Red or Blue Unisex Polo Shirt in with school emblem
- Royal Blue skirt

Items for Winter
- Fleecy track pants in royal blue
  - Rugby Knit pants
  - With polo shirts
- Unisex – Zip jacket with school emblem

Suitable covered shoes are to be worn.

School polo shirts can be purchased from the school for $15 each
Jackets can be also purchased for $30.

The school has a “no hat play in the shade” policy
A sun sensible hat is required for every student

School Statement

Afterlee Public School is committed to fostering the development of students expressively, intellectually, socially, emotionally and physically.

School Goals

- To develop a pleasant environment in which learning may take place and which will promote the physical and emotional well-being of the child.
- To encourage children to respect the thoughts, feelings, customs and individual differences of all people including those of other cultures.
- To foster self-discipline, honesty and responsibility.
- To develop co-operative attitudes, willingness and courtesy.
- To allow each child to develop to their potential while encouraging a feeling of pride in their achievements.
- To prepare children for life in a changing society.
- To promote partnership within the school community.
- To promote the development of initiative, imagination and creativity.
- To allow flexible timetabling to enable learning to take place.
Information Guide

Kindergarten Enrolment

Children may enrol in Kindergarten if they have turned 5 years of age by the end of July. Proof of age and address is required on enrolment with immunisation details if applicable. A Kindergarten Orientation Program will run one day per week for prospective enrolments during Term 4 of the preceding year.

Attendance

Parents have a legal responsibility to ensure the regular school attendance of their children aged between 6 and 17 years. Parents/ Guardians should send a note, phone the school, or personally contact the school to explain the reason for any absence.

Illness or Accident

In the event of illness and/or accident to your child, we will try to contact you or other nominated persons. If medical help is urgently needed, the NSW Ambulance Service will be contacted immediately.

School Times

School begins at 8:45am and finishes at 2:45 pm. Recess is 10:30 to 11.00am and lunch is from 12:40pm to 1:30pm.

Pupil Supervision

Official supervision commences at 8.30am and concludes at 3.00pm. From time to time the school and community may organise activities outside the school hours. Parents/carers will be notified when special programs are running.

School Newsletter

A newsletter is published each week and is given to the eldest child in the family at school on Friday. This newsletter helps inform parents and interested community members of what is happening at the school. Students’ reports, student work samples and photographs are regularly showcased in the school newsletter.

School Website

The school’s website can be found at http://www.afterlee-p.schools.nsw.edu.au. Information on what is happening at the school, copies of newsletters and other useful information about the school can be found at this site.

Book Club

Book Club is offered once a month for children to order books for their personal home libraries.

Afterlee School Expectations

For a school to function effectively, some basic expectations of behaviour and effort must be made clear to students. Students are expected to:

- Respect themselves, others and the environment
- Behave responsibly
- Value effort and learning

*Day to day rules will be discussed and reviewed regularly by staff, students and parents.*

School Lunches

Lunchboxes are required for Recess and Lunch. Afterlee encourages healthy eating. This would be food that provides sustenance (green) food with the understanding that treat (red) food such as soft drink and lollies are to remain at home as they are considered unhealthy eating. Further information on red/green and yellow foods may be found on NSW Department of Health website.
Reporting to Parents

Pupil Assessment

Pupils are assessed throughout the year through a combination of assessment tasks, work samples, homework/projects, observations, checklists and student self-evaluation. Results are used for planning for the student and for reporting to parents and carers.

Formal Reporting

Parents are invited to attend parent – teacher – student conferences twice a year. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend as it provides the forum for the free-flow of information between home and school. A written report is produced at the end of each semester.

Informal Reporting

Parents are encouraged to contact the classroom teacher to organise a suitable time to discuss any concerns about their child. Similarly, teachers will contact parents to discuss concerns they may have regarding the child’s wellbeing or educational needs.

Contact Details

On enrolment, parents/carers will provide their contact details, and those of a close friend or relative. Please be sure to keep the school informed of changes to these details so our records remain up to date in case of emergency.

School Agencies

P&C Association

The P&C offers an opportunity to discuss school matters and provide a forum for parent communication. P&C plays a crucial role in short and long term planning at the school. It helps raise money to support the many and varied programs of the school. Meetings are held regularly at the school commencing at 3.00pm Fridays. Dates for meetings are published in the school newsletter. The P&C is always keen to welcome new members.

School Counsellor

A School Counsellor’s role is to assist teachers in meeting the needs of students. The counsellor conducts educational assessments, talks with children, liaises with outside support staff and agencies, and helps the school individualise programs when necessary. Referrals to the school counsellor can be made by staff and parents, or students may self-refer. Staff will obtain parent permission prior to counsellor intervention.

School Organisation

The COLOURSS Learning Community

Afterlee Public School is a member of The COLOURSS Learning Community. This group of six local small schools aims to work together to support students and staff in a range of areas. Students will participate in combined school activities such as excursions, enrichment days and inter-school visits. They receive the opportunity to work with a range of staff and students while at the same time maintaining Afterlee School’s unique identity.
Community Involvement
Community support and involvement is an integral contributor to the school’s ongoing success. Parents and members of the broader community are encouraged to contribute to the school. Examples of positive community involvement include:
- Regular input at P&C meetings
- Assistance in classrooms
- Sharing of special skills or interests with the children
- Helping on school excursions
- Assisting with school performances
- Regular contact with school staff

Excursions
Excursions are organised to supplement the students’ learning. Thus, they are an important component of the curriculum and there is the expectation that children will attend. Permission notes must be signed for all excursions outside Afterlee. Costs are kept to a minimum and the school and P&C regularly subsidise excursions. Parents who have difficulty making payments for excursions should contact the principal to confidentially discuss financial assistance. Parents may be asked to help with transport/supervision.

Video-Conferencing
The classroom houses video-conferencing facilities. Children will receive regular opportunities to link up with other schools and other sites. Parent/carer permission is required for children to participate.

Special Events
The school organises extra-curricular activities for the students that may include:
- Cultural performances – both here at school and at neighbouring schools
- Special activities like Celebrations and Science Days
- Special programs such as Life Skills, Yoga, Swimming, Roxy Gallery and so forth
- School performances including End of Year Concert and Cultural Day

Transferring Schools
If you need to transfer your child to another school, please notify the office so that a Transfer Certificate can be arranged.

Leaving School Grounds
Only students who have written/verbal permission may leave the school grounds during school times.

Homework
At the commencement of each year, parents are informed of homework expectations from each teacher. It is an important part of your child’s education and parents are asked to encourage their child to complete the set work. Sometimes students are unable to complete their homework. A brief explanatory note is appreciated.