

Prep 2021 Transition Program



PRIMARY CAMPUS

275 Gordons Road South Morang 3752
9404 9000

Respect - Learning - Teamwork - Leadership

Principal's Message

Dear Families

Thank you for enrolling your child at The Lakes South Morang College.

We warmly welcome you to our school and look forward to developing a strong partnership built on respect and trust. Starting school should be a seamless transition and our committed teachers work with students and families to ensure the experience is supported and positive.

Our experienced staff will nurture your child through their first year of school creating the foundation for a successful school life.

Our transition program aims to provide pre-school children with a taste of school life and is conducted by our Prep team. All Prep children enrolled at The Lakes for 2021 are encouraged to attend.

Kerrie Heenan
College Principal

Marcus Abney-Hastings
Primary Campus Principal

Transition Dates for Prep 2021 Students

There will be four transition sessions for your enrolled Prep child to participate in prior to the start of 2021 school year.

Our sessions are designed to be fun and to assist your child to become familiar with our school and teachers so that they feel safe and comfortable in our school environment.

Your child will need to bring a water bottle, a piece of fruit and a hat.

During these sessions, parents are encouraged to attend our parent information sessions.

Session 1: Tuesday 10th November 2020

Session 2: Tuesday 17th November 2020

Session 3: Tuesday 24th November 2020

Session 4: Tuesday 1st December 2020

Sessions will run from 9.15am to 10.30am

If there are any changes to the way we deliver these sessions, we will make contact with you prior to the first transition date.



Transition Program for Prep 2021 Students

Session 1

Tuesday 10th November 2020

09.15am - 10.30am

Student session:

Students will meet the Prep teachers. They will get to know their teacher, peers and learning spaces. They will read a social story and draw a picture

Parent session:

- Listen to an introduction to our school together with our school leaders
- Develop an understanding of School Readiness and Home Reading
- View samples and a presentation of our uniform presented by Northern Regional Uniform



Session 2

Tuesday 17th November 2020

09.15am - 10.30am

Student session:

Students will continue to get to know their peers and teacher. They will build an understanding of what a Big Buddy is and complete an activity

Parent session:

- Develop an understanding of speech therapy screening by The Lakes College Speech Pathologist
- Build an understanding of the 1:1 iPad program including: Apps, Showbie as a tool for learning and accessing Sentral for notices and reports

Transition Program for Prep 2021 Students

Session 3

Tuesday 24th November 2020

09.15am - 10.30am

Student session:

Students will continue to build relationships with their peers and teacher.

They will become familiar with our outdoor play areas including the sandpit, playground and turf areas and draw their favourite site.



Parent session:

- Develop an understanding an understanding of Before and After School Care by a Camp Australia representative
- Develop an understanding of the School Banking program with the Commonwealth Bank

Session 4

Tuesday 1st December 2020

09.15am - 10.30am

Student session:

Students will continue to build relationships with their peers and teacher. They will take part in an activity to prepare them for their first day of school and to learn about routines



Parent session:

- Develop an understanding of the school nursing program and prep screening with Mandy Fairbrother (Health and Wellbeing office DET)
- Build an understanding of our Prep Perceptual Motor Program (PMP)
- View a performance by our students

2021 Term Dates

Term 1

Friday 29th January 2021 to Thursday 1st April 2021

Term 2

Monday 19th April 2021 to Friday 25th June 2021

Term 3

Monday 12th July 2021 to Friday 17th September 2021

Term 4

Monday 4th October 2021 to Friday 17th December 2021



2021 Dates

Prep 2021 Literacy and Numeracy Assessments

The Prep assessments are between your child and their teacher only. The purpose of this assessment is for the teacher to gain knowledge of each child's understanding in order to prepare an appropriate individualised program. Prep students will only be required to attend school for their assessment time. Parents are not required to attend this one hour session. Your assessment time will be confirmed with you in December.

Thursday 28th January 2021

Wednesday 3rd February 2021

Wednesday 10th February 2021

Wednesday 17th February 2021

Prep 2021 Official First Day of School

Friday 29th January 2021

More information about start and finish times on this day only will be provided. From Monday 1st February school hours are 9am-3.15pm.

On the first day of school, parents are invited to a 'Tea & Tears' session with other parents in the Staff Room after drop off.



Prep Program

Literacy

Numeracy

Oral Language Program

Play Based Inquiry

ICT - iPads

Buddy Program

Perceptual Motor Program (PMP)

Visual Arts

Performing Arts/Music

Health & Physical Education

Library

Social and Emotional Learning

Auslan

Various excursions and incursions relating to units of study



The Prep Program promotes investigation and inquiry skills through structured play and group activities. It develops and supports interpersonal skills and oral language development.

The outcomes are for our students to become literate, numerate and creative thinkers.



School Readiness

Many parents ask,

“What can I do to help my child be ready for the Prep year?”

There are 4 main areas of development.

1. PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Children need to be able to care for themselves in many ways because an adult is not always available to help.

It is helpful if children can:

Eat on their own.

Use a hankie or tissue.

Use a toilet independently.



Adopt a predictable morning and evening routines to maintain focus throughout the day.

Develop hand/eye coordination.

You can assist your child's physical development by:

Practising independence when opening and closing their lunchbox, unwrapping food and drinking from a drink bottle or a tap.

Talking to them about their “playtime/recess snack” and their “lunch”

Encouraging your child to use tissues and to blow their nose when they need to

Teaching boys how to use the urinal

Developing effective sleeping and waking up patterns.

School Readiness

2. SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

At The Lakes the Prep students will be mixing with more children than at their pre-school. They need to feel safe and happy in the playground and the classroom.

It is helpful if children can:

Demonstrate confidence to ask for help in the playground and classroom.

Work in a group by taking turns, listening to others and have coping strategies to handle a win or a loss.

Develop confidence to approach other children and ask to join in

You can assist your child's social development by:

Encouraging your child to ask for help if the need it.

Playing games to learn how to take turns, listen to others and how to cope with a win or a loss.

Trying not to let your child “win” all the time. It often causes disappointment when they lose at school.

Discussing ways to approach other children and ask to join in the game. Teach your child to ask nicely, be willing to take turns and not to be bossy, push or hit others.

Encouraging your child to invite friends home for a play, especially those going to the same school.

School Readiness

3. EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Children settle into school quickly and happily if they are prepared emotionally.

You can assist your child's emotional development by:

Reassuring your child that you will be back at the end of the school day.

Be encouraging and positive about coming to school. If we expect them to be happy and secure, they will be.

Settle them into the room, say good-bye and leave. Please don't peek through the windows. We will be in contact with you if there is a problem.

Being on time to pick them up at the end of the school day. If you are not picking up your child, tell them and their teacher who will be collecting them.

Encouraging them to look after their belongings. Help them by showing them where you have labelled their clothing.

Visiting the school grounds on the weekend for a bike ride or a play on the equipment. Point out to children the buildings and places they can play.

Developing independence by letting them carry their bag and reader bag. Remind them but do not do it for them.

Praising your child. If you see them as successful, they will see themselves that way.



School Readiness

4. INTELLECTUAL DEVELOPMENT

Building a child's vocabulary and understanding of our language will support them to communicate and build on their knowledge and skills. Develop their understanding through conversation.

You can assist your child's intellectual development by:

Talking with your child. Build their language every day. For example, talk about and ask them about the colours they can see around them.

Reading to them. Encourage a love of reading by reading to your child daily. Let them see you reading.

Encouraging your child to look for the print around them. Most children can "read" the McDonalds sign. What others can they find?

Counting small groups of objects. "How many steps are we going up?" "Help me set the table – get 4 spoons."

When shopping, ask them which container is heavier/lighter, bigger/smaller.

Giving them materials at home to write with. It may look like scribble but it is the beginning of writing.

Helping them to recognise their name. Write it for them and encourage them to write it.



School Readiness

But remember –

In any Prep class children will be learning at different rates. Don't compare what your child is doing with somebody else in the grade or to an older sibling.

Trying to hurry children before they are ready will not work. Prep teachers expect a wide range of skills and abilities and plan for a variety of activities to develop the individual child.

Starting school is an exciting time for you and your child.

Be positive.

Enjoy the year.

