Rapids LANDING
PRIMARY SCHOOL

2027

Years 1-6

Information Brochure

Principal's Foreword

Dear Parents and Carers

I warmly welcome you and your children to Rapids Landing Primary School, an Independent Public School catering for students in Kindergarten to Year 6 in state of the art educational facilities. Our innovative, experienced and passionate staff are part of a growing team that builds a school culture that challenges, invigorates and extends young minds. Staff emphasise quality teaching and will work to provide rich, diverse and challenging learning experiences that meets the learning needs and interests of every child. We seek to cater for the unique needs and aspirations of local families and provide exceptional service to our proud and cohesive community as we create excellence together.

The success of Rapids Landing Primary School lies in having students at the centre of everything we do. Our contemporary curriculum, inclusive and supportive learning environment and strong working partnerships promotes success for all. Our staff are committed to positive relationships and are motivated to work collaboratively in a welcoming, vibrant, creative, team environment. Our work is to build positive partnerships with parents, carers and the community while providing a caring, safe, supportive and mutually respectful learning environment. Our school culture nurtures and supports each student to achieve excellence, their personal best, take responsibility for their own learning and be inspired to reach their potential every day.

Students' primary education continues in Years 1 to 6 where they receive a strong foundation in core subjects. It can be such a stimulating and rewarding experience for your child as they continue to grow and develop into the unique and special person that they are. Rapids Landing Primary School wants to work with you as a partner in your child's learning, building on the experiences they learnt in Kindergarten, Pre-Primary and with you at home. We love discovering more about the gifts that each child brings into our school and inspiring them to want to learn.

We know when our students graduate from school it will be different to now and we need to be a flexible and distinctive school that helps prepare all students academically, socially, emotionally and physically for their world today, tomorrow and beyond. Parents and carers working with us helps their child see and feel the partnership we develop and they know they can learn and grow in a safe, supportive and inclusive environment, free to take learning risks, challenge themselves and achieve their personal best.

We have been given a unique opportunity to build a school with a vision and ethos that reflects Margaret River, our community and most importantly the needs of our children. Since opening in 2018, our students have achieved strong outcomes and we ask you to partner us in inspiring your child to be a motivated, engaged and resilient learner who will successfully adapt to an ever-changing world. We hope they love learning with us so they may thrive in an exciting and innovative learning setting that will enable them to reach their full potential. As a school of excellence, Rapids Landing Primary School is a Teacher Development School, providing professional caring and support to school staff across the state. In 2021, Public School Review was conducted with Rapids Landing Primary School rated as an Exceptional School. This affirms the quality of learning experiences we offer your child.

We look forward to welcoming our 2027 Years 1-6 students and their families to Rapids Landing Primary School and providing rich opportunities, developing and sustaining relationships and helping every child love learning for life.

If you have any questions about the school, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Hayley Kirkup

Welcome to Years 1-6

This Rapids Landing Primary School Parent Information Booklet is designed to guide your understanding of the many organisational aspects of our school that are important to you and your family each day.

This booklet will continue to evolve as our school grows and our structures and processes change to accommodate our increasing student enrolment numbers.

As an Independent Public School, we are empowered to make decisions best suited to the needs and interests of our students. We believe strongly in positive relationships and encourage communication between all members of our school community. If you require any further clarification or additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the school in person or by telephone (08) 9757 8200.

Years 1-6 Primary Years of Schooling

Children learn an amazing amount as their learning journey continues through primary school. Our aim is to provide a safe, supportive and inclusive environment that encourages curiosity, exploration, resilience and appropriate learning experiences through intentional teaching and inquiry. We recognise the individual physical, intellectual, emotional and social needs of our students and value implementing the Western Australian Curriculum.

Our Vision

Our vision is to ***create excellence together*** with every student through the provision of a high-quality education in a safe, supportive and inclusive learning community. Through opportunities, students are equipped with the skills and understandings to become curious, resilient, engaged life-long learners and active global citizens in the 21st century.

creating *excellence* together

Our Logo

A fusion of nature, education and people all working together.

Following many months of consultation, our logo captures the passion for our environment (leaves and water), our core purpose in educating our students (book) and the strong belief we have in that our school community will work in partnership to help every child be the best they can be.

Representations in the logo include:

- The water forming hands (working together) and
- Leaves for the beautiful environment that we will sustain, learn and grow in,
- A book symbolising education, including the past knowledge that we respect and build on (including history, such as the old Rapid Landing School) and the future knowledge we are yet to discover with our students,
- People (the yellow at the top). These people can be you or me as we help every child achieve their potential. We like to see them as our students, as they are at the centre of everything we do at Rapids Landing Primary School.

Our School Beliefs

WHOLE SCHOOL PEDAGOGY

(science of teaching -the function, work, method or art of a teacher)

BELIEFS ABOUT TEACHING AND LEARNING

(Students learn best when….) (Teachers teach best when…)

Curriculum

…learning programs build on the existing knowledge of students, are culturally and developmentally appropriate and have real life applications.

…they are engaged in a challenging, purposeful and inclusive curriculum that motivates and supports them to achieve their personal best and become resilient life long learners.

Learning Environment

…they have a safe, supportive, engaging and inclusive learning environment that fosters a sense of belonging, connection and curiosity.

Relationships

… strong, positive relationships within and across the whole school community are valued, encouraged, nurtured and strengthened through shared expectations, common goals and mutual respect.

School Community

… students

- take ownership of their learning and accept personal responsibility to be active, resilient and engaged life long learners,
- accept and appreciate others for who they are, and
- are good neighbours and active citizens.

… staff

- are motivated, professional, engaged and compassionate,
- value each child, and
- provide opportunities for students to take responsibility for their own learning,
- value giving and receiving feedback to self and others

… parents and carers

- are partners in their child's learning and share common understandings of their child's development.
- develop relationships with our school community to support teaching and learning.

… the wider community

- works in partnership to support and enhance teaching and learning.
- enable partnerships that enhance student learning, global connections and global citizenship.

History of School

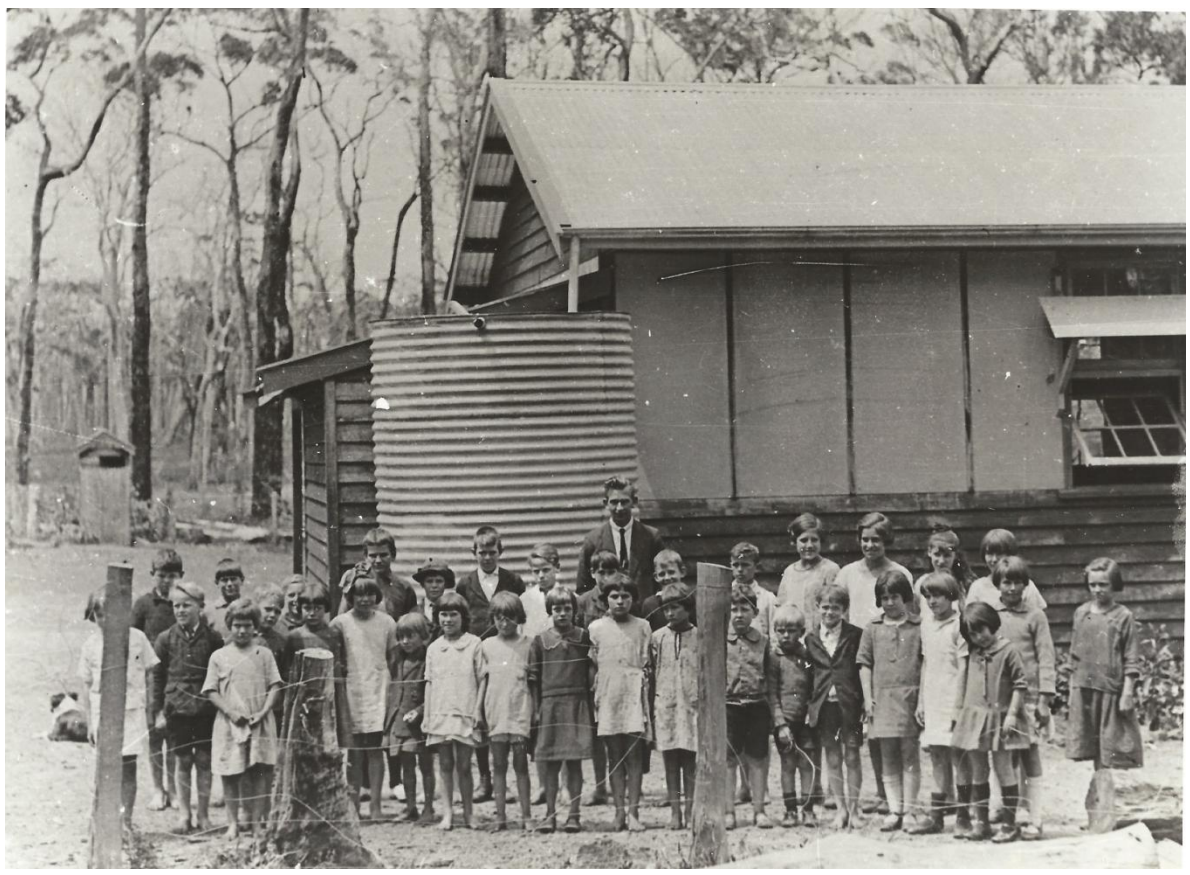
Rapids Landing Primary School opened at the beginning of 2018 as an Independent Public School catering for Kindergarten to Year 6 students. Rapids Landing Primary School is proud to be the first government primary school to open its doors in Margaret River since 1909. Our core purpose is in educating and ensuring every student has the opportunity to be the best they can be. We have worked closely with our local community to develop this purpose and the direction for our new school to ensure it reflects the aspirations, uniqueness and diversity of our school community and students.

The school has state of the art facilities and resources to cater for teaching and learning in the 21st century. Classrooms have stylish, modern furniture that meets the cooperative nature of today's learning environments. Situated on beautifully landscaped grounds, the campus comprises a range of modern buildings including an on-site Kindergarten, 2 Pre-Primary Centres, 12 primary classrooms, a library resource centre, an art and science room, music and drama room, administration block, covered assembly with an activity area and canteen that is ready to provide nutritious food to fuel eager learners when student numbers make this viable and the P&C can coordinate.

Rapid Landing School operated from 1925 to 1927 and was situated approximately 1km from our current school site. This school taught students of all ages who lived in the Group 63 settlement. The developers added an “s” to Rapid as Rapids connects to the water flowing in Darch Brook, a nearby river.

Rapids Landing Primary School is located on Tonkin Boulevard, named after Sir John Tonkin (Western Australia premier, 1971-1974). Sir John Tonkin was also one of the first teachers at the original site.

Whilst Rapids Landing Primary may be a new school, it certainly has strong links to the past and surrounding area.



Rapid Landing School 1925-1927

School Contact Details:

Principal	Hayley Kirkup
Associate Principals	Amanda Higgins, Leigh Westcott, Kellie Colquhoun
Manager Corporate Services	Tracey Taylor
School Officer	Rebecca Simmonds, Alice Westcott
Address	Rapids Landing Primary School 42 Tonkin Boulevard, Margaret River
Phone	9757 8200
Email	rapidslanding.ps@education.wa.edu.au
Website	www.rapidslandingps.wa.edu.au
Facebook	search Rapids Landing Primary School
School Stream (App)	Rapids Landing Primary School
Office Hours	8.00am – 4.00pm

Term Dates 2027

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/

Please note the School Development Days.

Term One	Monday 1 February 2027– Friday 9 April 2027
Term Two	Tuesday 27 April 2027 – Friday 2 July 2027
Term Three	Tuesday 20 July 2027 – Friday 24 September 2027
Term Four	Tuesday 12 October 2027 – Thursday 16 December 2027

School Development Days 2027

Thursday 28 January and Friday 29 January; Friday 28 May; Monday 19 July; Monday 11 October and Friday 17 December 2027

Public Holidays 2027

Labour Day	Monday 1 March
Good Friday	Friday 26 March
Easter Monday	Monday 29 March
Anzac Day	Monday 26 April
Western Australia Day	Monday 7 June
King's Birthday	Monday 27 September *(during Sept/Oct School Holidays)*

School Hours and Break Times

School Commences	8.50am
Morning Recess	10.50am – 11.15am
Lunch Break	1.15pm – 2.00pm
End of School Day	3.00pm

During learning, students may engage in physical breaks and Crunch & Sip alongside their teacher.

School Hours and Break Times (continued)

To ensure the safety of children at all times, they should not arrive at school prior to 8.35am. Students enter and exit via gate access. Students arriving prior to 8.35am must sit under the shade shelter outside of the Administration Block. From 8.35am when the signal is played over the school PA, students are encouraged to prepare for their day in their classrooms.

Students need to arrive at school in time to organise their personal belongings prior to the start of learning. This will ensure a positive and smooth start to the school day. We are always happy to see our students, so please bring them to school even if you are running a little late. If your child arrives after 8.50am, please bring them to the Administration Office to sign them in.

All students not involved in after school activities are expected to leave the school grounds at 3.10pm unless special arrangements have been made by parents, carers or teachers. If an emergency occurs and you will be more than 10 minutes late, please phone the school so that your child will not be worried or unsettled and supervision arrangements can be made. As playgrounds are not supervised by staff before or after school, please refrain from using them outside of school hours.

Leave Pass

Parents or carers collecting children prior to the end of the school day are required to sign out via the Administration Office, to receive a leave pass, before going to the classrooms.

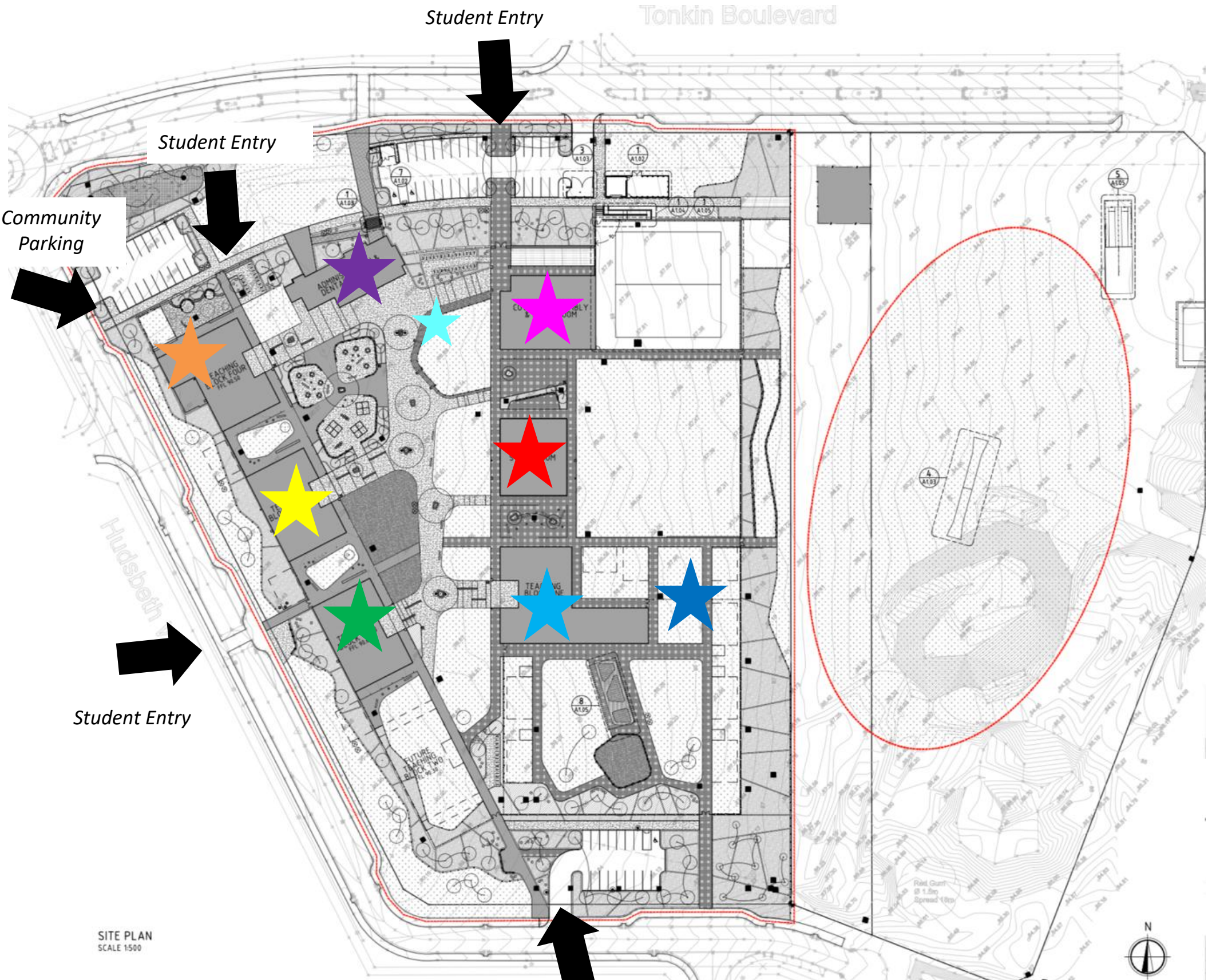
Kindergarten

We have an onsite Kindergarten program in Three Bears. Students turning four by 30 June in the year they are attending can access this program 15 hours per week, 5 days per fortnight. Parents and carers of Kindergarten students receive a specific handbook outlining various aspects of the Kindergarten program.

Pre-Primary

The Pre-Primary classrooms are also located within our school buildings in Three Bears. Pre-Primary is the first compulsory year of schooling where students attend five full days a week. Specific information is provided to parents and carers via the Pre-Primary Parent Information Brochure.

School Map



Community Parking and Student Entry

★**Conto Springs**
★**Hamelin Bay**
★**Gnarabup**
★**Three Bears**
★**Three Bears 6, 7 and 8**
★**Covered Assembly Area**
★**Administration Office**
★**Shade Shelter**
★**Redgate**

Administration

Enrolling at Rapids Landing Primary School

Rapids Landing Primary School adheres to the Department of Education's Enrolment Policy. This policy clearly outlines eligibility requirements as listed below:

Resident in the local area: The School Education Act 1999 guarantees a place for every child in the compulsory years of school, Pre-Primary – Year 6, at their local school.

A birth certificate or extract of birth or passport must accompany the Application for Enrolment. Students will be placed in the year of study corresponding to their age group.

Parents of students with Special Needs are asked to contact the school to discuss these needs when the Application for Enrolment has been approved to ensure that the most appropriate program is in place to meet their needs. Please also identify Medical Needs so that we can provide a safe learning environment.

Students who were born overseas must hold the appropriate visa before applying to the school. For overseas students who are entering Australia using an entry visa it is necessary that the office sight the passport and visa of the parent (primary visa holder) and student at the time of Application for Enrolment.

For all visa enquiries please contact Education and Training International on 08 9218 2100 or email study.eti@dtwd.wa.gov.au.

The school must sight a copy of each student's immunisation records at the time of Application for Enrolment.

School Areas

Margaret River region schools are local intake schools. All new enrolment applicants will be informed if they are in the Rapids Landing Primary School zone. Special permission must be sought to enrol a child in a school other than in the local area.

Newsletters and School Communication

The school newsletter is emailed monthly on a Wednesday and updated on our school app. Our newsletter is designed to keep you up to date with current and upcoming events at the school. Hard copies can be collected from the Administration Office, if required.

A term planner is included with each newsletter and can also be located on our school app, Compass. The newsletter also includes information from the Rapids Landing Primary School Board and the P&C. The newsletter is a wonderful way for us to share and celebrate the achievements of your children.

We urge parents and carers to read the newsletters regularly to keep up to-date with what is happening in and around the school. Our Facebook page and Compass app are also used to promote timely communication.

Classroom teachers may also choose to keep in touch with you via letter, phone, email or the Compass and Seesaw apps.

Charges and Voluntary School Contributions

A schedule outlining the Charges and Voluntary School Contributions is provided to all parents and carers two months prior to the start of the next school year. The Department of Education has requested that schools set these charges in consultation with the School Board. The Charges and Voluntary School Contributions are due and collected at the beginning of the school year and should be paid directly to the Administration Office. Contributions collected will be used to supplement school expenditure in our curriculum learning areas. These contributions will play an important role in the provision of resources that enable the school to add value to your child's learning experiences. Should you have difficulty paying these amounts, please feel free to discuss the matter with the Manager of Corporate Services, in strict confidence, as it may be possible to arrange a flexible payment plan to suit your situation.

The School Building Fund voluntary donation will be $20 per student to assist us with the purchase of sheltered walkways for our school. Please note that this amount is tax deductible.

Electronic payments are preferred to minimise the handling of cash. Please email details of your deposit to rapidslanding.ps@educaton.wa.edu.au to the attention of Manager Corporate Services. This will help us ensure your payment is correctly identified and promptly receipted.

Payments to the school may be made by directly depositing to the school's bank account through electronic bank transfer or by EFTPOS at the Administration Office. Bank details are below:

Account Name	Rapids Landing Primary School
Bank	Commonwealth
BSB	066 040
Account No	9903733
Reference	STUDENT NAME/DESCRIPTION

If paying by cash, parents and carers are asked to assist the school by ensuring that they (or their child) always have correct money for any payments being made. If money is sent to school for any purpose, PLEASE place the money in an envelope, write your child's name and class room number on it and the purpose of it.

Please note that the contribution of $60 per child equates to $1.50 per week over the school year.

Student Requirements - Items for Personal Use

These may vary from year level to year level due to what staff consider essential. A stationery order form for the following year is issued to parents and carers in early Term Four. Booklists will be distributed to each student with all items available for purchase from Margaret River Office National, however, parents may choose to purchase these items from another retailer if they wish.

Please refer to the 2027 Contributions and charges booklet for other costs, including swimming lessons, incursions, excursions and class activities.

Staff Organisation

The total number of staff varies from year to year according to student enrolments.

Principal	Overall responsibility for instructional leadership, strategic direction, school culture, student and staff wellbeing and administrative duties
Associate Principals	Instructional leadership, administrative duties, curriculum, social, emotional and classroom support for students and teachers
Class teachers	Kindergarten to Year 6. Responsible for quality teaching and program delivery
Additional Programs	Physical Education, Critical and Creative Thinking, Cultural Studies, The Arts, Technologies, STEM, Regional PEAC provision
Non-Teaching:	Manager Corporate Services, School Officer, Library Officer, Junior Primary Education Assistants, Kindergarten and Pre-Primary Education Assistants, Special Needs Education Assistants, Aboriginal Islander Education Officer (AIEO), Gardener, Cleaners and Chaplain

Student Leadership

Our senior students will have regular opportunities to develop their leadership skills. This includes Peer Support and Rapids Landing Primary School Student Council.

Community Involvement

Communicating with the School

Our school acknowledges the concerns of parents and welcomes any questions you may have. We are committed to responding promptly to your enquiries. When you have matters or concerns regarding the school, it is vital that you seek resolution as early as possible to avoid unnecessary stress and anxiety. In the first instance please contact the Principal, classroom teacher or other relevant staff members to discuss your concerns. The best way to do this is to arrange an appointment with the relevant person so that an appropriate amount of time can be devoted to resolving the matter effectively. To avoid disruptions to normal class routine, we ask that you arrange meetings with staff in advance. An appointment with the teacher can also be requested via the Administration Office.

Please note that it is inappropriate for parents and carers to deal directly with other students or their caregivers as this can lead to unnecessary conflict between the parties involved.

Parent and Carer Participation

Parent assistance in classroom and with school activities is always very welcome. It gives parents and carers the opportunity to take an active part in class activities and to develop an understanding of how children learn.

If you wish to assist in the class please contact your child's classroom teacher and watch for notes in the school newsletter asking for assistance with special school events.

You are encouraged to be part of the Rapids Landing Primary School P&C Association.

Please note: **To volunteer your time we will require a Working with Children Check or a signed Confidential Declaration Form.** Forms are available at the Administration Office.

Supplementary Parental Involvement

In addition to these major areas of involvement, parents and carers can assist the school and their child in many other ways, eg attending assemblies, paying fees promptly, supporting fundraising activities, reading newsletters, attending carnivals, helping with homework and…. by asking your child about their school day. Remember, we are all working towards a common goal – helping your child be a successful, resilient learner and achieve their potential.

All available evidence concludes that positive parental engagement in learning improves academic achievement, wellbeing and productivity.

School Board

The purpose of the School Board is to act ethically and with integrity in the governance of the school within the legislated accountability framework. The School Board Chairperson and Principal form a strong partnership to ensure a positive strategic direction is set by the School Board.

Parents and Citizens' Association

The P&C provides a great opportunity for parents, teachers and community members to support the learning environment and infrastructure of the school. Meetings are generally held twice per term with the sub- committees and an executive committee meeting more regularly to progress work at hand. The Annual General Meeting is held in February. Dates of the meetings are published in the school newsletter, on the school website, Compass app, the school and P&C Facebook pages and in the term planner.

A Membership fee of $1.00 is payable each year and ensures copies of the minutes of each meeting and the right to vote at meetings. A $20.00 P&C Donation is also requested via contributions and charges to support this group add to the school's provision of resources, including play equipment and community events.

The role of the P&C is diverse. Most school P&C Associations significantly contribute to the funding of programs and facilities within the school. Listed below are some of the committees that may be established and the role they play. All committees welcome input from parents and community members.

Buildings and Grounds: Make suggestions, come up with ideas, action improvements or additions to school buildings and grounds. Our P&C has been incredibly proactive with implementing Nature Play.

Events: Initiate social functions to facilitate networking of families within the school community and help organise fundraising events.

Uniform: Coordinate the ordering and sales of school uniforms.

Sport: Support sporting programs within the school by assisting with coaching and motivation of team and individual sports.

Canteen: Coordinate or volunteer to assist with the general running of the school canteen or lunches.

Class Representative: Class Representatives strengthen class communities for children, parents and carers

Assemblies

School Assemblies are typically held fortnightly on Friday mornings. Parents, carers, grandparents and friends are very welcome to attend these special events.

School assemblies are held to:

- Recognise and celebrate achievements of students, staff, parents and carers in the school community
- Give individual classes the opportunity to share learning experiences and/or perform for their peers in other classes with confidence and entertainment
- Give parents and members of the community an opportunity to see the achievement of individual students and classes being celebrated
- Disseminate information to members of the school community.

Teacher - Parent Contact

Informal ongoing contact with class teachers is important at Rapids Landing Primary School. In addition to formal reports at the end of the first and second semester, teachers at Rapids Landing Primary School report informally in a variety of ways including:

- Information sessions about the teaching and learning program
- Parent teacher discussions, that may include Three Way Conferences with the child involved
- Learning Journeys and Progress Packs
- Telephone discussions between teacher and parents/carers
- Annotations in diaries and communication books
- Letters, emails and other forms of correspondence from teachers to advise parents about successes or concerns

Where there is a need to discuss a student's progress, staff will contact parents by phone, email or note to organise a mutually suitable time to meet.

Parent and carer information meetings are held in each class at the beginning of each year. At this meeting teachers will set out their preferable method of communication, eg email, phone or meetings.

Tribes Creates our Positive School Culture

Tribes Learning Communities (TLC) is a process that maximises learning and human development. Through engaging in the *Tribes* (TLC) process, all students experience opportunities for healthy development so that each one has the knowledge, skills and resilience to be successful in a rapidly changing world. Associate Principal, Kellie Colquhoun, is a trained presenter and facilitates the *Tribes* (TLC) process.

To strengthen our *Tribes* (TLC) culture, Rapids Landing Primary School will begin the year with a weekly focus for classes on each of the *Tribes* (TLC) Community Agreements: Mutual Respect, Attentive Listening, Personal Best/Personal Responsibility, Appreciations/No Put Downs and Right to Participate/Right to Pass. The agreements will be explicitly taught and displayed in poster form in classes throughout the year, where the language of the agreements is modelled by all staff.

Tribes (TLC) promotes a safe, supportive and inclusive teaching and learning environment at Rapids Landing Primary School and underpins all that we do.

These values will be actively taught and reinforced to support positive relationships between all members of the school community. The basis for student values and attitudes is the home, and parents are the primary educators. In the school, it is the teacher's role to teach and the students role to learn, both supported by parents and carers.

All staff members work together to ensure a consistent and fair approach in the management of our learning environment. Staff members are supported by clear and concise policy in the management of behaviour and bullying. These policies are proactive and positive in their intent utilising the research-based frameworks.

Positive Behaviours

Rapids Landing Primary School is committed to meeting the behavioural and social-emotional needs of individuals, whilst recognising the rights of others in a safe, caring, inclusive and positive school environment.

Our behaviour management policy focuses on rewarding and reinforcing desirable behaviour, and providing appropriate support for undesirable behaviour. It is based on the Positive Behaviour Support framework and provides clear school and classroom behaviour expectations with fair and appropriate consequences, which are applied consistently and equitably.

The school strongly supports all students and staff to feel safe as they learn and teach. Bullying is not tolerated at our school. Students are encouraged to report all acts of bullying so that action can be taken. The Behaviour Management Policy includes a section on bullying – how to prevent it and how we respond to it.

Our one school rule at Rapids Landing Primary School is

Students respectfully move and play safely in supervised areas.

Attendance Career

The School Education Act 1999 requires children of compulsory school age Pre-Primary – Year 6 to attend school. When a child is unable to attend, legislation requires that parents and carers forward written notification providing a reasonable cause for the absence of their child. We encourage you to notify us on the morning of the absence by phoning, using Compass app or emailing the school. At this time, we will note the absence on our system. If a phone call or electronic explanation is not provided, a note explaining the absence is requested on return to school.

When notification is not received within three days of the original day's absence, the class teacher will send a letter requesting an explanation.

If students are late three (3) times in a five (5) week period, the Associate Principal will make contact with parents and carers to support their child attend school.

If your child is absent and we have not been notified by 10:00am, you will receive a notification via the Compass app.

Students At Educational Risk

At Rapids Landing Primary School we have processes in place to identify and support students at educational risk to progress towards the achievement of their academic, behavioural and social-emotional goals. This process may involve the staff, parents and agencies working together to develop, implement and monitor Individual Education and/or Behaviour using plans to address the specific needs of the child.

Canteen

Our School partners with Taste Catering to fulfil our Canteen Orders. Our 2027 Canteen days are Tuesday and Thursday. Orders can be placed via the Quickcliq link - www.quickcliq.com.au

School Uniform

We encourage Rapids Landing Primary School students to wear the school uniform and a school hat throughout the year. A very dedicated Steering Committee helped staff to work through the complex task of determining our amazing school uniform, including a reversible sun smart hat. Children are required to wear their hat when they are playing outside of the classroom. At Rapids Landing Primary School we have a Have hat, will play in the sun policy. This hat will stay at school. Please ensure your child wears appropriate shoes and minimal, if any, jewellery to and from school. Remember to label ALL clothing, including socks and shoes with your child's full name. We would appreciate shoes your child can manage independently.

Ordering School Uniforms

Nell Gray: Uniform Concepts in Busselton is our uniform supplier. You can visit their store in person or order online at www.nellgray.com.au. Uniform orders can be delivered to your home or workplace for a flat fee of $10. There are also fortnightly deliveries to Rapids Landing Primary School, free of charge.

Health and Medication

It is important that you keep your child at home if they are ill as it is hard to learn when you are feeling poorly and an unwell child can be infectious to others. If your child feels unwell at school, we will contact parents and carers and request that they take their child home.

It is essential that the school be informed promptly of all changes to address, doctor, telephone and emergency contact numbers to ensure speedy notification of parents/carers if an emergency arises.

If your child requires medication throughout the school day, it is necessary for you to fill out and sign a medical administration form. Please see the Administration Office for more information.

Medication Conditions and Allergies

A list of students with specific allergies is kept at school. Please advise the Administration Office if your child suffers from asthma, allergies or other medical conditions. The school requires written information on all medicines. If your child is on medication, please complete a medical form at the Administration Office and ensure it is kept up to date. The school will need a copy of an action plan provided by your family doctor if your child is asthmatic, has anaphylaxis or experiences other conditions that may require attention by staff.

Medication (e.g., inhalers, antibiotics, analgesics) is not to be kept in children's school bags. Prescribed medication is to be brought to the Administration Office and a medical form completed by parents and carers. Medication will only be administered with full written instructions from parents and carers.

Infectious Diseases

There are Department of Education requirements for infectious diseases. Following is a list of the most common ailments that children can suffer with. Details regarding treatment and possible exclusion from school are listed below. These exclusion periods can be altered if supported by a Medical Certificate. Please contact the Administration Office if you have any questions.

Appendix 4

Exclusion from School

Recommended minimum periods of exclusion from school, pre-school and child care centres for contacts of and cases with infectious diseases

Condition	Exclusion	Exclusion of contacts
Chickenpox	Exclude until all vesicles have crusted, approximately 5 days	Refer any immunosuppressed children (e.g. leukaemia patients) to their doctor. Do not exclude other contacts
Conjunctivitis	Exclude until discharge from eyes has ceased	Do not exclude
Diarrhoea	Exclude until diarrhoea has ceased for 24 hours. For high risk groups (hcw, food handler, child care staff) exclude for 48 hours after symptoms cease	Do not exclude
Hand, Foot and Mouth disease	Exclude until vesicles have crusted/dry	Do not exclude
Hepatitis A	Exclude until 14 days after onset of illness or 7 days after jaundice appears	Do not exclude. Contact management will be coordinated by public health unit staff
Herpes simplex 'Cold Sores'	Not excluded if the person can maintain hygiene practices to minimise the risk of transmission. If the person cannot comply with these practices (e.g. because they are too young), they should be **excluded until the sores are dry**. Sores should be covered with a dressing where possible.	Do not exclude
Impetigo	Exclude until after antibiotic treatment has commenced Lesions on exposed skin surfaces should be covered with a waterproof dressing. Young children unable to comply with good hygiene practice should be excluded until sores are dry	Exclude until 24 hours after completing treatment
Measles	Exclude for 4 days after the onset of rash	Do not exclude vaccinated or previously infected contacts. All other contacts should be excluded until 14 days after the onset of the rash in the last case. If susceptible contacts are vaccinated within 72 hours of their first contact with the first case they may return to school following vaccination. Contact management will be coordinated by public health unit staff
Meningococcal infection	Exclude until after treatment completed	Do not exclude. Discuss with public health unit staff
Molluscum contagiosum	Do not exclude	Do not exclude
Mumps	2 days prior, to 5 days after parotitis (swollen salivary glands)	Do not exclude
Parvovirus (B19 erythema infectiousm, fifth disease)	Exclusion not necessary	Pregnant women who have been exposed to parvovirus B19 should consult their doctor
Ringworm, scabies, pediculosis (lice), trachoma	Exclude until person has received antifungae treatment for 24 hours. For head lice exclude until hair is treated, lice removed. For scabies, trachoma, exclude until person has received treatment	Do not exclude
Rubella (german measles)	Exclude for 4 days after onset of rash	Do not exclude. Refer pregnant contacts to their doctor. Discuss with public health unit staff
Streptococcal infection (including scarlet fever)	Exclude until person has received antibiotic for 24 hours	Do not exclude
Whooping cough	Exclude until 5 days after an appropriate antibiotic treatment or for 21 days from the onset of coughing	Contact management will be coordinated by public health unit staff
Worms (intestinal)	Exclude until diarrhoea has ceased	Do not exclude

Head Lice

Head lice (nits) are a common problem in schools. Small white egg sacks, which will look like whitish specks, can be observed stuck to hair, especially behind the ear and back of neck. If your child has head lice please treat their hair and remove all eggs and lice. Please follow the QR code for The Government of Western Australia, Department of Health's fact sheet on head lice.

Personal Growth and Development

Personal growth and development, including puberty and sexuality, are part of the Health Curriculum. Notes will be sent home to inform parents and carers when courses occur. If parents and carers have any concerns regarding the course, they should contact the class teacher or Principal.

Skin Protection

The school fully supports the WA Health Department in its effort to make students fully aware of skin cancer.

1. The dangers of over-exposure to the sun are taught as part of the health program.
2. We encourage Rapids Landing Primary School students to wear a school hat throughout the year. A reversible sun smart hat is part of the uniform. Students are required to wear their hat when they are playing outside of the classroom. At Rapids Landing Primary School we have a *Have hat, will play in the sun* policy.
3. We strongly encourage students to regularly apply sun screen.

Psychologists

A School Psychologist is based at our school one day a week and provides support for those students who may have educational, behavioural or emotional needs. Parents and carers wishing to utilise this service should contact their child's teacher, Principal or the Learning Support Coordinator.

Dental Care

Rapids Landing Primary School students have access to the Dental Therapy Clinic located in the building next to the Administration Office.

Child Health Services

The closest Community Child Health Nurse (CCHN) to Rapids Landing Primary School is 33 Tunbridge Street
Phone: 1800 457 949

Student Health and Well Being

Dogs

Parents, carers and visitors are requested to not bring dogs on the school grounds during school hours. This includes being left unattended and tied to a boundary fence. You may know your dog is well trained and is unlikely to harm a child, however, schools are busy places where unpredictable events may trigger unexpected behaviours. Many children are fearful of dogs and some children may be allergic to them. We appreciate that families walk to school with their dogs, however, please make arrangements for dogs to remain outside the school grounds and supervised when taking your child to their classroom. Regardless of

size or breed, it is inappropriate to bring dogs onto school grounds and I strongly ask you to respect this request.

Scooters, Skateboards and Bikes

Students may ride their "wheels" to school. In the interests of safety, we have expectations for them to follow:

- Bicycles, skateboards or scooters are **not** to be ridden on the school grounds.
- Legislation exists that requires all cyclists, including children in Western Australia, to wear helmets.
- It is recommended that children under the age of ten do not ride bicycles unsupervised.
- Bicycles, skateboards and scooters must be kept in the bike/wheels racks provided. They are **not** permitted to be stored in classrooms or with school bags.
- Students bring these items to school at their own risk. They are strongly encouraged to secure bicycles, skateboards and scooters with a lockable chain.
- The school takes no responsibility if these items are stolen or damaged.

Any form of transport, including bikes, scooters and skateboards, must be wheeled or carried on school grounds. This includes pathways into and throughout our school.

No Smoking

Parents and visitors are asked to adhere to the Department of Education Policy prohibiting smoking/vaping on school grounds.

Parking (Refer School Map, Page 9)

Designated parking bays are sign posted and we appreciate you parking in appropriate areas. Thank you for Community and visitor carparks are clearly signposted, and we appreciate you parking in appropriate areas. Street parking is available along Hudsbeth Way, Leschenaultia Avenue and Tonkin Boulevard. The Staff Carpark is for staff only and we appreciate parents and carers keeping the bus bays on Tonkin Boulevard and Hudsbeth Way clear during the time periods listed on the signage. Thank you for helping us promote the safe entry and exit to school for our whole school community and the residents who live close to us. We continue to work in consultation with the School Board to come up with long term parking solutions as our school community continues to grow. There are a small number of parking bays available for early childhood students located off Hudsbeth Way near Three Bears teaching block.

The bus signage near the basketball courts, and on Hudsbeth Way, helps you know when it is ok to park in this area (not between 7.30-9.00am and 2.30-4.00pm).

Rangers have advised that the red asphalt areas in the centre of Tonkin Blvd are not for parking - they are median strips. In the interests of public safety, please park in the bays and carparks provided. No Standing signs have now been installed.

Curriculum and Programs

Academic Measures

The early identification of the individual needs of students is critical to ensure they learn successfully. During each stage of schooling a number of measures are employed to identify the educational needs of students.

- Kindergarten – The teacher discusses any concerns with parents in relation to hearing, sight, speech and/ or physical development to enable parents to access specialist health professional intervention if necessary. Kindergarten children will participate in language screening which assesses foundation skills important to language development in the early years of schooling. The data from this assessment helps inform the Kindergarten and Pre-Primary literacy program for the year. It also identifies children requiring additional support and/or intervention. This screening is useful for all students and provides the school with valuable whole school data.

- Pre-Primary – Making sure our early years students have the necessary essential skills for future literacy and numeracy development is vitally important. All public schools in Western Australia are involved in the Department of Education's On-Entry Assessment Program. This program, presented as a literacy and numeracy interview, will enable teachers to collect vital information on essential literacy and numeracy skills of their Pre-Primary children.

  The results of these interviews will provide teachers with additional information to assist in the planning of their teaching programs, reflective of each student's needs. It will also provide your child and teacher with some valuable time together in a one-to-one situation.

  The Literacy interview takes approximately 30 minutes and includes a series of simple tasks, some of which have accompanying resources, and include speaking and listening, letter recognition, responding to sounds and looking at books. The numeracy interview takes approximately 20 – 25 minutes and includes a set of simple tasks on number, measurement and space.

  Further information can be found on the On-Entry website, at:
  http://www.det.wa.edu.au/educationalmeasurement/detcms/navigation/on-entry/

- Years 1 to 6 – Ongoing monitoring and assessment of your child's progress using a range of standardised tests and summative assessment to plan for and implement teaching strategies to meet their individual needs.

  In addition to monitoring that occurs at a school level, students also participate in national testing procedures. The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment of all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. All students are expected to participate in the testing. They will be assessed in language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation), writing, reading and numeracy.

  The results support schools to identify strengths and areas that need adjustment in teaching programs, and gain information to help them evaluate programs and allocate resources.

- The school monitors each child's learning throughout their journey at Rapids Landing Primary School, using teacher constructed assessment tools and comparative methods, such as PAT (Progressive Achievement Test) in English, Mathematics and Science.

Reporting to Parents

As part of accountability requirements, regular reporting to parents and feedback on student progress is an important, non-negotiable, requirement of the school. A variety of methods are utilised each term to keep parents and carers informed about their child's progress.

Parent and caregivers will receive formal reports twice a year. These reports comply with Department of Education requirements to:

- give an accurate and objective assessment of the student's progress and achievement
- include an assessment of the student's achievement reported as an ABCDE scale, clearly defined against specific learning standards and relative to the student's peer group.

Other forms of reporting include Progress Packs, Three-Way-Conferences and Learning Journeys.

Gifted and Talented

Rapids Landing Primary School provides challenging and broad curriculum content and a diverse co-curricular program to cater for all students. We also have a focus on identifying talents in the Arts, Physical Education and developing Critical and Creative Thinking skills in all children.

Teachers take into account the different experiences and backgrounds of children, tailoring programs to meet their learning needs.

In addition to school based programs, students are tested in Year 4 for participation in external classes through Primary Extension and Challenge (PEAC) in Years 5-6. PEAC is a part time program in which students are provided with extension opportunities. Identified students are selected to participate in programs offered in a range of delivery modes. Rapids Landing Primary School students will be identified for inclusion in these programs.

Rapids Landing Primary School provides the PEAC program for our region. It is the parent's responsibility to transport their child to classes, if required.

Homework

Homework reinforces and supports the things your children learn at school. It is designed to get your children thinking and applying what they learn in different ways and encourages them to become independent learners. Many students, as they progress through schooling, come to regard homework as a normal and necessary extension of the day's learning activities.

Homework may take a variety of forms. The important factor is that any homework must provide educative experiences. Homework should centre around the interests of the child which may be natural or acquired and add to their interest in learning. We encourage children to undertake voluntary tasks to make use of their acquired skills in a way appropriate to their age and interests. Targeted activities may form part of this experience as part of an Individual Support Plan.

Children should be encouraged to read or be read to each day for interest and enjoyment. Books can be borrowed from the school Library.

Homework can range from mathematical puzzles for the child who enjoys working in this area, to another finding satisfaction in writing real letters to friend, or yet others who are naturally interested in the media or collecting things – at first indiscriminately and later for rarity, identification, classifications or exhibition purpose.

Precise tasks given to all members of a class to be performed out of school hours and marked by the classroom teacher is not supported by our school policy.

Parents and carers may discuss with the teacher the opportunity or necessity for their child to opt out of any homework activities in the short term or longer duration. Please see the Rapids Landing Homework Policy for more details. Please remember, homework should be viewed as a positive learning and reinforcement opportunity.

Information Communication Technology

Rapids Landing Primary School is equipped with the latest in computer technology to support student learning. Your child will learn to use contemporary information and communication technologies, including interactive whiteboards, desktop computers, notebooks, coding devices, iPads and cameras that will support their learning and provide them with access to current information and contemporary models of learning. Rapids Landing Primary School promotes all students to be active citizens in their world.

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics)

Being 21st century learners, students' curiosity and their appetite to learn new knowledge will be encouraged at Rapids Landing Primary School.

STEM education is the learning of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics in an interdisciplinary or integrated approach. Students gain and apply knowledge, deepen their understanding and develop creative and critical thinking skills within an authentic context. It may include inquiry and project or problem based learning. Our school is a STEM Enterprise School, a Department of Education initiative.

A vibrant capacity in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) is pivotal to increasing our nation's productivity Professor Ian Chubb, Chief Scientist, Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics: Australia's Future 2014

Library

We have a spacious, state of the art Library that is accessible to all students. The Library is resourced with award-winning fiction and non-fiction books that students will be strongly encouraged to borrow and read, both at home and at school.

Physical Education

The school has a Physical Education teacher who will develop skills and undertake a range of programs developing students' fundamental movement skills, organised sport programs and dance, as well as inter-faction sporting activities and carnivals. Students who show skills or interest may also have the opportunity to participate in interschool sport competitions. This program aims to develop in each student, skills, fitness and a positive attitude to be able to live and enjoy a healthy, active lifestyle.

Students from Pre-Primary to Year 6 also participate in the Department of Education's swimming lesson program during the year. This is comprised of 9 or 10 lessons conducted over a two week period.

The Arts

Opportunities are provided for children to express their artistic talents. This includes performance, competitions and exhibitions in the domains of Music, Visual and Performing Arts. Children are encouraged to learn through the Arts and develop their creativity through a variety of media. Specialist teachers in Visual Arts, Music and Drama support student learning in this area.

Excursions and Incursions

Excursions and incursions play an important part in the learning program of all classes. Permission is required for excursions and failure to complete the excursion permission slip by the due date will result in the child not participating. Parents are advised of excursions and incursions via the Compass app. This will be strictly adhered to for risk management purposes.

Factions

Our factions for sport and other team experiences are named after the spectacular caves in the Margaret River Region, with the idea coming from community consultation. Rapids Landing Primary School has four factions:

Jewel (green) Lake (purple) Mammoth (orange) Ngilgi (yellow)

We are excited to welcome our newest faction, Ngilgi, this year!

Procedures

Collection of Children

During School Hours:

In certain circumstances, such as illness, medical appointments, etc, it may be necessary to collect children from school during school hours. Parents and carers are required to present at Administration to receive a leave pass before picking up child/ren from their classroom/s. This is a necessary legal requirement for reasons of safety and duty of care.

Compass is an electronic process also used by any adult who enters our school grounds.

After School Hours:

- At times, parents can be unavoidably detained, causing them to be late when collecting their children from school. In such instances, please phone the school, so that supervision arrangements can be made.

Late to School

If your child arrives after 9am, please bring them to the Administration Office to sign them in. We are always happy to see our students, so please bring them to school even if you are running a little late.

Custody of Children

Please provide copies of court orders to the Principal at time of enrolment. If in the future there are any changes to the orders it is very important that you inform the Principal.

Confidential Declarations/Police Clearance

Departmental regulations state that any parents/carers/community members who are involved in activities with students in the school must sign a Confidential Declaration that they have no criminal record that would deem them detrimental to students. Parents/Carers/Community members involved in the school need to sign these. Forms are available from the Administration Office or teachers.

Working With Children Declarations

Working With Children's Clearance is required for parent and carer helpers who assist with overnight camps. These forms are available from the Post Office.

Internet, Information Privacy and Security

All students access and use the internet under supervision whilst at school. When enrolling your child, you will be required to sign a permission form granting rights to access the internet whilst at school. As part of the learning experience, the use of Third Party Applications may be used. A Third Party Applications permission form will also need to be completed.

Department of Education policy requires written permission before photos of your child/ren can be used on printed material such as newsletters, newspapers, television, video and/or internet. Formal enrolment documentation requests parent authorisation/permission for this to occur.

Mobile Electronic Devices

From 2020, all public schools must implement a ban on the use of mobile phones for students from the time they arrive at school until the end of the school day - including before school and at break times.

This policy applies to all principals of public schools to implement.

Mobile Electronic Devices include a range of devices such as smartphones, tablets, smart wtches and laptops. Mobile Electronic Devices are to be used for educational purposes only and as a result, mobile phones are banned for use by students during school hours. Students who bring mobile phones and other digital devices not permitted under the Department of Education's Policy to school will immediately attend the Administration Office upon entering the school premises and provide their device to Office staff. They will be provided with a tag to show receipt of the device and have it stored in a secure box. At the end of the school day, students return to the Administration Office with their tag and receive their device. Smart watches must be switched to Aeroplane Mode, and be unable to send or receive calls or messages.

Parents needing to make emergency contact with their children during school hours are requested to do so through Administration Office.

All mobile phones are to be switched off and not used at school or on excursions, including camps.

Staff: mobile electronic devices are only to be used for the purpose of instruction and/or risk management during lesson times.

NB: Neither the school nor the Department of Education will accept any responsibility if mobile phones or other items are lost, damaged or stolen.

Personal Belongings

Students are asked not to bring along valuables such as toys, iPads, mobile phones, consoles, gaming devices, jewellery, electronic toys or money that can be mislaid or damaged during school hours. If brought to school, electronic items must be switched off and stored at the Administration office. No responsibility will be accepted for valuables of this nature.

Lost Property

Lost property such as clothing will be placed in the tub outside the Administration Office.

We ask for your assistance by ensuring that all personal belongings are clearly labelled with your child's name to assist us to be able to return items misplaced by children within the school grounds.

Please make sure all belongings are clearly labelled with your child's name.

Digital Communications

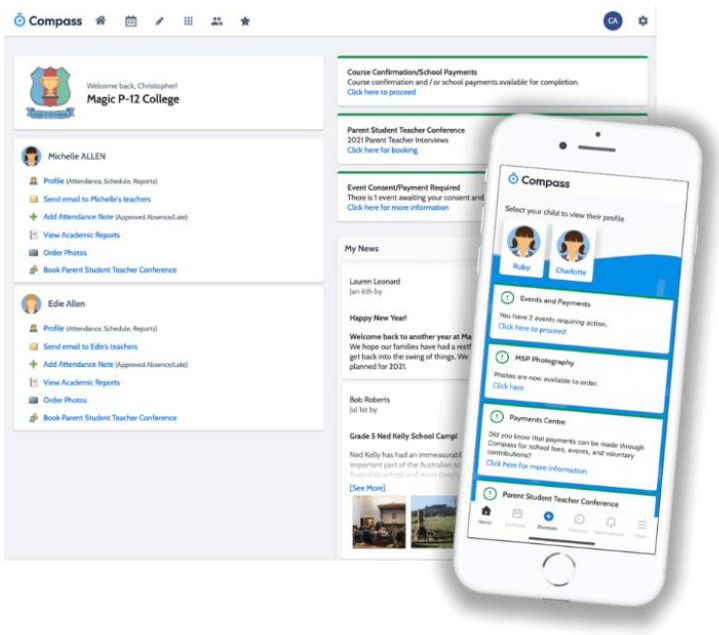
Facebook

Our Facebook page has been incredibly helpful in sharing information and keeping our school community updated: **Rapids Landing Primary School**

Website

Please visit: **www.rapidslandingps.wa.edu.au**

Compass App for Rapids Landing Primary School



The application (app) provides direct access to newsletters, term planners, submit student absences and the school calendar. The app is also used to share reminders and notices with our school community. It enables you to call or email directly from your smartphone or tablet. The app is available as a free download from the Google Play or App Stores.

School Information – Frequently Asked Questions

What do children learn at Primary School?

Students learn an amazing amount as their learning journey continues through primary school.

Primary school education continues in Years 1 to 6 where children receive a strong foundation in eight core subject areas:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities and Social Sciences
- Technologies
- Languages
- The Arts
- Health and Physical Education

Literacy and **numeracy** are important learning areas. Learning focuses on ensuring your children understand mathematics and learn to read and write competently. Our staff have specialist literacy and numeracy teachers to help your children develop these important skills.

Programs are designed to build natural curiosity and foster inquiring minds in the area of **Science and Technology**. In **Humanities and Social Sciences**, they learn about the history and traditions at the heart of Australia's democratic society.

Teachers plan for a balance of activities based on the learning needs of your children and other students in their class. In some instances, specialist teachers teach the class, for example in Physical Education, The Arts (Visual Arts, Drama and Music) and Language.

Your child's teacher takes into account their experiences and background to make sure learning programs meet your child's needs. If your child is having difficulty with any of the learning, speak with their teacher.

What food should my child bring?

At Rapids Landing Primary School we follow the Department of Education's Healthy Food and Drink Policy. Your child is strongly encouraged to bring healthy food and drinks to school. A typical lunchbox may consist of:

- 1 bottle of water
- 1 - 2 pieces of fresh fruit/vegetable sticks. Kindergarten students sit together for a mid-morning snack and this is an important part of our program. This opportunity to drink water and snack on fruits or vegetables is often referred to as "Crunch & Sip"
- Recess - popcorn, yoghurt, cheese, crackers, etc, are an appropriate snack.
- Lunch- Please keep it simple. **A sandwich, wrap or salad** are all great lunch options.
- **We encourage you, where possible, to avoid nuts and egg products in lunches due to the potential of children having allergies.**
- You may like to include a frozen ice pack to ensure lunch stays cool and safe to eat.

What do students do at recess and lunch?

Years 1-6 Recess

- Food must be consumed while seated in the courtyard area.
- Students dismiss themselves to play after they have finished eating and have placed rubbish in the bin.

Years 1-6 Lunch

- Food must be consumed while seated in the courtyard area.
- Students are to remain seated until dismissed at 1.30pm.
- Students place rubbish in bins prior to play.

Wet weather arrangements exist for recess and lunch.

How can we assist Rapids Landing Primary School?

The development of children is a shared responsibility between the school and parents and carers. You can assist our school and your child's educational development by:

- Being on time to drop off and pick up from school.
- Ensuring that all absences are explained.
- Notifying the Principal if you plan on being away for an extended period (more than 3 school days).
- Discouraging your child from bringing electronics and toys to school (unless requested by the teacher).
- Helping your child wear school appropriate clothing and minimal, if any, jewellery.
- Promptly reading, signing and returning (if necessary) all forms and notes.
- Routinely read the school newsletter and any other notices that may be displayed or sent home.
- Keeping up regular contact with your child's teacher. Any concerns (health, educational, family) should be discussed at your earliest convenience.
- Making a time in advance to privately discuss more lengthy and/or confidential matters.
- Please Note: Class meetings will be held by classroom teachers at the start of the school year. You will be informed of the date in advance. This meeting will give staff the opportunity to share their class policy and information specific to their classroom. There will be an opportunity to ask questions at the end of the meeting. This is also a good opportunity for parents and carers to meet and network with other parents and carers.
- Ask your child about their day and be a partner in their learning.

Why is attending school every day so important?

Western Australian law stipulates that all school-aged children must go to and attend school every day.

Developing the habit of going to school every day is vital so children do not miss out on important ideas and skills they need for future learning. Did you know:

- missing half a day of school each week equates to one month of missed learning per year
- the attendance habits set by children when they first start school continue throughout their school life
- if your children miss half a day of school each week between Pre-Primary and Year 10, they would miss almost one full year of learning
- learning is cumulative – if your children miss a day, it is harder for them to catch up.

You can help by arriving and collecting your children on time; making sure they get nutritious meals and enough sleep; and making appointments with doctors, dentists and specialists, and making holiday plans during school holidays and not during the school term.

If one of your children is unwell and unable to go to school, let the school know straight away by telephone or by the school app. If they miss a day it is important you talk with their teacher to find out how you can help them catch up, if needed.

School Song

In 2018, our Foundation Year, Beth Carlessi used her amazing talents to capture the essence of our school in a school song that we sing acapella.

At Rapids Landing Primary School,
We celebrate each individual.
We are a team, we are a family,
We are a tribe and together we will thrive.

Creating excellence, together,
Every day
Creating excellence, together,
In every single way.

We are as one no matter where we're from,
We learn new skills as our knowledge builds.

Creating excellence, together,
Every day
Creating excellence, together,
In every single way.

At Rapids Landing Primary School,
We celebrate each individual.

We warmly welcome you and your child to our school community.
We look forward to sharing this exciting and important journey with you and making 2027 a great year for your child.

Rapids LANDING
PRIMARY SCHOOL