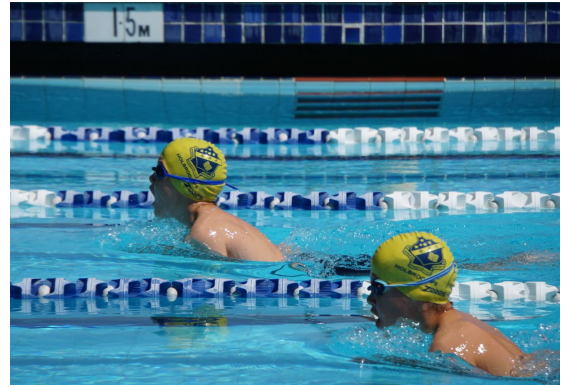


Holbrook Public School Prospectus

Quality education for all in a secure and caring environment



Holbrook Public School is a highly successful primary school with a long history of academic achievement, combined with cultural and sporting excellence. We provide an engaging, disciplined and caring learning environment where young people are provided with the support and encouragement they need to achieve their personal best.

Achieving positive results in the classroom

Holbrook Public School provides broad, creative and relevant learning programs that encourage every student from Kindergarten to Year 6 to reach their full potential.

Our core business is the teaching, learning, wellbeing and achievement of our students. We are recognised for our outstanding academic achievements, brought about by a team of teachers and staff, dedicated to a culture of constant improvement and evidence-informed teaching strategies.

Our purpose is to:

- develop high educational aspirations and standards;
- encourage self-discipline, cooperation, responsibility and respect for others and their property;
- provide a safe and caring educational environment where students and staff develop their self-esteem and talents.

We value:

- our proud traditions and our future potential;
- learning, effort, achievement, well-being and relationships;
- the individual needs and talents of our students;
- teacher commitment to quality teaching and learning;
- the wonderful support of parents and our community;
- our safe and respectful environment.

We believe learning is most powerful when:

- there is a caring and supportive environment where students are valued as individuals;
- all students experience success;
- students feel a sense of belonging and pride in their school;

- students are challenged, supported, extended and engaged;
- teachers continually plan their teaching based on individual student learning needs.

Providing a variety of learning opportunities

Debating, public speaking, chess, academic and sporting competitions are just some of the co-curricular activities offered at Holbrook Public School. We also have a proud history of success in developing knowledge and skills in the creative and performing arts.

Music, dance (recognised across the region and state) and drama, provide students with many opportunities to perform, including performance evenings, competitions, community events and speech nights. Our students continue to achieve outstanding success in this area.

Our visual arts programs engage students in a range of creative activities, such as painting, drawing, sculpture and visual design. Student artworks are proudly displayed around the school and within the community.

Focusing on literacy and numeracy

To ensure quality teaching and learning for our students, we offer a broad and engaging curriculum catering for all student needs. A strong focus on literacy, numeracy and technology creates a sound learning framework for every child in our school.

In numeracy, the Count Me In Too (CMIT), Targeted Early Numeracy (TEN - for Years K to 2), and Taking Off with Numeracy (TOWN - for Years 3 to 6) programs provide a sound basis for mathematical development. There is an emphasis on the basics of multiplication tables and number facts, allowing for quick and accurate recall and the ability to use algorithms and other problem solving strategies effectively. This ensures a successful progression through numeracy levels.

For literacy, we have a whole-school approach to reading, writing, grammar and spelling. This ensures that explicit, consistent and precise teaching, using evidence-based programs and resources are used at every learning stage. Learning to read and understanding text are the most valuable life-long academic skills a school can offer your child. We pride ourselves on the evidence informed, systematic and sequential programs we have in place to teach reading and writing. These include using the Teaching Literacy, using Synthetic Phonics (TLuSP), MiniLit, MultiLit, Centre for Effective Reading and Focus on Reading programs. The school implements the Best Start program in Kindergarten and continues to monitor individual literacy and numeracy progress through to Year 6, using a range of internal and external data sources. This proactive approach develops deep knowledge and skills in these areas.

Catering for individual student needs

At Holbrook Public School, we believe that children develop at different rates and learn skills in different ways. It is our responsibility to cater for the individual needs, of each child and ensure that every student improves by a minimum of one year's learning growth for one year's teaching. We do this within a stimulating and nurturing environment with an expectation that all students can and will be successful.

"Our school has an excellent relationship with the local Holbrook community"

Kate Wedgwood
Teacher



"I love my friends at school!"

Harleycyn Coates
Kindergarten Student



We value the individual needs and talents of our students. Our classroom learning programs include:

- high potential and gifted education classes that create challenging learning environments for students, with enrichment and extension activities;
- quality visual and performing arts programs, including dance, drama and music;
- learning support programs catering for students with additional learning needs, for example adjustments, personalised learning and targeted interventions (teachers, learning support officers, school chaplain, school counsellor);
- technology programs and facilities that allow students to engage in an extraordinary range of digital technologies and computer-based opportunities;
- student participation in regional, state and national exhibitions and competitions in sporting, academic, environmental and cultural events.

Using state-of-the-art learning technologies

Holbrook Public School enjoys the latest learning technologies in fully air-conditioned classrooms. We are part of the digital generation and use information technology as a learning tool. Our facilities include a fully networked technology hub, laptops, interactive whiteboards, video conferencing, EV3 Lego Mindstorms robotics equipment and classroom iPads. Our students have access to new computers in every classroom and we have a highly successful technology program implemented across the entire school.

Implementing highly effective programs

We have a very supportive, positive culture at Holbrook Public School, providing an environment that promotes high levels of student engagement and achievement.

Your child will be taught by dedicated, university-trained teachers, many of whom have chosen to make Holbrook Public School their career focus. Our teachers provide programs to cater for a wide range of abilities and interests.

Every staff member is involved in on-going training and development on the latest evidence-based educational programs. Staff plan interesting co-curricular activities which offer fun, but meaningful, learning experiences.

Our programs develop confidence, increase self-esteem, respect and a sense of belonging. Positive learning experiences encourage a love of learning and motivate students to work to their full potential in all areas.

Our enthusiastic, experienced and highly dedicated staff enable our school to offer learning experiences that cater for a broad spectrum of interests and abilities.

Learning outcomes for students are maximised through effective school leadership and management, classroom planning, a whole school assessment and mentoring program and on-going professional development for all of our staff.

Involving parents in every aspect

Everyone in our school cares about education. We are a school in which parent contribution of ideas, time, energy and expertise are integral to our achievements.

Our school has an active and supportive parent community who work closely with staff and students to make Holbrook Public School a great local school. The good will shared by parents stimulates confidence in others so that our music, reading, playground, fundraising, social equity, art and so much more are on-going success stories.

Holbrook Public School provides parents with regular updates on student progress through parent-teacher interviews and meetings, mid-year and end-of-year student reports, regular newsletters, a website and Skoolbag app updates.

We maintain an open door policy at Holbrook Public School, and encourage on-going communication between parents and teachers to support learning.

Engaging with our local community

As a vital part of our local community, we have a continuing and proud tradition of delivering a relevant, child-centred education locally. We are a great community school – we are your school.

The Holbrook community has always been close knit – sharing the values of our school and supporting us energetically in everything we do. We believe that this strong sense of community responsibility has helped contribute to the successes of our students, both past and present.

Looking after students from the very beginning

Our school builds a supportive bridge between home, preschool and the larger educational environment. We provide the care so essential for the happiness and security of young children. We run successful transition programs for children entering Kindergarten and leaving Year 6. The high number of students gaining academic awards when they progress to upper primary and high school reflect the academic strengths and solid foundation initiated at our school.

Developing leaders of the future

Our school encourages student individuality by teaching our students to value and respect the people around them. We are committed to preparing our students to be responsible and active community members within our society.

Students are given the opportunity to take on leadership roles at an early age and are involved in experiences that develop responsibility.

We focus on developing important life skills through our Student Leadership, Peer Support and Student Representative Council programs. These enable the development of teamwork, respect, responsibility and active citizenship.

Holbrook's strong culture values each student's achievements and encourages self-discipline and social responsibility.

Our senior students are given exceptional opportunities through our leadership program. Every student is supported by professional and caring staff whose peer support, mentoring and wellbeing programs have been recognised for excellence.



Why choose Holbrook Public School?

We have four daughters who are either past or present students at Holbrook Public School. Over the nine years we have been involved with the school as parents, we have watched our children become independent and resilient individuals. As parents we have always encouraged our children to be participators and to get involved in as many things as possible. Holbrook Public School has provided many opportunities for our girls to be involved in. These opportunities reach beyond academic learning and also include sporting, public speaking, leadership, drama and music.

The transition from pre-school to primary school is fantastic at Holbrook Public School with particular emphasis on the 'buddy' system. A Year 6 student is paired with a Kindergarten student for the year which not only provides comfort to the new student it also provides wonderful responsibility and leadership for the older student.

There is a wonderful community within the school and the P&C do an outstanding job of making parents and friends feel welcome and included in the school.

The staff at Holbrook Public School are extremely committed to our children's education and we have always found them to be very approachable with an 'open door' policy.

Sam and Prue Pincott

Parents

Holbrook Public School ticked all the boxes for us as a family. When it came to deciding where to send our children, we felt the size and diversity of the school population offered our children a variety of opportunities. Academically, sporting and pastorally, our children are exposed to the best Holbrook has to offer. It has dedicated teaching staff who honestly thrive on getting the best out of each and every student. The commitment and time they put into the school is to be commended. Children from Kindergarten to Year 6 are given the opportunity to participate in public speaking, Peer Support and community events that all help to improve confidence and self-growth.

It is a wonderful country school, with great involvement by the parents and the community. We feel that our children have done very well at Holbrook Public School.

Andy and Anna Watson

Ex-parents



"The school has a proud record of high achievements in academic, sporting, creative arts and cultural areas, and is well-known in the district for being a forward looking school – always in the forefront trying new evidence-informed methods and adapting to changing demands in the education system.

Visitors to the school are struck by the friendly, welcoming atmosphere. The children are happy, open-minded learners and the staff is a great mix of experience and youth, all determined to provide the best they can for their classes."

Christine Hunter

Taught at Holbrook Public School for 12 years

Why Holbrook Public School? As parents, we felt there are few decisions in life that hold the same significance and importance as choosing the right school for your children. Knowing that our decision will shape their development during their school years and will determine the type of people they will become throughout their lives.

The wonderful staff at Holbrook Public School understand this; they nurture all students to make the most of their individual potential and to get the best from their education. The school offers a balanced educational experience with an exceptional co-curricular program.

The encouragement of all staff to display the school's core values and show respect for all within the school community is impressive.

Holbrook Public School allows our children many opportunities to succeed, in the classroom, sporting arena, the arts, and in the local and broader community. The school provides a wonderful environment for our children to grow.

Communication between school and home is vital. An informative website, thorough fortnightly newsletter, Skoolbag app and an open door policy from both the principal and staff, allows busy parents to be aware of what is happening at Holbrook Public School.

Our school is fortunate to have a caring and active group of parents contributing to Holbrook Public School, and all parents are made to feel welcome by our P&C.

Pastoral care is of great importance and, as parents, we see our children nurtured from dependence to independence throughout their time at Holbrook Public School. They are well prepared as they embark on their path to secondary school.

Matthew and Margot Pitzen
Ex-parents

Our mission is to empower the school community to realise their best as lifelong participants, through promoting self-worth and social cohesion, stimulating intellectual strengths, encouraging environmental responsibility, and participating in physical activity while respecting the diversity, values and expectations of all.

Our goals are to:

- Provide high-quality, engaging learning programs that enable each child to reach his/her full potential.
- Provide welfare programs that cater for each child's emotional, physical and social well-being.
- Ensure effective and positive communication and strong relationships between all members of our school community.
- Extend the opportunities for learning through relevant resources.
- Foster pride in the school and its environment.
- Broaden the profile of the school within the Holbrook community.
- Manage school funds to support effective teaching, learning and administration.

"The staff members are extremely committed, and the school caters for all levels.

The school successfully extends advanced students while providing extra support for those who need it."

Bruce Allworth
Ex-parent and past student

"I have a long professional association with Holbrook Public School. I have taught here for the last 29 years, and have thoroughly enjoyed the many challenges and successes of teaching in a rural school.

Holbrook Public School is fortunate to have a staff that is professional, motivating, caring, experienced and progressive. Quality teaching is an emphasis in all classrooms and all staff pride themselves on providing education that is inclusive, thorough and innovative. The needs of all students are considered, catered for and met. Leadership, self-esteem and individuality are skills that are encouraged and promoted at Holbrook Public School, enabling our students to grow, mature and develop.

Academic, sporting and cultural experiences, as well as excellence, are promoted at Holbrook Public School. All children have the opportunity to display their skills and efforts, and reach their full potential. It is most gratifying to see our students leave Holbrook Public School full of enthusiasm for learning, with confidence, tolerance, and a readiness to question and communicate effectively.

Our school has an excellent working relationship with the local community. We are partners, working together to produce valuable and worthy citizens. Students from Holbrook Public School go on to become considerate, thoughtful and valuable members of our local and global community.

I am extremely proud to belong to Holbrook Public School."

Kate Wedgwood

Teacher at Holbrook Public School for 32 years



2023 Holbrook Public School Staff



We welcome the opportunity to discuss your child's education with you.

Please call, visit or email us at:

Holbrook Public School

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