

KMM

Miss Lucy McWhirter



2025



2025-2028

HILLSBOROUGH PS

School Vision

**Empowering every
learner through
equity and excellence,
fostering high
expectations and
wellbeing
as we transform lives
and build
a brighter future.**





ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

I want to begin by acknowledging the Awabakal People, the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet and live on today.

I would like to pay my respects to their Elders past, present and emerging. I extend that respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People here today and feel grateful that I can teach, and our students can learn on Awabakal land.



CLASS RESOURCES

Our school does not ask for a specific list of classroom resources.

All resources are provided by the school.

OUR WEEK

RFF	Monday (with Mr Boatfield)
SCRIPTURE	Tuesday
ASSEMBLY	Friday (even weeks)
LIBRARY	Friday
SPORT	Friday
CLASS PE	Most days



Class Timetable

KM's Class Timetable – Term 1

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00 – 10:00	InitialLit	InitialLit	InitialLit	InitialLit	InitialLit
10:00 – 10:10	Fruitbreak	Fruitbreak	Fruitbreak	Fruitbreak	Fruitbreak
10:10 – 11:00	Component B	Component B	Component B	Component B	Sport
11:00 – 11:40	Lunch				
11:40 – 12:00	Relaxation	Relaxation	Relaxation	Relaxation	Relaxation
12:00 – 1:00	Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics
1:00 – 1:45	RFF	1:10pm – 1:40pm Scripture	Visual Art	Living Things (Science/Geography)	RFF (Library)
1:45 – 2:15	Recess				
2:15 – 3:00	PD/H (GEME)	PE	Visual Art	Living Things (Science/Geography)	Assembly (even weeks) Developmental Play (odd weeks)

HOMEWORK & HOME READING

Homework is not mandated by the NSW Department of Education. Our teachers will provide suggestions for students to practice their skills.

Home reading is encouraged as part of a regular routine.

Readers will be sent home in Term 2.



HOME READING

Reading practice at home is an important way to consolidate what is taught in InitialLit lessons.

When listening to your child read:

- Talk about the words in the story
 - What do they would like?
 - What do they mean?
- Talk about the illustrations
- Talk about the events in the story



CLASS PET

Meet our class pet Edward the Echidna!

Each weekend a student will be chosen to care for Edward over the weekend. He will come with a journal for your child to add pictures (these can be hand drawn) and a few sentences about his adventures.

Please contact me if you have any questions or do not wish to participate. If you receive Edward and are unable to participate on that weekend, please send him back on the following Monday and I will ensure your child has the opportunity to take him another weekend.





ARRIVAL TIMES

When arriving at school in the morning, children are to put their bags outside the classroom and proceed to the playground.

A teacher is on duty every morning from 8:30am.

Please be mindful that only students attending the onsite OOSH are able to be on school grounds before 8:30am.



ATTENDANCE

We know that school is the best place to unavoidable, and regular attendance means students can stay on top of their schoolwork and get the most out of their learning.

If you are having trouble getting your child to school every day or on time, please talk to our school staff so we can work together, because every day counts.

When absences are unavoidable, please let our Office know as soon as possible by email or phone call.



RUNNING LATE? LEAVING EARLY?

It is mandatory that our class rolls are marked by 9:10am daily.

If your child is late, they will first need to be 'signed in' at the office. Students presenting without an adult will be signed in but an absence note will go out for a parent explanation.

Alternatively, if you need to pick up your child early, they will need to be 'signed out' before you pick them up from the classroom. This includes after an assembly, special events or even at 5 to 3.

THERAPISTS

Some families may wish for their child's speech or occupational therapy sessions etc* to take place at school.

All requests must be made in writing to the Principal.

Requests are considered in terms of the impact on the learning of your child, our class and our ability to adequately supervise sessions.

Therapy sessions should be after key learning time 9am -11am.

**We do not accept tutorial services to work with students in school hours.*



ANAPHYLAXIS

Hillsborough PS has students with life-threatening allergies. We ask you to consider these children and not bring nuts to school as a harm minimisation strategy. We do not claim to be a "peanut or nut free" school. Such a claim could not reliably be made and, if we did state this, may just lead to a false sense of security about exposure to peanuts and tree nuts to those most vulnerable.

Children with these severe allergies all learn how to manage allergy risks themselves, some at a very young age. These children know that they must be aware of the contents of what they eat, not share food, wash their hands before eating and recognise the warning signs of an allergic reaction. This is a lot for young children to be constantly concerned about. It would be greatly appreciated if we could all do our part and eliminate nut products from lunchboxes to support students diagnosed at risk of anaphylaxis.

Staff constantly speak to students and refer to values such as respect, empathy, cooperation, care, and kindness. This is an ideal time for all of us to put these values into practice.

FACEBOOK & PERMISSION TO PUBLISH

Liking our school Facebook is a great way to follow some of the wonderful things we do in our classrooms. Our classes will share photos and videos of our students and their learning.

Permission to Publish forms need to be filled out every year. This permission covers publication in our school Newsletter, on our school website and on our Facebook. Only students with permission to be published will be photographed for publication.

Our school policy from 2025 is that no student names will be published on Facebook and only names OR photographs (not both) in our newsletter.



Hillsborough Public School

673 followers • 7 following



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SCHOOL ASSEMBLY & QUALITY WORK AWARDS

School Assemblies are held fortnightly on Friday afternoons beginning at 2:15pm. (*Our first assembly this year is 21st February*).

In assembly, the efforts and performance of our students are celebrated and Quality Work Awards are awarded - 4 per class.

While these awards need to be meaningful, we do try to ensure all students are celebrated throughout the year.

Keep your eye out for an email to let you know when your child will be awarded.



HILLSBOROUGH PS

Behaviour Curriculum

- Our school values:

RESPECTFUL RESPONSIBLE READY TO LEARN
are fundamental to our Wellbeing practices.

*We will teach, practice and regularly revise routine expectations across the school creating positive behaviour for learning habits. This will cover things like; the importance of sharing; respecting our environment; being grateful, respecting others and maximising our learning time.

*One lesson per week (Monday afternoon) will also occur using the resources from our new school initiative –
The Resilience Project.



The Resilience Project

- This program will be referred to as **GEM(E)**.
 - **G**ratITUDE
 - **E**mpathy/Kindness
 - **M**indfulness
 - **E**motional Literacy
-
- Our goal is to create a GEM culture across the school community: students, staff and parents/carers.



The Resilience Project

This handout allows you to scan the QR codes and learn the ways in which The Resilience Project can help our students.

Watching these with your children will open up discussions that will deepen their understanding of gratitude, empathy, mindfulness, emotional literacy and connection.

WHAT AND HOW

Scan the QR codes to learn more about **GRATITUDE**, **EMPATHY**, **MINDFULNESS**, **EMOTIONAL LITERACY** and **CONNECTION**.



GRATITUDE

Paying attention to what you have.



EMPATHY

Understanding how others feel and being kind.



MINDFULNESS

Being present and connected.



EMOTIONAL LITERACY

The ability to label our emotions as we experience them.



CONNECTION

Authentic and meaningful interactions to feel a sense of belonging.



Scan the QR code to check out TRP@Home. Here you will find a range of activities and ideas to practise GRATITUDE, EMPATHY, MINDFULNESS and EMOTIONAL LITERACY with your family. These activities will help to spread happiness and build resilience.



2025 HILLSBOROUGH PS

Positive Behaviour for Learning Award System

Bronze Awards

5 Bronze Awards awarded in each class every week

Silver Awards

5 Bronze Awards = 1 Silver Award
Silver Awards presented at fortnightly Assembly

Gold Awards

5 Silver Awards = 1 Gold Award and Gold Medal
Gold Awards presented at Celebration Assembly at the end of each term.
Awards carry over year to year until the student has achieved a Gold Award.



Quality Work Awards

4 Quality Work Awards awarded in each fortnight per class.
Every student should receive at least one Quality Work Award in a calendar year.

Celebration Assembly

A Celebration Assembly will occur on the Friday of the last day of Terms 1, 2 and 3.
One student from each class will be acknowledged to celebrate student growth.
The award is based on academics, behaviour or social-emotional growth.

Celebration Day

After the Celebration Assembly, there will be a fun activity that every student will participate in to celebrate personal achievements and goals achieved during the term.

Classroom Reward Systems

Individual classes may create their own reward system but this is not related to the whole school Positive Behaviour for Learning Award System.





CHILD PROTECTION

Child protection education is mandatory from Kindergarten to Year 10 as part of the NSW Education Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE) K-10 Syllabus.

The PDHPE program provides carefully designed lessons that cover a wide range of content matter, including relationships, drug use, human sexuality, child protection, fundamental movement skill development, safety and physical activity. Some of the content of the program deals with sensitive issues which we teach within the context of a developmentally appropriate program. Families will receive further information when the program commences.

Please speak to your child's teacher if you have any concerns around your child participating in Child Protection education.



MOBILE PHONES & SMART DEVICES

We would prefer to have no mobile phones or mobile technology (smart watches) at school.

We recognise that in some circumstances parents may approve for their child to take a phone or device to school, but:

- phones must be signed in at the Office in the mornings
- school will take NO responsibility for mobile technology left in bags
- smart watches must be set to school mode and must not be used whilst at school

If these devices are being used at school without permission, they will be confiscated and a parent or guardian informed.



KISS AND RIDE

Kiss and Ride is on Waratah Avenue every afternoon from 3pm. All parents and carers are kindly asked to remain in their vehicles and there will be a staff member supervising the area.

If you are running late, please call the office, who will notify the supervising teacher.



RIDING BIKES

Students can ride their bikes to school permitting that they have filled out and signed the Hillsborough Public School Bike Policy Agreement with their parents/carers.

This Agreement can be collected from the office.

Students are required to responsibly walk their bike once they are on school grounds and are encouraged to bring a bike lock to use when putting their bike in the bike racks.

MONEY & PERMISSION NOTES

Our school uses the Sentral app for online permission notes and payments.

We can also provide credit card payments over the counter.

Cash or notes should go directly to the Office.

The Office has a 'post box' for students to drop off notes and money.





PARENT-TEACHER REPORTING

Term 1 - Weeks 9, 10 & 11
(Teacher & Parent/Carer)

Term 2 - Semester 1 Reports (Week 9)

Term 3 - Weeks 2 & 3 (Teacher,
Student & Parent/Carer Conference)

Term 4 - Semester 2 Reports (Week 9)



COMMUNICATING WITH ME

Email school with
'Attention Miss McWhirter'

- or -

Phone school to request a return call.



KEY EXCURSION DATES

More information will be available as we attempt to organise these events.

Thank you for attending!

