

Stanwell Park Public School FAQ List



What essentials does my child need when starting school? *An equipment list will be sent home at the beginning of the term.*

Are there rules around what type of stockings/socks should I buy? *Only colour matters. Navy blue stockings, white socks for girls. Grey socks for boys.*

What happens when my child loses their hat? *Assuming it is labelled with their name it will be returned to them. If not you might be lucky to find it in lost property which is just inside door off A block verandah.*

What does SPARKS stand for? *Originally, it represented Stanwell Park Arts Community... members of the community came in each week and did various forms of art with groups of children. This will be enhanced in 2018 and may have a new name.*

Do Kindies attend the swimming carnival? *No. Only children 8 years and older.*

How do I make a lunch order? *Refer to the menu available in orientation pack or from the office for food options then write order on the front of a brown paper bag with child's name and class and place correct money inside. Drop order in the box in the office BEFORE school please.*

What is the reason behind introducing composite classes? *Composite classes are largely required when numbers vary between cohorts. Our priority is to offer equitable learning opportunities for all students, composites allows us to do that.*

How do I make payments for excursions? *You can pay by Cash or cheque directly to the office. Children can drop off payments before school if parents put payments in an envelope with their name, class and excursion type on the front. Alternatively, you can pay via the Parent Online Payment portal accessible via the school website and Skoolbag App.*

How does the award system work? What do I do with the awards my child has received? *Please refer to the new Welfare policy. Children are responsible for collecting their values awards and bringing them to the principal when they receive 5,10 and 15.*

I have a question for my child's teacher. What is the best way to get a hold of them? *Each teacher has a preference but generally speaking for minor things, approach your child's teacher at pick up time. If a phone call or appointment is required please call the office and the ladies will arrange this for you. Some teachers are happy to receive emails but this will be made clear to all parents early in Term One at the Meet the Teacher meetings.*

I think my child may be bullied. What support network does the school provide and who is my first go-to? *The school has a clear anti-bullying policy that aligns with the Department of Education's. Children in 2018 will receive lessons as a part of the Bounce Back Program that will hopefully empower them to let a teacher know if they are being bullied. As a parent, you should definitely speak to the classroom teacher if you so much as suspect something. Don't let a little problem turn into a big one!*

Can I attend school assembly? What is the process? *Most definitely! Assemblies are held every Monday at 2.30pm under the covered area.*

I am going away overseas outside of school holidays. Do I need to let the school know and what is the general process? *Yes. You will need to notify the office of the dates of travel and complete an extended leave form. This becomes the formal endorsement by the Principal that you need legally to have your child out of school during term.*

How can I get in contact with the parents of my child's classmates? *Playground drop off and pick up is always an option but in 2018 we are trialling a class parent contact. This designated person will be your go to regarding the parents in the class.*

Is my child obliged to do homework? *Homework is an optional activity. We do encourage children to do homework but if it doesn't work for your family please discuss with the classroom teacher so that an alternative arrangement can be made.*

I've had a last minute engagement come up. How much notice do I need to give the before and after school care team? *The team is very flexible and happy to accept children at late notice. Your child must be enrolled with them as a casual care child to do this however.*

How does the before and after school care system work? *Children can be dropped at the room as early as 7am and collected no later than 6pm. Children receive breakfast/ afternoon snacks and engage in a range of activities with students from SPPS only. More information can be gained from the room at any time around school start and finish time or on their website <https://www.campaustralia.com.au/Schools/StanwellParkPublicSchool/2508/68C7>*

What is NAPLAN and how does it work? *Children in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sit the NAPLAN assessment in May every year. They sit 4 tests; Reading, Language Conventions, Writing and Numeracy. These tests are Nationwide and provide valuable data for schools. Children receive their individual results, which can be explained by their classroom teacher at any time.*

Opportunity Classes? *In our area, Wollongong Public School hosts two Opportunity Classes. The students wishing to be considered for these classes are required to sit a test in Year 4 for the following year. This process will be well advertised via the newsletter.*

Selective High School? *Children wishing to be selected for a Selective High School are required to sit a test early in Year 6. Once again, this information will be well advertised.*

Please explain the scripture/ethics option and what is the process of enlisting my child in either. *Every parent is asked at the time of enrolment what their religious education preferences are. Ethics has only recently become available for all classes. Children can be moved between Scripture groups and or Ethics once a written request has been submitted to the office.*

How does one get into the choir and is there an age limit? *The choir is currently offered to children in Years 3-6. All children are expected to be a member and only a few have requested to withdraw from public performances. Children in Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 sing weekly and do perform as a junior choir on special occasions.*