Kindergarten Starting Dates 2015

Kindergarten students will start at 10:00am each day until Friday 6 February.

From Monday 9 February classes will begin at the regular time of 8.55am. Playground supervision is provided from 8:30am.

Your child will be placed into a temporary class for the first four weeks. This will allow the Kindergarten teachers to conduct a Best Start Kindergarten Assessment and observe your child. Classes at Westmead Public School are based on a range of factors. We have mixed ability classes and do not stream classes based on academic ability.

- If your child will no longer be attending Westmead Public School, please inform the office as soon as possible.
- If your child will not be available to start school on the date that you were given, please inform the school office by letter or email outlining the anticipated start date and a copy of your travel documents, for example a copy of your airline tickets.

The school’s email address is: westmead-p@det.nsw.edu.au.

This is to inform you about the Best Start Kindergarten Assessment that will take place at our school in Term 1.

What is the Best Start Kindergarten Assessment?
Children come to school with different levels of literacy and numeracy. Some are familiar with books, can recognise some letters, even write their name or count to ten, while others have not yet learned these skills.

Our Kindergarten teachers have always observed their new students and used different methods to find out what each child knows and can do so that they can plan and teach what their students need to learn next.

Our school takes part in Best Start developed by early learning experts in the Department of Education and Training. Best Start gives our teachers, and those teaching Kindergarten across New South Wales, a common set of high quality assessment tools and professional training.

We believe that Best Start will build on the strengths of our teachers and give your child an even better start to school.

Your child and the Best Start Kindergarten Assessment
It is very important to emphasise that the Best Start Kindergarten Assessment is not a test. Its purpose is to help the teacher gather information to guide the teaching of your child.

The teacher will observe each child and use tasks, such as talking about a book that has been read, and record what their students know and can do. The teaching of your child will be based on the information gathered in these ways.

You will be given feedback about what your child's teacher has learned about your child, which you are welcome to discuss if you wish, in keeping with our usual practice.
What is being assessed?
The teacher will look at your child’s early reading and writing, their ability to communicate with others, and how they recognise and work with numbers, groups and patterns.

Telephone Interpreter Service
If you need an interpreter to assist you to contact me please call the Telephone Interpreter Service on telephone 131 450 and ask for an interpreter in your language. The interpreter will call me and will stay on the line to assist you with our conversation. You will not be charged for this service.
Kindergarten 2015 – Local Area Address Policy

All students who are accepted for enrolment at Westmead Public School must reside within the local catchment area at enrolment and for the duration of their enrolment at this school.

Before your child can commence Kindergarten in 2015, you are required to produce evidence that you still reside within the school’s local address catchment area at the beginning of the 2015 school year.

To confirm your status as a Local Enrolment you are required to provide the following documentation on Wednesday 28 January or Thursday 29 January (prior to your child starting school):

- Current Electricity Account (not more than three (3) months old)

In addition, you must provide

- If you Own the Property
  - Current Council Rates or Water Rates

- If you Rent the Property
  - Current Tenant Ledger or two (2) current rent receipts

Change of Address Policy

It is a condition of the enrolment that parent/carers advise the school within 7 (seven) school days of:

- a change of address, telephone contact details or emergency contact information
- any change in the student’s medical condition or a new medical condition

If the change of address occurs during the school holiday period, the parent/carer will inform the school on the first school day of the new term.

Should a student and their family relocate to an address outside the Westmead Public School catchment area, it is expected that the student will enrol at the primary school local for their new address.

When a student changes to an address within the local catchment area, the parent/carer is required to produce evidence of the local address with the following documentation – originals only; no copies or email versions.

Support documents for IN-AREA change of address

Please provide required documents from List A and List B below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>List A</th>
<th>List B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>➢ If you are the owner of the property</td>
<td>➢ Electricity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Purchase contract for property AND</td>
<td>AND at least 1 (one) of the following:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Council Rates OR</td>
<td>• Gas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Water Rates</td>
<td>• Landline phone (not mobile phone)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ If you are renting the property</td>
<td>• Internet connection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Signed Rental Agreement stamped by the</td>
<td>• Home Contents insurance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leasing Agent – valid for at least 6 (six)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>months</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Rental Bond Lodgement stamped by</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leasing Agent</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Tenant Trust Ledger – must show Rental</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bond Lodgement Receipt AND current</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental payment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. NSW Fair Trading Advice of Lodgement</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ALL documents must be:

- In YOUR name
- ORIGINALS – no photocopies
- Current date – no more than 3 (three) months old