

# Tamworth South Public School Parent Handbook



# Tamworth South Public School

Petra Avenue, Tamworth NSW 2340

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Welcome to Tamworth South Public School.

Tamworth South Public School is a primary school for students from kindergarten to year 6.

The school offers a wide range of programs and opportunities for its students. These include:

- A strong focus on teaching and learning programs designed to assist in meeting individual needs;
- An emphasis on performing arts and sport as a strong tradition;
- A rich and diverse curriculum offering varied opportunities for students including sport, dance, music (individual tuition, choral and marimba groups) and drama;
- Excellent opportunities to develop leadership;
- Enrichment programs giving students opportunities to develop talents and interests in music, dance, drama, choir, problem solving, chess, spelling and computers; and
- Provision of special education opportunities to meet the needs of students requiring additional assistance.

Tamworth South's mission is to provide educational excellence and a respect for self, others and school, to work together in ensuring that teachers, students and families are supported and recognised as important members of our school community. We take pride in respecting the individuality of our students and are committed to providing your child with a quality educational experience.

At Tamworth South we aim to prepare our students to be effective learners and citizens of the community through fostering positive learning experiences and a recognition of achievements at an individual level. We are proud of our schools consistent high achievements in interschool, academic and cultural pursuits.

We look forward to getting to know you and your child.

Jeremy Mills

Principal

"In all things sincerity"

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## ABSENCES AND ATTENDANCE

Attendance at school is compulsory for children and any absences, whole or part day, must be explained to the school via a parental note or phone call to the office. Regulations require the school to send a letter home whenever a child has been away for 2 days or more without the school receiving an explanation. A phone call or note will save a lot of confusion and angst.

Extended absences for holidays or visits to separated parents **MUST** be approved by the principal following an exemption application being submitted prior to the absence. This form is available from the front office.

If a child must leave school during school hours for appointments etc., written permission from a parent or carer is required in advance. Late arrivals must report to the office on arrival. All early leavers' parents/carers must report to the front office to collect a slip before collecting a child.

Home School Liaison Officers (H.S.L.O.) are appointed by the Department of Education and Communities to investigate long, short and partial absences when a child misses more than 15% of the year (approximately 30 days) or if a pattern of absenteeism warrants investigation.

## ASSEMBLIES

At Tamworth South Public School we hold three major school assemblies each week.

**Whole School Assembly** – Monday 9.10am – the whole school assembly is held under the large covered outdoor learning area in the infant's playground. At this assembly we highlight student achievement, inform parents and students about the week's activities and discuss the school value of the week.

**Infants Assembly** – Thursday 9.10am – The infant's assembly involves all children from Kindergarten to Year 2 and is held in the school hall. Each week a different class runs the assembly and presents an item. At this assembly we highlight student achievement, sing songs and sing "Happy Birthday" to children who have celebrated birthdays in the previous week.

**Primary Assembly** – Friday 2.30pm – The primary assembly involves all students from Year 3 to Year 6 and is held in the school hall. As with the infant's assembly, a different class hosts the assembly each week and presents an item. At this assembly we highlight student achievement in all of the Key Learning Areas.

## ASSISTED SCHOOL TRAVEL

Assisted school travel provides access to school for children with disabilities from home to school and back again following approval by Assisted School Travel directorate and upon completion of forms. This service is only used in special cases and the regulations are stringent. Please feel free to discuss Assisted School Travel with the Special Education Assistant Principal if you feel that your child is eligible.

Children who use assisted school travel are picked up at the Woodward Avenue school entrance.

## AWARDS

PBL Awards form the basis of the student welfare system at Tamworth South.

Our core value of 'Respect of Self Others and School' determines awards given at the Monday morning assembly, the Thursday infant's assembly and Friday primary assembly.

Awards are handed out from classroom teachers for Student of the Week, Merit Certificates and Achievement Awards for cultural representation and sporting excellence.

In addition to the weekly awards, our school is very proud about our **Star of the Month** whereby students from each class are selected for demonstrating excellence in the PBL values of 'Respect for Self, Others and School'. These students are awarded an afternoon tea. Stars of the Month are announced from each stage and are presented a trophy. Students may receive more than one award for continued excellence.

Presentation day at the end of each year is a proud tradition where the best of Tamworth South is showcased. It is an opportunity for our school to demonstrate all the fantastic things about public education that our school represents.

## **BANKING**

Student banking is carried out at the school each Thursday morning by parents who volunteer their time. All students have the opportunity to bank at the school each week. Parents who wish to have their children involved in school banking may collect an account opening kit from the front office and return it to the Commonwealth Bank. This is a good way to encourage children to regularly save. The school receives a small commission for all money banked. Bank books are to be given to class teachers on Wednesday mornings and are returned to students on Friday.

## **BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE and VACATION CARE**

The Tamworth Regional Council operates two before and after school care facilities, one at Tamworth West Public School and one at Tamworth Public School. Please contact the Regional Council for an application.

## **BELL TIMES**

8.40am	Supervision commences
9.10am	Classes commence
11:10am to 11.50am	Lunch
11:55am- 1:20pm	Mid-morning session
1.20pm to 1.50pm	Afternoon Tea
1:55pm- 3:10pm	Afternoon session
3.10pm	Classes dismissed

Playground supervision commences at 8.40am. It is in the students' and parents' best interests that students do not arrive at school before 8.40am. Bus travellers and early arrivals must wait quietly sitting in the designated area.

## **BOOK CLUB**

Each month children will receive pamphlets via classroom teachers which will enable children to purchase books through the Ashton Scholastic Book club. The librarian coordinates the book club orders. A portion of money collected is returned to the school for library purchases.

## **BUSES**

All Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 children are entitled to free bus travel irrespective of distance from school. Children in Years 3 to 6 who live more than 1.6 kilometres from the school are entitled to free bus transport. Application forms are available from the school office. After dismissal of classes each day, bus travellers move to the Greg Ford bus shelter on the Woodward Avenue side of the school. Students are supervised by teachers from 3:15-3:45. It is important that all children have their bus pass on them at all times to ensure 'free travel' is acknowledged.

## **CALENDAR**

Each year the P and C develop a whole school community calendar of events and special happenings at the school. This calendar is designed to assist parents and community members to anticipate upcoming events well in advance of the organised date. Whilst the P and C do their best to provide an accurate calendar, changes can sometimes occur and it is important to refer to the weekly newsletter and class teacher notes for changes.

## **CANTEEN**

Our school canteen operates five days per week. Lunches can be ordered each morning from 8.40am at the canteen using the supplied brown paper bags. The canteen's price list is updated twice yearly to reflect a summer and winter menu. The canteen is a P and C volunteer run facility designed to be healthy. Lunches are distributed to children's classes in a lunch crate prior to lunch.

The canteen is available for children to purchase afternoon tea at the counter at 1.20pm

If you would like to be a volunteer please contact our canteen manager via the front office.

## CAPTAINS

Students and teachers elect two School Captains and two Vice Captains at the end of the year for the next school year. Our school also has House Captains and Vice Captains.

All Year 6 students are considered to be school leaders and are expected to demonstrate behaviours that lead the remainder of the school's student population. Our school has a strong emphasis on quality leadership which is developed throughout our school at all student levels.

## CHOIRS

Tamworth South Public School has a very strong tradition in choral excellence. Choral development begins in stage one under the expert guidance of teachers with the capacity to initiate singing in time and in tune. Our stage two choir further develops children's voices and singing in parts. Our stage three choir under expert tuition demonstrates excellence on a range of stages both local and state-wide. We encourage all students to sing.

## CLASSROOM ASSISTANCE

Learning and support is provided to students who require both remedial or extension in the core subject areas. Our learning support team identifies students through detailed analysis of performance data and allocates teacher and aiding time as appropriate. This process is completed in consultation with parents and carers as partners in your child's education.

## COLLECTION OF MONEY

**Major School Initiatives** include such things as excursions, year 6 shirts, sporting excursions, year 6 graduation and farewell. All money of this nature must be delivered in person or in an envelope clearly marked with the student's name and purpose of the money to the front office. EFTPOS for major items can be paid at the front counter. A receipt will be issued either immediately or placed in the relevant teacher's pigeon hole.

**Minor School Initiatives** including special days such as Life Education, school performance visits, SRC fundraising and other donations must be handed to your child's teacher at the beginning of the school day. Notes and payments should be placed in a clear snap lock bag or in an envelope with all the contents of the envelope written clearly on the front. Please do not hand in minor payments or permission notes directly to the office.

Late payments may result in children missing out on events.

## COMPUTER EDUCATION

Tamworth South Public School is well equipped with computers in each classroom and in the computer technology centre. Children have access to the internet and can use their DEC email account to access information relevant to their education and to support the use of ICT in the classroom.

Computers are used as a tool in teaching and learning with the aim being to facilitate children's learning through the use of computer technology. Interactive whiteboards have been installed in all classrooms and the library to utilise this teaching tool.

## COUNSELLOR

The School Counsellor supports students with educational, social, emotional and behavioural needs. The counsellor works collaboratively with the school, families and external agencies. Students accessing counsellor services must be referred by either class teachers or parents seeking advice or assistance. Appointments can be made by contacting the school.

## CRUNCH AND SIP

'Crunch and Sip' is a NSW Health initiative designed to encourage the drinking of water and the eating of fruit. Our school supports 'Crunch and Sip', which is held in classrooms at 10.30am. During this time children continue to work to minimise disruption.



## CURRICULA AND POLICIES

The NSW Board of Studies provides all curriculum documents. These mandatory syllabus policies and documents have implications for schools, whose role it is to translate them into school curriculum programs.

Subjects are organised into six key learning areas (KLA's):

### English

(National Curriculum)

### Mathematics

Number

Measurement

Space and Geometry

Patterns and Algebra

Data

Working Mathematically

### Science and Technology

### Human Society and Its Environment

(including Languages other than English)

### Creative Arts

Music, Visual Arts, Dance, Drama

### Personal Development, Health and Physical Education

Children require 60 minutes of health and physical education per week in addition to sport. Tamworth South provides a range of opportunities for students to engage in daily fitness and sport, which provides opportunities for students to represent our school in a range of sports utilising our teacher expertise.

### Perspectives

Woven into each Key Learning Area are curriculum perspectives, which include multicultural education, Australia and Aboriginal Studies, Gifted and Talented Education, Media Studies, Environmental Studies, Student Welfare and Non-Sexist Education. All curriculum documents can be accessed on the internet – [www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au](http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au).

## CUSTODY

If parents are divorced or separated, confidential information is respected by the school. Parents are asked only to provide essential and appropriate information such as copies of court orders. Separate interviews and copies of your child's report can be requested at the front office and with your classroom teacher.

It is requested that any changes to documents or status be notified to the front office in writing as soon as applicable.

## DANCE

Tamworth South participates in CAPERS and the New England Dance Festival on alternate years as a Department of School Education and Communities initiative. Through these opportunities children fulfil both curriculum requirements for dance and movement and have an opportunity to perform.

Tamworth South also regularly participates in the state based Schools Spectacular. This initiative is available to students in senior grades demonstrating the capacity and excellence required by the organisers through an auditioning process.

## DEBATING

Debating is provided as an opportunity for students to develop their communication skills in structured, formal competitions. Our school enters the Premier's Debating Challenge each year. Children are taught the skills of debating in a formal sense and use these abilities compete against teams from other schools from the local and regional area.

## EMERGENCY CONTACTS

It is a DEC requirement that parents and/or emergency carers can be contacted at all times. It is very important that we are able to contact parents or carers in school hours in the event of an emergency. Any changes to telephone numbers, email addresses or other relevant information should be notified immediately to the front office.

## ENROLMENT PROCEDURES

### Kindergarten

Children who turn 5 years old prior to August 1<sup>st</sup> may be enrolled at the beginning of that school year. Documentary evidence of date of birth and immunisation is required. From the beginning of term 3 Tamworth South accepts enrolments for Kindergarten students for the forthcoming year.

**Out of Zone** - Preference for enrolment at primary school is given to students living in the local school zone. Parents may apply for enrolment of their child in schools outside their local school zoned area.

Out of zone enrolments are considered through the following process:

- Parent / carer contacts school front office.
- Parent carer collects an 'out of zone' expression of interest form.
- Expression of interest form must be returned to the school with a valid reason for requesting an out of zone enrolment.
- The enrolment committee meets once per week to consider 'out of zone' enrolments.
- Places are allocated, if available after contacting previous school principals to determine needs and or issues.
- Parent /carer will have an interview with the principal or nominee to discuss children's needs including: academic remediation and/or extension, social needs, risk management/ behaviour management structures as necessary.
- A walk through familiarisation will also take place.
- False or misleading information may lead to a declining of enrolment. It is important that parents are honest and true in all representations.

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

All students are encouraged to participate in our environmental programs. Classes are allocated an area in the school grounds to develop as an environmental focus for sustainability, pride, perspectives and core curriculum learning.

Our G.A. Mr Lees also provides tuition in grounds maintenance and gardening to students who wish to become involved in beautifying the grounds. He works with the children during lunch and afternoon tea times.

Our school, as a stage 2 focus, participates in the Wetlands Project each year that is coordinated by Peel High School.

## E.S.L. (English as a second language)

An ESL Teacher is employed to assist students when an enrolment indicates a student from a background other than English in the first year of enrolment in a NSW School. Students are tested on their knowledge and are supported in the development of English.

## EXCURSIONS and CULTURAL VISITS

Excursions and cultural visits are part of the schools educational programs and are closely linked to units being studied in particular grades. Overnight excursions, camps or visits to capital cities occur in years 3 to 6. All students are expected to participate in excursions as part of normal school programs.



## FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

A voluntary school contribution is set in consultation with the P and C and collected by the school, for classroom resources, library and computers, software and a voluntary P and C levy. Fees are requested at the beginning of term one. Consideration and assistance is provided for any family experiencing financial hardship, following confidential information being conveyed to the Principal.

## GIFTED and TALENTED PROGRAMS

Specialist teachers are employed to teach creative arts, including dance and music to all students. Other programs in physical education, band, choir, chess and public speaking are also provided for those with talents in these areas.

During the year many opportunities are also offered for students to compete in various competitions and contests at school, district and state levels, eg: Operation Art, Writing Competitions, University Maths, English, Computer, Writing, Spelling and Science Competitions. The school also participates in a range of cultural festivals, which also give children opportunities to foster their talents and to perform.

Enrichment days, on a theme such as science, environmental education or performing arts, are held each year. Students are also selected to attend regional GATS workshops.

Our school supports a Gifted and Talented class, which is a Regional Resource for students exhibiting 'Giftedness and Talent' in mainstream classes. Year 4 students' parents have the opportunity to apply for a position in the class through the Selective Schools Unit. The school posts relevant information about the applications in the newsletter and on the website. The selection process is external to the school.

## HEAD LICE

The NSW DEC policy on Head Lice is followed at Tamworth South.

Our role is to provide information on the removal of head lice when they become apparent in classes. A letter will be sent home indicating that head lice are present. Parents should ensure that every precaution is taken to minimise the impact of head lice on the school community. We all have a role to play in this matter.

## HOMEWORK POLICY

Homework is relevant to classroom work, providing practice and reinforcement of skills. Research and enrichment tasks may be set on occasion. Students are encouraged to develop regular work habits and take increasing responsibility for homework as they progress from Kindergarten to Year 6.

Homework is usually given Monday – Thursday. All homework is marked and followed up by the teacher. Homework is a home-school partnership in the teaching/learning process, with the child being responsible for his/her own work while parents provide a supportive, encouraging role.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Parents are reminded that students with infectious diseases should not return to school until the required number of days has elapsed.

### Common infectious diseases of childhood:

Disease	Period of exclusion
Chicken Pox	7 days after the first spots appear
German Measles	7 days from appearance of rash
Viral Hepatitis	Re-admit on receipt of a medical certificate of recovery
Scabies	Until all evidence of the disease has disappeared or a medical certificate is produced stating that treatment has been successful
Acute Conjunctivitis	Until discharge from eyes has ceased
Impetigo (septic sores)	Exclude if on exposed surfaces such as scalp, face, hands and legs
Pediculosis (lice in hair)	Until hair is completely cleared; neither nits nor lice being present. Brochures detailing the treatment of head lice are available from the school, and appropriate preparations are available from your chemist

## LEARNING AND SUPPORT

Our Learning and Support team meets fortnightly and is a key committee linked to the learning and engagement of all students at Tamworth South. Children are identified and placed in key programs or allocated specific personnel at these meetings for the purpose of remediation or extension in educational, social, emotional and behavioural programs.

The Learning and Support team's key focus is ensuring that all students are provided with educational opportunities that maximise their potential in learning.

## LIBRARY

The school library is a major educational resource; a learning and information centre, which assists in the learning process. Children are given lessons that promote learning through literature, foster an appreciation of literature, develop skills in the use of the library and develop research skills.

## LIFE EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Life Education van visits the school each year to provide lessons on health and personal development. These lessons are designed for each age group and follow a developmental program. A parent session is also available to show you what your child is learning.

## LOST PROPERTY

Lost unnamed items of personal property are placed in the lost property basket outside infant's toilets. Parents are requested to label all belongings. Clothing items which have been named are automatically returned to the child. Unclaimed clothing is utilised in our Clothing Pool.

## MEDICATION at SCHOOL

Medication can only be administered with the written permission of the parent. Parents must complete a Medical Advice to School form for the long term administration of medication or a Short Term Medical Authority form for medication to be administered for a limited period of time. These forms are available from the office.

Please administer any medication your child requires before or after school if possible, however if it is essential for your child to have medication during the school day, it must be clearly labelled with:

- ☆ Name of child and his/her class
- ☆ Name of medication
- ☆ Dosage

Medication should be delivered to the school office and the relevant medication authority form completed. ***Never leave medication in your child's bag.***

Parents of students with conditions which require regular medication should ensure that the school is aware of the child's condition. Procedures are in place for one daily "medication run" at the end of lunch each day. Students requiring more than one dose will need a parent to administer the other doses. However, doctors assure us that dose patterns can usually be arranged so that only one dose is needed during school hours. The appropriate forms will need to be collected from the front office and completed before medication can be administered at school.

## MUFTI DAYS

Mufti-days are usually held once each term. These days are used to raise funds for charitable causes. Children do not wear school uniform on these days and are asked to bring a gold coin for the privilege of being out of school uniform.

## NAIDOC WEEK

NAIDOC Week is celebrated on the last week of term two. A range of activities for the children and community is provided including lead up work, a welcoming assembly and cutting of the cake, class work, special activities throughout lunchtimes and discos.



## **NATIONAL ASSESSMENTS**

National Assessments in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are conducted in May each year and will test student achievement in Literacy and Numeracy across the nation. They are called the NAPLAN tests (National Assessment Program in Literacy and Numeracy). Results are sent to all parents in term three.

## **NEWSLETTER**

Our school newsletter is available on Friday afternoons each week. Our newsletter is provided as an electronic 'enews' application available for both 'IPad/phone' and Android devices. Copies of the newsletter are also available from the front counter in the administration area upon request. Please ensure that you read the newsletter as it provides valuable information about the school as we celebrate the achievements of our school academically, socially and on the sporting field.

## **NOTES**

Notes for specific events on the calendar that require signatures are sent home as required. Please be observant about these events and complete and return them as soon as possible as this helps with school organisation. You can request a spare copy of notes sent out from your child's class teacher or the front office.

## **PARENT/TEACHER INFORMATION EVENINGS**

Early in Term 1, parents are invited to their child's classroom to meet the teacher and gather information relating to routine, organisation and expectations. This is a valuable forum that paves the way for teachers and parents to work together in partnership for the benefit of each child.

## **PARKING**

Parking is restricted in our school grounds during school hours for safety reasons. Parents are asked to refrain from driving into the grounds when dropping off or collecting their child, except in emergencies (eg. to collect a sick child from sick bay). Parents with students in wheelchairs are encouraged to use the disabled parking space in the staff car park to allow ease of access to the school. Parents are also requested to observe traffic and parking regulations in Petra Avenue, Woodward Avenue and Kent Street. The safety of all students is paramount.

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**

Currently our school uses Master School Portraits for its school photos. Our school generally nominates to have photos taken in term 2, allowing plenty of time for the payment of photos to occur prior to the event. School photos can include class, individual, family and special group images.

Our school requires that all children present in full school uniform for the purpose of photos.

## **PLAYGROUND SUPERVISION**

Playground supervision commences at 8:40 each day. It is important to remember that before this time children who come to school because of a valid reason must sit quietly in the respective infants and primary areas for their own safety and wellbeing.

## **PUBLIC SPEAKING**

Our school participates in the premiers debating challenge each year. Students in years 3-6 are taught the skills of public speaking within the English curriculum and present their speech to their class. Selected students then compete in the school final, with two students in each the junior and senior grades being selected to participate in the Tamworth and Regional finals if successful. Students must prepare a speech and participate in an impromptu aspect of the competition.

## **P and C ASSOCIATION**

Tamworth South is exceptionally fortunate to have a very active and supportive P and C Association who work tirelessly for the good of our community and for the benefit of our students.

The P and C meet in the staffroom at 7:00pm on the second Wednesday of each month within the school term. The PAC (the fundraising sub-committee) meet in the staffroom at 10am on the second Monday of each month within the term.

All parents and community members are welcome to attend and become involved with the P and C.

## REPORTING TO PARENTS

All schools within the DEC are required to formally report to parents twice yearly. School reports are issued at the end of semester 1 and at the end of semester 2. In addition to the requirements, our school has adopted parent interviews at the beginning of term 3 for the purpose of discussing all individual children's needs and requirements in learning.

In addition to these initiatives, kindergarten students will be assessed when entering school with Best Start. A formal report indicating beginning levels and how you may help your child at home with their education will be supplied.

Learning is a partnership and we expect that you will be part of your child's educational journey with us.

## SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAYS

The DEC allocates schools staff development days on the first day of the first three terms and the last two days of the school year for the purpose of staff training, curriculum implementation and professional learning. These days provide the school with valuable opportunities to develop its core values and curriculum for the benefits of its students.

## SECURITY

Our school provides the best possible security for its students whilst on school grounds but this also requires all adults to be vigilant, respectful and thoughtful.

It is a requirement that all visitors report to the front office to sign on and to collect students for appointments within school hours.

Schools are 'Inclosed Lands', which means that the Principal and / or nominee has full jurisdiction within the confines of the school grounds to determine the safety and wellbeing of students and staff. At all times parents and carers have the responsibility to ensure that they behave in a respectful manner towards staff, students and other visiting adults.

Parents wishing to talk to teachers or the principal about their child or issues must make an appointment through the front office.

## SICK BAY

Children reporting sick to the front office will temporarily be placed in the sick bay until the child is picked up. For this reason emergency contact numbers must be kept up-to-date. If a child presents with, what appears to be an acute illness or injury, parents will be contacted followed by emergency services.

Other minor illnesses require that parents or a carer pick their child up as soon as possible after being contacted as our sick bay can be a busy place.

## SCRIPTURE

Scripture is available to students on Fridays. Classes are structured to meet the needs of students in a range of religious groups. Information provided in the enrolment form is used to determine groupings.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

From time to time special events occur at our school. Please keep an eye on the school electronic signs and newsletters for events. The school also has notice boards on the library. These notice boards carry information related to both school and P and C events.

## SPORT and P.E.

Every stage has a separate sports day. On the allocated day for your child, sports uniform should be worn. In addition to sport all children will receive an hour of fitness per week within their stage groups. Normal winter or summer uniform should be worn on these occasions.

## SPORTS HOUSES

All students are allocated a sporting house, usually determined by the beginning letter of the surname. Our school has 4 houses, which form an important teamwork structure within the school. House points are allocated for behaviour, work ethic and major

carnivals. At the end of each week house points are announced at assemblies. Points are carried through to the annual presentation day with trophies being allocated based on Respect for Self, Others and School and success at sporting carnivals.

## **SPORTS CARNIVALS**

Three main carnivals are held at Tamworth South

- Swimming Carnival – Primary students
- Athletics Carnival – K-6
- Cross Country Carnival 8 years and up

These carnivals provide students with an opportunity to participate and strive for personal excellence on the sporting field. At each of these carnivals champions are awarded trophies. Successful participants at primary carnivals have the opportunity to participate at zone, Regional and State carnivals if selected due to outstanding performance.

Participation is actively encouraged and expected.

## **STUDENT WELLBEING**

Positive Behaviour for Learning underpins all decisions made at Tamworth South for student wellbeing. PBL encompasses everything the school community does to meet the personal and social needs of students and to enhance their wellbeing. It involves recognising, valuing and developing each student as a total and unique individual in the context of the society in which they live. Several school policies and many strategies, most of which are positive, make up this umbrella-like culture.

A fair discipline code forms part of the school's Student Welfare Policy. This code is drawn up and revised for the whole school community. It is available on request. The school aims to develop the child's feelings of self-worth, confidence and independence, leading towards mature judgement and self-discipline. Acceptable, caring behaviour is rewarded.

Parents are expected to support the school in the decisions it takes on behalf of students who require additional assistance or remediation strategies.

## **SWIM SCHOOL**

Swimming school is provided for students in year 2. This initiative develops water confidence under the guidance of 'Learn to Swim' instructors for an intensive 2 week period at the end of each year.

## **TECHNOLOGY and CYBER SAFETY**

Technology and Cyber safety are an ever-changing aspect to the challenges of modern society. Tamworth South encourages and teaches children about the risks associated with internet usage and personal information. Each child is issued with a user name for use on the school's networked computer system and access to the student portal provided by the DEC. In addition, students are issued with their own DEC email account and access to the DEC's blog program 'blogEd'.

Students participate in weekly computer lessons where they are taught how to log in, use word processing programs, develop search techniques and are introduced to digital media to enhance learning and presentation.

Mobile phones are not encouraged at school and must be handed in at the beginning of the school day to the front office. Senior classes are provided with 'i' devices in class to assist in developing the use of technology within the curriculum throughout the day.

The student portal is accessible to all students through [www.det.nsw.edu.au](http://www.det.nsw.edu.au). Students are encouraged to utilise this facility at home and at school. Information on the Premiers Reading and spelling challenges can be found on the portal.

## **TRAINEE TEACHERS**

Our school encourages the development of future teachers by providing opportunities for University students and graduates to work under the expert guidance that our teachers are able to give. These students operate under the guidance of your child's normal classroom teacher and are expected to fulfil all the roles that a teacher normally carries out, with their level of experience taken into account. Our school welcomes trainee teachers.

## UNIFORM

Tamworth South has a very proud tradition with its well regarded and smart uniform. As a community the following uniforms are to be worn at all times. Summer uniform usage is applicable in term 1 and term 4. Winter uniform is applicable in terms 2 and 3. Sport uniform is applicable at all times of the year. All uniforms are available at various outlets in the CBD. Some small items (non-compulsory) are available from the uniform shop at school. Items such as green beanies, green hair scrunchies and green gloves for winter usage are available.



<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Girls Summer Uniform K--6</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School uniform dress</li> <li>• Short bottle green socks</li> <li>• Black shoes</li> <li>• School uniform bottle green hat</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Boys Summer Uniform K-6</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dark grey school shorts (no corduroy, 'cargo' or baggy pants)</li> <li>• Light grey school shirt</li> <li>• Grey socks (green and gold bands optional), (NO ankle socks)</li> <li>• Black shoes</li> <li>• School uniform bottle green hat</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Girls Winter Uniform K-6</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School uniform tunic (Bottle green slacks or tracksuit pants optional)</li> <li>• White blouse with compulsory school tie (White skivvy optional, under shirt)</li> <li>• Bottle green socks</li> <li>• Bottle green stockings</li> <li>• Black shoes</li> <li>• Bottle green knitted jumper or sloppy joe</li> <li>• School uniform bottle green hat</li> <li>• School jacket optional</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Boys Winter Uniform K-6</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dark grey school trousers (no corduroy, 'cargo' or baggy pants)</li> <li>• Light grey school shirt with compulsory school tie (Grey skivvy optional under shirt)</li> <li>• Black Shoes</li> <li>• Grey socks (green and gold bands optional)</li> <li>• Bottle green knitted jumper or sloppy joe</li> <li>• School uniform bottle green hat</li> <li>• School jacket optional</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Girls Sport Uniform K-6</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School sport skirt only (No netball skirts)</li> <li>• School sports Gold 'polo' shirt with school logo</li> <li>• Shorts-optional-bottle green rugby knit fabric (No football shorts or stripes)</li> <li>• Green gym pants (no bike pants)</li> <li>• Short white socks or green and gold football socks</li> <li>• Sport shoes</li> <li>• Bottle green tracksuit</li> <li>• School uniform bottle green hat</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Boys Sport Uniform K-6</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bottle green football style shorts (no scoops at sides in cotton or nylon with 2 gold stripes down sides)</li> <li>• Gold 'polo' style shirt with school logo</li> <li>• Short white socks (no ankle socks) or green and gold football socks</li> <li>• Sport shoes</li> <li>• Bottle green tracksuit</li> <li>• School uniform bottle green hat</li> </ul>



## VACCINATION

As part of the enrolment process, the school needs to sight the original copy of your child's Immunisation certificate and take a copy for his / her file. If you do not have the official copy, the following link may assist you obtain a copy from Medicare.

<http://www1.medicareaustralia.gov.au/ssl/acircing/cert>

## WEBSITE

Our website address is [www.tamworths-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.tamworths-p.schools.nsw.edu.au). The website is undergoing some renovation at all times. Our intention is to make it as up-to-date as possible.

## SCHOOL MAP

