

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to Glenwood Public School. At Glenwood we pride ourselves in the excellence of learning and ensure children work towards and achieve their potential. We have a strong emphasis on the development of the basics in reading, writing and mathematics while supporting and encouraging other areas, such as sporting skills and creative abilities. Glenwood staff and community pride ourselves on our supportive and caring atmosphere throughout the school. An atmosphere where children can grow in an environment conducive for learning.

Our reputation for providing the best possible education, which includes a wide range of activities ensures all students are engaged and motivated. Our school is the winner of numerous awards in educational initiatives. We have won local, national and international awards in technology. We have had teachers recognised for their personal excellence and contribution to education. Most importantly some past students have gone on to selective educational placements and post schooling, to successful careers.

Glenwood's proud history continues in the day to day interactions with children and in giving them the 'keys to success in life' through a strong and effective education.

I warmly welcome you again to our community's school.

Mrs Anne Webb

Principal



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# Section 1: Glenwood Public School

## **Our Statement of Purpose**

Glenwood Public School will provide quality educational experiences and opportunities for all students.

We aim to develop the individual talents, interests and abilities which will enable students to reach their full potential, with the capacity and confidence to succeed in the 21st Century.

## **A Brief History**

Glenwood Public School was opened in 1981. It is situated in Glenfield and has a number of new permanent classrooms. The school has an extensive library and a hall which can be used for school and community functions.

#### **Our School Education Director – Ingleburn SEG**

Mr Peter Phelps South Western Sydney Region - Glenfield Office PO Box 21 Glenfield 2167 Phone: 9203 9900

#### The Staff

#### The School Executive

Mrs Anne Webb	-	Principal
Miss Charmaine Harper	-	Assistant Principal
Ms Jenny McInerney	-	Assistant Principal
Mrs Katrina Searle	-	Assistant Principal

At the commencement of each school year a list of class teachers' names is published together with the class that they will be teaching.



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## **Support Personnel**

The school has a Learning Support Team (LST). This team consists of an English as a Second Language (ESL) Teacher, Learning and Support Teacher (LAST) and a Reading Recovery Teacher. These experienced teachers provide additional help to students requiring assistance with learning.

A School Counsellor service is available through the school 1 day per week. In general the service assists with identifying appropriate techniques in teaching students who have experienced learning difficulties or who need academic assessments to utilise various resources within the Department of Education or counselling.

A Teacher/ Librarian is employed for three days each week. This is for children to access literature for research or enjoyment.

Release from Face to Face (RFF) teaching is provided to all full time teachers for two hours release per week to allow them to plan lessons, conduct parent interviews and to prepare individual programs. RFF teachers continue to work on each class' learning program during this time.

#### School Administrative Support Staff

Mrs Romy Tasich Mrs Irene Eyles Mrs Julie Brengle Mr Ron Cox

- School Administrative Manager
- School Administrative Officer
- School Administrative Officer (Permanent Part-Time)
- General Assistant

#### Classes

Classes are formed at the beginning of the school year on a stage basis.

# **School Hours**

School commences School finishes Lunch eating time Lunch play time Recess (fruit break)

- 9.00 am3.00 pm
- 11.00am 11.10am
- 11.10am 11.50am
- 1.40pm 2.00pm

The students are supervised eating their lunch in class groups within their classrooms or under the COLA.





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#### The School Environment

The school is situated in Glenfield in the middle of an established residential area. The grounds are pleasant and there are two large grassed playing areas for the students. Security fencing surrounds the school supporting a safe learning environment.

Our classrooms contain the latest in technology and educational teaching aides. Every class has an interactive whiteboard. This is the latest in educational technology. All computers are connected to the internet ensuring that all children are connected to the world. Each classroom has a class bank of computers which have filtered internet access. All children are educated in a permanent classroom that is air conditioned to ensure an appropriate climate which is conducive to learning at all times.

The school hall provides a venue for assemblies, dance, drama and musical activities. Visiting performance groups use the hall to present items of educational value to the children. The hall is currently used by local groups, GKR Karate group, the YMCA for Before and After School Care and elections.

A covered outdoor learning area (COLA) was built by our school's P&C to cover the basketball court area adjacent to the hall. This is useful for providing children a place to play out of the sun and rain, along with another venue for assemblies and special events.

The Library is a focal point of the school, and is situated immediately in front of the Administration block. It is computerised and connected to the Internet. There is a small network of computers for students to enhance their research and technology skills. Associated with the library building is our school's computer lab and multimedia centre. This houses 30 desktop systems to provide for the tuition of technology. Features of this room include, projector, full internet access and a server for students to individually logon and retain their work.

#### Supervision

Supervision by staff is provided from 8.30 am each day. It is not safe for students to be on the premises before this time as they are not superivsed.

Before and After School Care is available for students who need to come to school earlier. Interested parents should contact the YMCA on 9618 3480 for more information or click the link from our school's website.

#### Late Arrivals

Any child who arrives at school after 9.00am must obtain a Late Pass from the school office before going to class. This is because class teachers would have already marked the student as absent on the class roll.

#### **Early Departure**

To ensure the safety of our children, if you wish to collect your child before the end of the school day you must obtain a Leave Pass from the school office before going to the classroom. The leave pass is then handed to the class teacher. A note must be provided to the class teacher if someone other than yourself is to pick up your child.

# Visiting the School

When visiting the school during school time you must report to the office and sign in the visitors book. You will be issued with a visitors lanyard to wear whilst in the school grounds and classrooms. Please return the lanyard to the office when leaving the school.

## **School Uniforms**

School policy, determined by the school community, is that the children should wear school uniforms. We are extremely proud of our students and our school. Wearing school uniform fosters pride in the school and assists in the development of good tone and conduct.

The P & C Uniform Committee currently operates a Uniform Shop. It is located next to the canteen in the same block as the school hall. It is open each Monday and Friday morning from 8.30am until 9.30am. It is run by volunteers from our P & C. Any profit from the Uniform Room returns to the P & C to assist with the future purchase of resources for our school.



In the interests of health, children are required to have a school hat when playing in the playground, at sport or on an excursion. Our school's policy is "No hat, play in the shade".

#### Labelling

You are asked to ensure that all school clothing is appropriately labelled so that lost items may be readily returned.



#### Interviews

You are always welcome to arrange an interview to discuss any aspect of your child's schooling. If you wish to have an interview please contact the office to arrange a time when the Principal and/or class teacher will be available. Interpreters can be provided. There are scheduled interviews at the end of Term 2 each year.

## **Home School Communication**

The school recognises that the education of our children is the shared responsibility of the home and the school.

We try to keep you as fully informed as possible on all matters relating to your child's education. Any concern felt by you should be discussed with the class teacher or the Principal as early as possible.

## **Student Welfare**

Student Welfare involves everything that the school community does to meet the personal, social and learning needs of our students. It is achieved through the total school curriculum and the way it is delivered. It incorporates effective discipline and preventative health and social skills programs.

The Glenwood Public School's Student Welfare program provides opportunities for our students to:

- enjoy success and recognition
- make a useful contribution to the life of the school
- derive enjoyment from their learning

#### The Discipline System

At Glenwood we have developed a Discipline Policy which promotes and encourages the growth and development of self discipline and excellent behaviour. We provide a safe and happy environment in which students can achieve their full potential.

We have introduced a system of rewards/awards to encourage and support positive behaviour. Strategies for dealing with unacceptable behaviour have also been introduced so that children can realise that there are consequences for their actions.

The Discipline Policy, which is strongly based on the Department of Education's *Student Welfare, Good Discipline and Effective Learning* document, was reviewed during 2009 to incorporate changes.

Twice a term, class teachers award Bronze and Silver certificates and at the end of the year, Gold level certificates are also presented. Students are rewarded for achieving Gold behaviour level.

There are 3 encompassing 'School Rules' known as the 3B's;







# **School Website**

You can visit our school website at

# www.glenwood-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

There you will find a lot of information about our school, student work samples, newsletters and news updates. You can also visit "Channel Glenwood" and watch some of our movies.



# Section 2: The School Curriculum

# **English / Literacy**

The aim of the English K-6 Syllabus is to develop competence in using language and encourage positive attitudes towards learning English.

The syllabus covers three strands - Reading, Writing and Talking and Listening. Library is always a major focus at Glenwood Public School in supporting the development of Literacy.

You can best support the school's program by reading to or with your child for a short time each evening and by encouraging your child to choose and read books in their areas of interest. It is a good idea to then discuss the text with them.

The handwriting style used in NSW schools is called Foundation style. In the later years of primary school, children are encouraged to develop their own style of handwriting.

## **Mathematics / Numeracy**

Mathematics is best learned in an atmosphere of engagement and challenge. The Mathematics program at Glenwood provides children with opportunities to learn to;

- describe and apply patterns and relationships
- reason, predict and solve problems
- calculate both mentally and in written form
- estimate and measure
- interpret and communicate information presented in numerical, geometrical, graphical, statistical and algebraic forms

The K-6 Mathematics Syllabus ensures that children progress through sequential activities in the areas of Number, Space and Geometry, Patterns and Algebra, Measurement, Data and Working Mathematically.





#### Human Society and its Environment (HSIE)

Human Society and its Environment is the learning area where children develop their skills and knowledge of cultural studies, Australian studies and environmental education. In cultural studies they find out about themselves, their relationships with other people and culture from around the world. The Australian studies component allows children to investigate Australian physical, social and cultural environments both past and present so that they can reflect on the future directions for the Australian society.

#### Science and Technology

This learning area is concerned with preparing children for life in the 21st Century so that they are able to respond to the growth of scientific and technological knowledge. Science is concerned with finding out about the world in a systematic way. Technology is about the effective use of resources to meet the needs of our modern society.

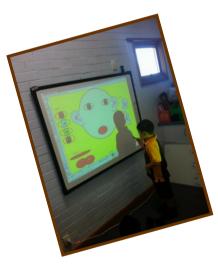
## **Computer Education**

The school operates a computer education program using networked PC's and laptop computers. The program is designed to develop computer awareness in children while building skills in the use of computer software. All children are given the opportunity to use computers as a learning tool across all areas of the curriculum. All students have access to our computer lab and use it each week. The lab allows students to learn on an individual machine so they can practice and learn from the tuition of teachers.

Our school has a proud tradition in digital technology with many successful movies. Students film, photograph and digitally edit movies. Some students choose to take on this aspect of technology in specialised groups working in lunch sessions.

Each classroom has a small bank of computers to support classroom learning programs. All machines are connected to the internet. The internet is filtered by the department to ensure inappropriate material is not accessed by children.

Each classroom has an interactive whiteboard. This educational tool is the latest in educational technology and provides students with access to the world. This tool stimulates learning and allows teachers to demonstrate skills in a creative and effective way.





# **Creative Arts (CA)**

Incorporates Visual Arts, Music, Drama and Dance. The Creative Arts Curriculum is designed to enable students to gain increasing understanding and accomplishment in the visual arts, music, drama and dance and for students to appreciate the meanings and values that each of the art forms offer personally, culturally and as forms of communication.

# Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PD,H,PE)

Personal Development, Health and Physical Education is the Key Learning Area in which children gain an understanding of themselves, how they can relate effectively with others, make responsible decisions and take action enabling them to enhance the quality of their lives. More directly than in any other curriculum area, Personal Development, Health and Physical Education emphasises the importance of leading healthy lifestyles and the need for understanding the mental, physical and social factors that influence personal health.

# School Sport

We offer a large range of sports to all our children both through the school sports program and the interschool competition (Primary PSSA). The sports program aims to encourage participation and co-operation whilst providing training in skills needed in a variety of sports.

Programs we offer are:

- An annual 'learn-to-swim' program provides non-swimmers and developing swimmers in Years 2 to 6 with water skills.
- The Gymnastics Program for children in K-2 has continued in 2012. Parents will pay per week for gym lessons, during Terms 2 and 3. A qualified instructor conducts the classes during school time on Fridays. This is to develop skills of gross motor and coordination.
- The 3 to 6 students have the opportunity to trial and participate in PSSA gala day competitions in various sports.
- Competitive competition in Athletics, Swimming and Cross Country.
- For talented students in the area of sport, there is the opportunity to trial for representative teams. Representative honors are at a Zone, Regional, State and Australian level. We have had many students successful in achieving representative teams. These students have enjoyed and developed their sporting abilities.

For purposes of school based sporting competitions, pupils are grouped into 4 Houses:

Bradman (Blue) Mackay (Red) Rosewall (Green) Cuthbert (Yellow)

Children are placed in a House in Kindergarten and remain in that House for the rest of their time at the school. Children from the same family are placed in the same House.



# **Section 3: General Information**

# **Change of Details**

Please notify the school of any alterations to custody, work contact numbers or address details as soon as there is any change. Providing accurate details promptly will allow for effective communication between parents and the school. This process is for both the health and safety of your child and as stated above for the collection of relevant data.

## **Emergency Contacts**

It is extremely important that in the event of an emergency the school is able to contact parents during school hours. Any change to emergency contact telephone numbers or relevant information during the year should be notified immediately to the school office.

#### Transfers

A transfer certificate must be obtained from the school office if your child is moving to another school. Please contact the office a few days prior to your child leaving. A transfer certificate is required to re-enrol in any government school in NSW.

# **Custody of Children**

When children attending school are in the custody of one parent or guardian, a copy of the court order outlining the conditions of custody should be sighted by the Principal. It is important that this procedure be carried out so that we are aware of the situation and can act in the best interests of your child.

# School Attendance

Children are required by law to attend school each day that the school is open. Should your child be absent because of illness, holidays or family reasons a written explanation must be provided for school record purposes. Our school has a Home School Liaison Officer, who monitors the absences which occur during the year.

# Money Collection

When money is needed to be returned to school it should be sent in an envelope to the office and deposited in the silver box. The envelope needs to have clearly written;

- your child's name
- class
- the activity the money is for

## School Library

The school library is open for children to read or borrow books at lunchtimes twice a week and also during class library lessons. All children must bring a library bag to school when borrowing and returning books during their library class time. A good serviceable library bag can be purchased from the Uniform Room.

## School Counsellor

The school has the services of a school counsellor for one day per week. The counsellor is available on appointment to discuss any matter relating to the education of your child. Interviews with the school counsellor are confidential.

#### First Aid

First aid for any serious injury incurred by your child at this school is provided by a member of the Administration Staff who has a current First Aid certificate. Any child requiring first aid should firstly report to the class teacher or the teacher on playground duty. All teachers receive training in emergency care. Any injury or illness of a more serious nature will be notified to the parents on the contact number provided.

#### Medicine

In the interests of safety for all children the school requires that all medications be handed in at the school office where the office staff will oversee distribution and dosage. All medication must be accompanied by a brief signed note indicating;

- the child's name
- dosage
- time for administration

Teachers are not permitted to administer any medication. Members of the Administrative Staff are certified in the *Administration of Prescribed Medications and Asthma Treatments*.

Please advise your child's class teacher of any medication regularly administered at home, which might have an impact on your child's performance and behaviour.

Asthma puffers may remain with students after consultation with the office staff.

#### **Book Club**

All children may purchase books through the Ashton Scholastic Book Club. There are four levels: Wombat, Lucky, Arrow or Star, depending on a child's reading ability. The aims of the Book Club are to encourage children to read for enjoyment and to provide reasonably priced books and software designed to appeal to children of all abilities.

There is no obligation to purchase. Orders are organised through the school. The necessary form and the correct amount of money should be enclosed in a sealed envelope marked "Book Club" together with the child's name and class and the envelope should be taken to the office.

## **School Photographs**

In Term 1 the school arranges for individual, class and special group photos to be taken by professional photographers. Photographs are organised on a prepaid order basis. Every class is photographed.

#### **Bicycles**

Children may park bicycles in the bike racks which are located on the school grounds:

- the bicycle is to be parked and locked in the bicycle racks and not ridden in the school grounds
- the road rules are obeyed whilst riding to and from school
- helmets are worn at all times while riding
- the bicycle is road worthy

Under no conditions are bicycles to be ridden on school grounds.

## **Religious Instruction**

Members of the clergy and other volunteers conduct half hour classes in religious instruction for students each Wednesday. Classes are formed according to religious denominations. Parents are asked to give permission for their child to attend these classes and to select which denomination they wish to attend.

# Lost Property

All items of lost property that have no names marked on them are placed in the lost property basket outside the Hall. Children or parents wishing to look for missing items should check the lost property basket. Please remember that labelling your child's belongings will greatly assist in preventing lost property.

#### **Classroom Assistance**

During the year parents, grandparents and caregivers provide valuable assistance by helping in the classrooms. They supervise activities, listen to children read, help with writing and research and also with Physical Education. If you are able to help in any way, please contact your child's teacher. If you are assisting in the classroom you are required to complete a *Child Protection* form and to sign in at the office each time so that we have a record of your visit. This is for safety and insurance purposes.

#### Weekly Newsletter

A weekly newsletter is published each Wednesday and emailed to families. It contains information on school activities and contains information on community events and reports from the P & C. Extra copies are available from the foyer in the administration office.

## **Classroom Requisites**

The Department of Education and Training provides most of the exercise books and other materials required by the students. Pencils, pens and rulers etc are tools or resources that students need to bring daily to school to enable them to complete their tasks. Childrens' learning opportunities are hampered by the absence of these resources. Your child's class teacher will send home a list of resources that you need to buy for your child. Please supply your children with these resources as soon as possible.

## The Parents' and Citizens' Association

The active Parents' and Citizens' Association (P & C) meets the third Wednesday of each month. The branch organisations of the P & C work together to raise funds to provide additional materials and equipment which is needed for the school's educational programs. The P & C operates the school Canteen and Uniform Shop employing volunteer parents and caregivers. At the regular monthly meetings matters are discussed relating to the educational programs of the school and the welfare of the children.



## We encourage you to join the P & C of the school and attend these meetings.

#### The School Canteen

Our school canteen offers pupils a wide selection of healthy foods at lunchtime at very reasonable prices. The canteen welcomes volunteers to help with the day to day running. Any parent who is able to give some time every few weeks should ring the school or contact the Canteen Committee.

Orders are handed in at the canteen before commencement of school. Orders should be written on a paper bag of suitable size, showing the name and class of your child. Please ensure that sufficient money is enclosed with orders, preferably the exact amount.

With the new school year just around the corner we are once again looking for volunteers to fill our canteen roster. All profits made through sales are used by the P & C for educational and school improvement programs.

# Mufti-Days

Occassionally during the year the school will have "Mufti-Days". Generally these days are held for fundraising purposes and children are asked to donate either an item or gold coin for the privilege of attending school in plain clothes (not uniform). On these days there are still guidelines to follow:

- No thongs
- No midriff tops
- No shirts with inappropriate language or slogans

#### Homework

At the beginning of the school year each teacher informs parents of the homework procedures for his/her class. In general homework in Stage 1 should not exceed 20 minutes per night. In higher grades homework should be limited to not more than 30 minutes. Kindergarten homework will commence when the children are ready. Homework is valuable in that work learned during the day can be consolidated. It develops good study habits and provides a link between home and school. It is also a good practice to read to or listen to your child read each night. Please visit our website to view our homework policy.

#### How Parents Can Help

You, as the parent, can help greatly by showing your interest. You can:

- see that your child brings homework home regularly and returns it on time.
- help to provide a regular time and place where your child can work free from interruptions.
- be available to hear reading and discuss the content of the text.
- make this time a happy, sharing time for you and your child. If homework becomes stressful for your child, please discuss the matter with the class teacher.

#### The Environment



The whole school is concerned with our environment. We are active recyclers. We participate in the *Visy Recycling for Schools Program*. Parents are invited to send empty drink cans to school so that they can be recycled. Parents have been involved in replanting around the school and are encouraged to help out during working bees. The school is actively investigating ways to utilise our water resources effectively whilst developing conservation ideals. A rainwater tank to harvest the water from the school stormwater has been installed and used to water gardens.

#### **Extra Curricular Activities**

Our school offers a variety of opportunities for students to join which are held outside of class time. These activities are used to develop individual talents of students while providing choice and personal interest in education. Some activities include;

- Dance Groups for Juniors (K to 3) Seniors (4 to 6).
- Sporting teams will often train before schools or during lunch breaks.
- Movie making and the use of digital editing is a project that often involves outside school hours commitment.
- Debating and public speaking activities are required to practice during lunch breaks.
- Student Representative Council (SRC) meets at lunchtime



#### **Excursions and Incursions**

Excursions and visiting performances (Incursions) are part of the school's educational program. Each activity is chosen to support an educational program which is operating in the classroom.

All children are expected to participate in the excursions and incursions organised for their class in order to gain maximum benefit from the classroom activities conducted before and after the activity.

Written details will be provided to parents and written parental permission will be sought before a child can participate in an excursion or performance.

#### **Student Assistance**

The school has access to limited funds for parents who are facing financial difficulty in providing resources needed for their child at school whether it be uniforms, workbooks, incursions or excursions. Please contact the office at school for information on the guidelines for applying for Student Assistance. All requests for Student Assistance are strictly confidential.

#### **Student Leadership**

Glenwood School strives to foster leadership in the students in a variety of ways;

#### School Captains

Each year School Captains and Vice Captains are elected. These students perform many important tasks at a variety of school functions. They are expected to provide an example of appropriate behaviour and attitude to the rest of the school, as are all senior students.

#### Student Representative Council (SRC)

There is an active Student Representative Council which has student representatives from Years 1 to 6.

#### **Opportunity Classes**

In May each year, parents of Year 4 students may apply to sit for the placement test, to attend an Opportunity class.

#### **Entrance to High School**

This process begins in Year 5 with applications for interested students to selective High Schools. Local High School placements are arranged when your child is in Year 6. Casula High School is our local High School. Children seeking entrance to Selective State High Schools, Technology High Schools, Schools of Excellence or other High Schools must nominate at the appropriate time. Private Secondary School enrolment must be arranged by parents.

## **School Assemblies**

Formal Assemblies are held on a fortnightly basis for the Kindergarten to Year 2 students and Years 3 to 6. Assemblies are run by the students and have student presenters who report on school activities. Classes regularly present items related to their class work. Merit awards and "*Student of the Week*" awards are presented at assemblies. Parents are invited to attend assemblies. All award winners are published in the next week's newsletter.

## **Student Progress Reports and Parent Teacher Meetings**

Assessment of students is ongoing throughout the year.

All teachers will conduct Parent/Teacher interviews at the end of Term 2.

Our school reports on students to parents through a formal written report twice a year. This report is consistent with the NSW Department of Education policy on reporting.

## **Kindergarten Enrolments**

Intending Kindergarten enrolments should be registered with the school the year prior to enrolment. Proof of Date of Birth and Immunisation Certificates will be required before enrolment day. A number of forms must be completed for school records.

Our Transition Program for future Kindergarten students takes place during Term 4 prior to the commencement of school. Written information will be given regarding the day and the time of enrolment.



#### Immunisation

Children enrolling in a Government school for the first time will be required to provide the school with an immunisation certificate which indicates whether or not a child has been fully immunised.







# **Preparing Your Child For School**

Commencing school is a major step in the life of your child. When talking to your child about starting school be positive and encouraging. Show enthusiasm about school but do not build up unreal expectations. Encourage your child to be independent, self reliant and show initiative.

Please have all belongings clearly labelled. It is a good idea to tie a piece of ribbon or put a picture on the outside of your child's school bag for easy recognition.

Before your child starts school it is very helpful if he/she:

- knows his/her full name
- can recognise and care for his/her belongings
- is able to take off and put on outer clothing, tie shoe laces and button and unbutton clothing
- knows how to use the toilet and wash hands after using the toilet

To help your child prepare for school you can:

- discourage baby talk
- listen to your child and share conversation with him or her daily
- read to your child daily
- ensure that he/she has adequate rest and a sensible amount of exercise and play in fresh air daily

#### **Developing Independence In Your Child**

Children need:

- praise, to develop self-confidence
- support and encouragement
- opportunities to talk about their day at school, to ask questions
- · opportunities to become independent by doing small jobs by themselves
- plenty of sleep regular hours

# We are looking forward to working with you to provide the best possible learning environment for your child.





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