

# Kindergarten

## Information

With Pride We Learn With Pride We Grow



Willandra Primary School

### Willandra Primary School

Chidzey Drive Seville Grove WA 6112

Administration Hours 7.30am to 3.30pm

Telephone: 9391 4300 Email:willandra.ps@education.wa.edu.au

Website- www.willandraps.wa.edu.au School App-Connect (Invitation from Willandra Primary School)

**Principal** Mrs Caird

**Deputy Principals** Mr Smith and Mrs Abernethy

Business Manager Mrs Dillon

#### **School Hours**

First Siren 8.30am Final Siren 2.30pm

#### **Uniform Shop**

The shop is run on a voluntary basis by the P&C.

Online Orders- www.quickclig.com.au

- Direct Payment- Transfer to BSB: 066131 A/C: 1042 2185
- No EFTPOS facilities available
- Fully paid orders will be delivered to classes.

#### Voluntary School Contributions - Each child enrolled \$60.00

- Payable to admin office or through WINC Student Requirement List.
- Cash or cheques accepted EFTPOS facilities available.

#### Canteen - Open every day except Wednesday

- Place orders before 8.30am
- New menu distributed each term
- Online ordering available on https://www.quickcliq.com.au/
- Parent volunteers always welcome

**Assemblies** - Parent assemblies are every Thursday at 8.30am, in the undercover area near the Canteen. Student/Cluster assemblies are every Monday at 8.30am.

Student Requirement List - Purchased through WINC or a store of parents choice.

#### **Notices to School Community**

Connect School APP- Published when needed.

Breakfast Club - Open Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning 7.45am-8.15am.

Coin donation.

#### **IMPORTANT DATES 2024**

#### **BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR**

First Day Term 1

Wednesday 31st January

#### **Professional Development Days**

Professional Development Days will be published in Term 1 and students do not attend school on these days.

The following term dates are as per the WA Department of Education website.

#### Semester 1

Term 1 Wednesday 31st January—Thursday 28th March

Term 2 Monday 15th April – Friday 28th June

#### Semester 2

Term 3 Monday 15th July – Friday 20th September

Term 4 Monday 7th October – Thursday 12th December

#### **School Holidays**

April School Holidays: Friday 29th March – Sunday 14th April

July School Holidays: Saturday 29th June – Sunday 14th July

Sept/Oct School Holidays: Saturday 21st September – Sunday 6th October

Christmas School Holidays: Friday 13th December – Tuesday 4th February 2025

#### **Public Holidays**

Australia Day Friday 26th January

Labour Day Monday 4th March

Good Friday 29th March (Holidays)

Easter Monday 1st April (Holidays)

ANZAC Day Thursday 25th April

Western Australia Day Monday 3rd June

Kings Birthday Monday 23rd September To be confirmed

Christmas Day Wednesday 25th December (Holidays)

#### WELCOME TO WILLANDRA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Kindergarten is an introduction to formal learning for your child. This year is important preparation for what lies ahead. You are now a member of our school community and have an opportunity to be part of your child's education. Please use this opportunity to become involved and to help us assist your child to succeed in his/her education. A sound year of Kindergarten will provide a strong foundation for your child's future.

#### **SESSION TIMES**

In order to achieve the necessary 15 hours each week, the session times are spread over a two week roster.

Each day your child attends Kindergarten the starting time is 8.30am and school finishes at 2.30pm. Please collect your child at the end of each session, promptly.

Refer to your child's timetable for the days your child will be attending each week. This timetable will be distributed to parents/caregivers each term.

#### WHAT WILL A CHILD LEARN AT KINDERGARTEN

- To feel confident in a large group.
- To work independently.
- To use his/her body skilfully.
- To communicate with others.
- To develop good relationships with others.
- To express him/herself in speech, music and drama.
- © To observe, question and organise his/her thinking about the world.
- To develop his/her own individual learning patterns.
- To build on his/her curiosity so that he/she is eager to gain more experience.
- To gain a good feeling about him/herself so that he/she can grow and spread this feeling towards others.
- An introduction to phonological awareness-rhyming, syllables and initial sounds.

#### HOW WILL THE CHILD LEARN

#### By Experience

Experience is essential and is the basic part of learning throughout his/her school life. It comes through touching, tasting, smelling, feeling, experimenting, manipulating etc, which helps lead to a deep understanding of many concepts on which future learning can be based. Children may miss out on these experiences if they are rushed over the discovery stages towards theory and abstract learning too soon.

#### By Questioning

How often do we grow impatient with a child's questions? The child is usually sincere about wanting to know and the continual questioning is how he/she sorts him/herself into the scheme of things. Who, What, Where, When, Why and How questions should be answered and encouraged.

#### By Reasoning

A child's reasoning is *not* adult reasoning because his/her experiences are very limited. Therefore, the conclusions reached may not always be absolutely accurate - **be patient** - these things are his/her early attempts and should be encouraged.

#### By Experimenting

Trial and error learning. The old saying "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again", must have been written after observing small children at work.

#### HOW CAN YOU BEST HELP YOUR CHILD

Spend time with him/her, do things together, read to your child daily and discuss all sorts of things. Be consistent in your decisions and, above all, show your child you love him/her and tell him/her so.

#### COMMENCEMENT OF EACH SESSION

It is important that students do not arrive at the Kindergarten Centre until just before each session commences. Parents are asked to supervise their children until the Kindergarten doors are opened. This gives the teachers the opportunity to speak to individual families as required. You are welcome to come into the classroom to help settle your child while doing puzzles or reading a book.

The outside play area cannot be utilized before school by the children or by their siblings, because adequate supervision cannot be provided.

#### **END OF EACH SESSION**

To avoid unnecessary anxiety, it is vital that students are collected promptly at the end of each session.

#### THE 'HAND OVER AND COLLECTION' OF CHILDREN

Parents are asked to either deliver the children to the teacher at the class for each session or ensure that a responsible adult/carer performs this duty.

We discourage older students being given the responsibility of a Kindergarten sibling.

At the end of the day, parents or carers are asked to wait for their children outside the kindergarten classes until a staff member opens the door. *It is important that parents do not wait inside the building for their children.* The noise will disrupt other children from their learning programs. The teacher will see each child out of the door to ensure that they are picked up.

#### WHAT TO BRING

- One piece of fruit each day for their morning snack time,
   -snacks can also include cheese, celery, carrot, tomato and sultanas. No nuts please.
- Unch-ie: healthy sandwich and one snack.
- Hat (please ensure your child's name is on it). This needs to be left at school.
- © Spare set of clothes in case of an accident. To be kept in the child's bag.
- A named drink bottle containing water (no cordial or juice).
- A named library bag.

#### **NUT FREE SCHOOL**

We have students in the school who are highly allergic to any nut products or products containing nut extracts. These students do not have to actually eat nut products to have a life threatening reaction. Their condition is so serious that, even ingesting a trace of a nut product could result in an anaphylactic reaction.

In order to reduce the risk of an allergic reaction the school canteen has eliminated all nut products from the menu. Further to this precaution, we request that you follow our lead and remove nut products from your child's recess. We understand that this can make preparing meals more difficult; however failure to provide nut free food, could have dire consequences.

We ask for your co-operation and support in adhering to the above guidelines. This will assist us in providing a safe and supportive school environment that minimises the risk to the student with a life threatening allergy to nuts.

#### Learning Literacy

#### **Phonological Awareness Activities**

At this stage, it is important to develop basic listening skills. These can be practiced through fun activities that you do together like repeating simple rhythms, or connecting the sound to a thing that makes it. Also, this is a great time to model other phonological awareness concepts such as rhyming and alliteration.

- Play stop and start games, such as musical chairs. (At this age, play a version of the game where no one gets out. This will avoid many tears.)
- Clap simple rhythms together, such as clap, clap, clap or clap pause clap.
- When you hear sounds around you, ask what made the sound.
- Try giving your child one-step instructions and then move on to two-steps.
- Play a sound guessing game. Make a familiar sound and let your child guess what made the sound.
- Tap a rhythm like a drum beat on a table or on your lap. Do one rhythm that is very fast and one that
  is very slow. Talk about the difference in the sound-fast and slow. Then tap more rhythms and
  encourage your child to label them either fast or slow.
- Read rhyming books together. Repeat nursery rhymes and sing little songs that include rhyming words.
- Read books or repeat tongue twisters with alliteration (the first sound is the same in many of the words). For example: Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers.
- Take advantage of everyday activities to talk about words and sounds. For example, when going to
  the shops you might ask your child which sound is the same in the words peach and pineapple, or in
  carrot and cabbage.



#### **Learning Literacy**

#### Helping your child with reading

- Read to your child every day.
- Join the local library.
- Get Grandfather's, Dads and brothers to read to boys, they are important role models.
- Talk about authors and illustrators.
- Borrow books and tapes from the local library to play at bedtime or on journeys.
- Buy children books as presents.
- Show children that you read and write too.
- Make your own family books to remember celebrations or holidays using digital photos or child drawings.
- Toy catalogues are great favourites, ask the child to find words or letters they know.

#### Reading to your child is an essential part of your child learning to read

#### **Oral Language**

Developing oral language is the most important cognitive undertaking for young children. Strong vocabulary and oral language skills allow people to understand and do anything they want to.

#### How to build vocabulary and language structure

- Engage the child in conversation-expect that your child will contribute to the conversation. Ask openended questions such as "What was your favorite thing that we saw today?"
- As you do things together, think of new words or new concepts which can be introduced through that activity. For example, if you are planting a seed together, you can talk about the soil, the pot, the seed, and the water. Later, as the sprout comes up, you can introduce the words sprout, stem, leaf, and roots. All of these will be easy for your child to grasp because of the concrete activity that shows their meaning. Make sure you use the new word or words several times and engage your child in conversation where he or she will have the opportunity to use the word also.

#### **Learning Literacy**

#### **Oral Language**

- Continue building oral language skills by extending ideas in conversation with the child. In response to what your child has said, add in a word that is at a slightly higher level than what the child can currently use. For example: if your child says "It was really, really big." respond back "It must have been enormous!"
- Read lots of books together. Gradually increase the length and difficulty of the stories you are reading together. This will help your child's listening comprehension to grow.
- With familiar stories, encourage the child to retell the story, even if it is only a couple of sentences.
- Ask questions throughout the story, such as who different characters are or what they are doing.
   Talk about the pictures, what is happening, what might happen next, why do you think that happened?
- Comment on things that the story reminds you of. For example, if you read a book about going to the
  park, talk about your recent time playing at the park. Talk about the things you did that were similar
  and different from the book.
- Read books of children's poetry together. Have fun with the rhythm and feel of the poems. Change the rhyming words even if you use nonsense words.
- Read non-fiction books. Go slowly and look more in depth at the pictures. Talk about what you are learning.

Most importantly if you think your child has a problem, talk to their teacher.

They may be referred to the School Nurse or for Speech Therapy. Speech Therapy is not just about articulation and how we pronounce sounds, but is also about how we interpret and process information.

#### **Learning Literacy**

#### **Linking Literacy and Maths**

Children need lots of talking and *hands on* or concrete experiences with maths before they are ready to learn more abstract concepts.

- Cooking is a great way to expose children to the language of mathematics.
- Talk about numbers in the environment e.g. when shopping, street signs, house numbers, clocks etc.
- Look for shapes in the environment e.g. triangles, circles, squares etc.
- Look at the clock and discuss what time it is e.g. when they go to school, have breakfast etc.
- Talk about the sequence of events in their lives eg: daily routines breakfast, lunch, dinner, seasons summer, autumn, winter, spring, days of the week etc.
- Singing nursery rhymes or songs that involve numbers e.g. 1, 2, buckle my shoe, etc.
- Use mathematical language e.g. bigger, smaller, more, less, full, empty etc.

#### ABSENCES FROM SCHOOL

It is a legal requirement to inform the school of the student absence, either by SMS, telephone or written note.

If your child is unwell, has an appointment or will be attending a cultural day and will not be attending school, please contact the school using one of the following methods:

Willandra Primary School use SMS for absence notifications.

If your child is absent, please message 0448 793 568 and include your child's name, the date and reason for their absence.

#### **BIRTHDAYS**

These are very special in a child's life. You are welcome to send a cake along for us to share. Small individual cup cakes would be appreciated.

#### CANTEEN

A large part of our health program focuses on developing a balanced diet and it would be appreciated if you could keep this in mind when packing lunches. The Canteen is open every day except Wednesday and parent volunteers are always welcome. Lunches are delivered to each classroom by nominated students prior to the lunch bell.

Orders can be placed on the P & C online service provider called QuickCliQ and is free to set up and easy to use. You will need to register at <a href="https://www.quickcliq.com.au/">https://www.quickcliq.com.au/</a>. and follow the prompts to activate an account for your child. A flyer outlining the instructions for this process can also be obtained from the Administration Office.

Alternatively, orders can be placed at the Canteen. Canteen lunches must be ordered before 8.30am, prior to the start of the school day (menus are available on the school website).

#### Kindergarten students can access the Canteen for online lunch orders only

#### **CONNECT SCHOOL APP**

Notifications will be sent when needed for parents/caregivers via the Connect school APP. Parents/caregiver emails must be provided on enrolment and the school will send an invitation to register and download the APP.

#### **CONTACT DETAILS**

When you enrol your child, please provide the office with your contact details and those of at least <u>two</u> other contacts to call in case of an emergency and for the occasions when children may not have been collected at the end of the day.

• Please ensure that the school office is notified as soon as possible when any changes are made to your home or mobile telephone numbers, address or emergency contacts.

#### **CUSTODY ISSUES**

If there are formal arrangements in place that relate to the custody and access of your children, particularly in relation to any Court Orders that may be in place, please provide the necessary information and copies of documents to the school staff at time of enrolment. If, in the future there are any changes to the arrangements/ orders on file, it is vital that you inform the Principal or Associate Principal.

#### **DOGS ON SCHOOL PREMISES**

In the interest of student health and safety, dogs either unrestrained or on a leash are **not permitted** onto the school grounds. Many children are fearful of dogs and some have allergies.

#### **ENROLMENT FORMS**

When each child is enrolled at the school a form is filled in by the child's parent or guardian. It is essential that all the information on this form is accurate and current.

It is vital that in an emergency, we reach parents immediately. If parents are unable to be contacted it is important that the person(s) used as emergency contact(s) be kept updated and are contactable.

#### **EXTENDED ABSCENCES**

Should your child be unwell for an extended period of time please advise the class teacher and the records will be updated, so you do not have to ring on a daily basis to notify us. A Medical certificate will also be required.

#### **FACEBOOK**

Willandra Primary School uses our Facebook page to communicate information and items of interest to parents and carers. https://www.facebook.com/willandraps/

#### **HEAD LICE**

Pediculosis (head lice) occasionally infects students' hair. This is not a reflection on the child, the family or the school. The school can assist with diagnosis and details of lotions for correcting this difficulty; suitable treatments can be purchased from chemists.

#### **ILLNESS**

The best place for an ill or sick child is at home with their parents or with a carer. If your child has symptoms such as vomiting, eye, ear or nose discharge, cough, fever and/or rash please keep them home until they are well rather than putting others at risk of infection. The WA Public Health website states a child needs to be symptom free for 24 hours or be given clearance from a health professional such as your GP.

#### **IMMUNISATION**

There are a series of immunisation schedules that are recommended before the age of 4. For more information, please check the WA Government Department of Health Website; <a href="https://healthywa.wa.gov.au/Articles/S">https://healthywa.wa.gov.au/Articles/S</a> T/Starting-or-moving-schools-immunisation-records

#### **MEDICATION AT SCHOOL**

From time to time, parents request that children be given medication at school. If your child does need to take medication during school hours, a Health Care Authorisation Form, available from the office, **must** be completed. All medicines must be administered by a member of staff. The medication should be provided to the office in the bottle/box with the pharmacist's label displaying the student's name, dosage required and name of medication.

#### **OUT OF SCHOOL CARE**

Out of School Care services are provided by OSH Club. Further information can be found on our school website. All enquiries should be directed to OSH Club as these are arrangements external to the school. Issues related to Out of Hours Care will be referred to the providers in all cases.

#### PARENTS AND CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION

Willandra has a strong P&C Association which provides many school facilities and given great support to the school staff. New members are very welcome at meetings which are held on **Wednesday in Weeks 3 & 8 of each Term** in the school staff room, throughout the school year. Alterations to the meeting dates are advised through the school newsletter or the school APP.

#### PERSONAL ITEMS LIST

A personal items list (book list) is distributed toward the end of each year for the following year with details of suppliers included. Pre-ordering these items ensures your children have everything they require at the start of the school year. A copy of our booklist is available on the school website.

#### **PHOTOGRAPHS**

The school may take photos of your child participating in various activities. On occasions, these photos are placed in the school newsletter or on the school website, with surnames removed. Consent for this is given at the time of enrolment, if you no longer wish for your child's photograph to be published, please contact the school office.

#### PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

For safety reasons the playground is not to be used by any child before and after school. Please supervise younger children when escorting children to and from class to ensure that they do not climb on equipment.

#### SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS AND CHARGES

The Department of Education has requested that schools set a schedule of Voluntary Contributions and Charges and anticipated fees (for excursions, incursions etc.) annually in consultation with the School Board. A copy will be distributed to all families towards the end of each year prior to them being due and can be downloaded from the website. The School Voluntary Contributions are due and collected at the beginning of the school year. Additional charges will be collected as excursions/incursions occur and payment methods are listed below. If paying by cash, parents are asked to assist the school by ensuring that they (or their child) always have correct money for any payments being made. Payments to the school may also be made by EFTPOS at the Administration office and additionally may be directly deposited to the school's bank account by electronic bank transfer.

- \$60.00 each child enrolled.
- No P & C Contribution.
- Cash/ EFTPOS/Credit Card payments made at the administration office 7.30am to 3pm.
- Credit Card payments over the phone, call 9391 4300.
- Direct Deposit-

Account Name: Willandra Primary School

BSB: 066 040

Account Number: 1990 6539

Reference: Surname and Initial (Student name)

This will help us ensure your payment is correctly identified and promptly receipted.

#### **SCHOOL PHOTOS**

Professional photographers are booked once a year to take school photos. Order forms will be distributed prior to the photographer's visit.

#### SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAYS

As the Kindergarten is part of the whole school, it closes during School Development Days when all teachers are involved in Professional Development and planning. The dates are advised through the school website calendar and the school Connect app.

#### SCHOOL PREMISES / VANDALISM

Children should only be on the school grounds out of school hours if they are under the direct supervision of a teacher or another adult who has been given approval to use the school. The assistance of parents is requested in helping to stop vandalism and theft at the school. If you see any suspicious behaviour in and around the school outside of school hours, please contact one of the numbers listed below. No further action will be need to be taken, as the person you contact will do whatever is necessary.

~ Education Department Security: 9264 4771 ~ Police: 131 444

#### SCHOOL SUPPORT SERVICES

We have the services of the Community Nurse. She meets with a number of the children during the course of her work. She will refer any child with a problem to the relevant specialist for help, e.g. Speech Therapy. We also have access to the services of the School Social Worker.

#### SCHOOL WEBSITE

The school website provides current information, news and copies of all forms required for parents and caregivers. The school website is: <a href="https://www.willandra.ps.wa.edu.au">www.willandra.ps.wa.edu.au</a>

#### SICKNESS

Do not bring your child to Kindergarten if they have a cold, have had an upset stomach in the past 24 hours, have a fever, rash or discharging ears/eyes/nose. This limits the possibility of infecting other children. Staff will call if your child is unwell and needs to be collected.

#### **SMOKING**

Parents and visitors are asked to adhere to the Department of Education Policy; prohibiting smoking or vaping on school grounds and in adjacent areas such as carparks.

#### STUDENT RECORDS/INFORMATION

It is **essential** that all the information on the student enrolment form is accurate and current, with updates made as changes occur. Please visit the administration office or email willandra.ps@education.wa.edu.au to record any changes to the enrolment information.

#### **TERM PLANNER**

All term dates for the current year and future years are available on the Department of Education website: www.det.wa.edu.au/education/termdates/

#### TOYS

Parents will be advised when the children may bring along a 'special treasure' for news purposes only but please, *no other toys at school* - this saves arguments and disappointment in case of breakages or loss.

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#### SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

Students at Willandra Primary School are required to wear the correct school uniform to school. Parent support for wearing of uniforms is essential and is appreciated. Children are expected to be clean and tidy at all times.

The school uniform was designed by the parents of this school after an incredible amount of work. The uniform, therefore, is the choice of the majority of parents at this school. The wearing of a uniform helps to enhance school pride and tradition as well as contributing to discipline and the tone of the school. There are a number of sensible reasons for having your child dressed in uniform, these are as follows:

- In the long run, uniforms are cheaper than casual wear.
- Uniforms stop the children competing against one another in terms of their appearance.
- On excursions children are more visible if they are in uniform.
- Uniforms help to build school spirit and pride.
- Uniforms look neater.
- Uniforms allow the children to feel they belong to, or are part of a group.
- All school clothing must be labelled with the student's name.
- If a child arrives at school out of uniform they are loaned a T-shirt or jumper for the day.
- Long hair on girls and boys, should be tied back for reasons of hygiene.

#### SUMMER UNIFORM

#### **BOYS**

The boys' summer uniform consists of a school polo shirt and black shorts.

#### GIRLS

The girls' summer uniform consists of a school polo shirt and either black tailored shorts, black sports skirt, and *bike pants are unacceptable*.

#### WINTER UNIFORM

#### **BOYS**

The boys' winter uniform consists of a school polo shirt, a school track suit top/windcheater and black tracksuit pants or tailored pants. Black shorts may also be worn in place of the tracksuit pants.

#### **GIRLS**

The girls' winter uniform consists of a school polo shirt, a school track suit top/windcheater and black tracksuit pants. The girls also have the option of wearing the school black sports skirt in place of the tracksuit pants.

#### SHOES

The children are required, for safety reasons to wear suitable foot covering at all times when they are at school. Sports shoes, leather school shoes, sandals and casual shoes are all acceptable. We would ask that, for safety reasons, children do not wear thongs.

#### HAT POLICY

As outlined in our School's Hat Policy all children are expected to wear hats for all outdoor activities throughout the year. It is compulsory for students from Kindergarten to Year 6 to wear the school reversible Faction bucket hat for outdoor activities, and during recess and lunch time. These hats are available from the Uniform Shop.

#### **UNACCEPTABLE CLOTHING**

These items are not welcome because they are unsafe or do not fit in with accepted standards of school wear. The following are specifically banned from school for various reasons, including safety, modesty and restriction of movement:

- Bike pants are unacceptable
- Shorts, pants or T-shirts with any slogans or advertising logos, such as "Billabong"
- Black T-shirts
- Denim jeans/shorts and board shorts
- Singlets, tank tops and scanty clothing
- Clothing which is not modest
- Thongs
- Loose dangling earrings, facial studs or rings and excessive jewellery

#### **UNIFORM SHOP**

- The shop is run on a voluntary basis by the P&C.
- Online Orders-

www.quickcliq.com.au

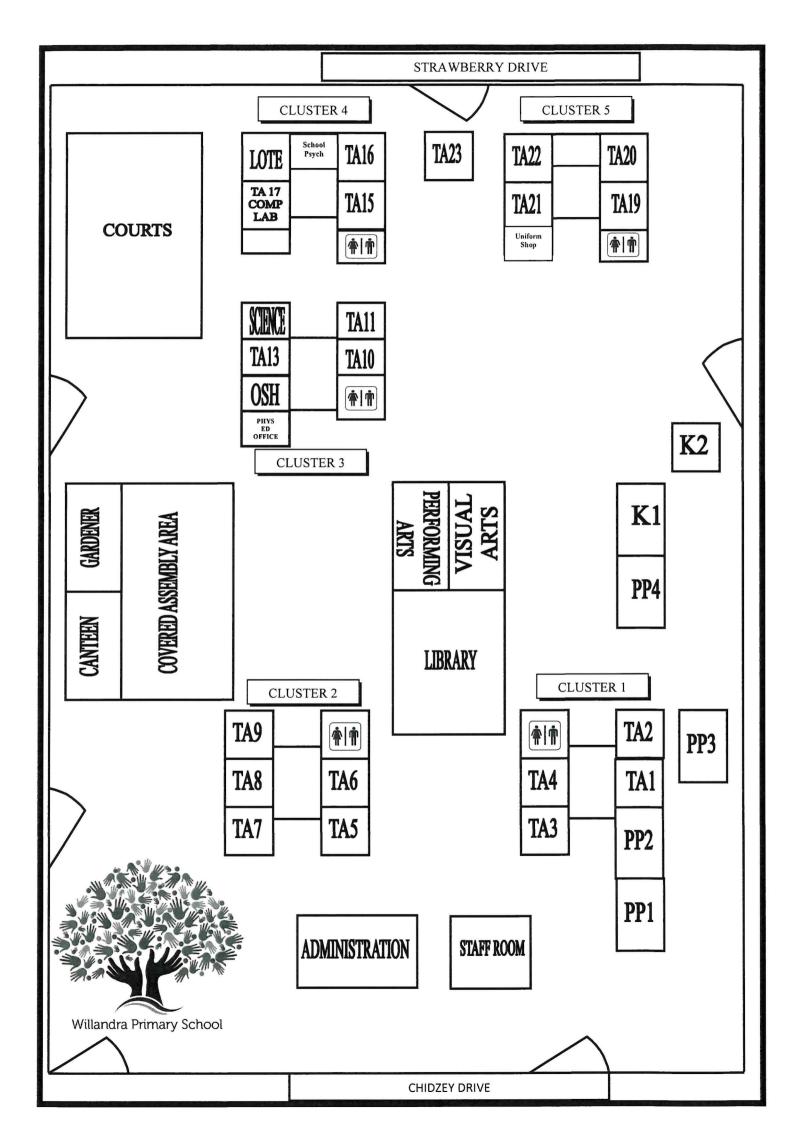
- Direct Payment-
- Transfer to BSB: 066131 A/C: 1042 2185
- EFTPOS facilities available.
- Fully paid orders will be delivered to classes.

#### **SPORTING FACTIONS**

Students are allocated into factions in family groups.

There are four sporting factions at Willandra Primary School;

- Blue Serpentine
- Gold Valencia
- Green Dale
- Red Minnawarra





57 Chidzey Drive

SEVILLE GROVE WA 6112

Telephone: 9391 4300

Email: willandra.ps@education.wa.edu.au

Website: www.willandraps.wa.edu.au

School App: Connect