



YOUNG PUBLIC SCHOOL Information Booklet

Bruce Street, Young NSW 2594
(02) 6382 2453



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Young Public School

Young Public School holds a rich tradition of striving for cultural, sporting and academic excellence. We understand and implement quality programs for 21st century learners, with a strong focus on wellbeing, resilience and strategy-based learning. Our school enjoys a vast playground, catering for a variety of students' interests. The school student-leadership team supports students and school staff across many areas of school organisation and weekly commitments.

Our School

Young Public School
Locked Bag 8014
Bruce Street
YOUNG NSW 2594

T: 02 6382 2453

F: 02 6382 4056

E: young-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

W: www.young-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Facebook: Young Public School

SkoolBag App: Young Public School



Young Public School enrolment historically sits between 540 - 570 students. We currently have two classes in our support unit. These classes have approximately eight students each. The Learning Centre is a centre for support programs across literacy and numeracy as well as specialised extension groups. The school playground is divided into primary and infants sections with the quad being a quiet centre for all students. The whole school comes together for fundraising days, Harmony Day and National commemorative ceremonies.

School Hours

Morning bell: 9.15am

Recess: 11.10am – 11.30am

Lunch: 1.00pm – 1.10pm supervised eating time

1.10pm – 1.50pm supervised play time

Home bell: 3.10pm

School Colours

The school colours are green and gold.

School Uniform

Uniforms with logo are available to purchase from Young Embroidery Service and Young Workwear. Second hand uniforms are available from the clothing pool at Young Public School. The clothing pool is usually open on the first Friday of each month, before and after school. For other times please see the website or ring the school office, 6382 2453. Suitable clothing in school colours without the logo may also be worn.

BOYS



Summer

- Grey shorts
- Yellow polo shirt
- Bottle green sloppy joe
- Grey socks
- Black shoes or sandals
- Bottle green hat

Winter



- Grey long pants
- Yellow long or short sleeved polo shirt/ yellow skivvy
- Bottle green sloppy joe
- Grey socks
- Black shoes
- Bottle green windcheater
- Bottle green beanie

GIRLS



Summer

- Green & white checked dress (official uniform)
- Yellow polo shirt & bottle green shorts or skirt (optional)
- Bottle green sloppy joe or cardigan
- White socks
- Black shoes or sandals
- Bottle green hat

Winter



- Tartan slacks or tunic
- Yellow long or short sleeved polo shirt/yellow skivvy
- Bottle green sloppy joe or cardigan
- White socks or bottle green tights
- Black shoes
- Bottle green windcheater
- Bottle green beanie

Sports Uniform – Boys & Girls

Yellow polo shirt & bottle green shorts/skort; bottle green & yellow tracksuit; joggers.

Sports Houses

Merinda – Yellow; Bundara – Green; Kondoola – Blue; Cocopara – Red.

Playground



The school recognises the different stages of a child’s development with play being an important factor in their growth and progress. In order to suit the different ages and stages of learning, we have provided, with the assistance of the P&C, engaging and challenging playground equipment in three distinct playground areas.

Infants playground – includes climbing equipment, sand pit, spin bars, balance equipment, free-play dirt areas, cricket pitch, large grass area for ball games, and tables and seats. Many areas are shaded, either by trees or shade structures. As well as balls and other equipment, selected Year 6 students provide a variety of Infants Peer Support activities daily.

The central quad area is accessible by all students. It also has a sandpit, a COLA with seats and tables, games painted on the concrete and large shade trees. An area of artificial grass under the largest tree, provides a pleasant place to sit and play quiet games.

Various garden beds and a composting bin provide opportunities for students to be involved in gardening activities.

The primary playground includes many areas for vigorous physical play such as fitness equipment, basketball and handball courts, and an oval. There is also a COLA with seating and tables, and grass areas. Primary students are also able to access the library during lunchtime. Students are able to use equipment from the sports shed such as basketballs and soccer balls.

Gardens

YPS boasts approximately 2 hectares of lush playing areas, watered by a bore, and established trees and gardens with predominantly native plants. Deciduous trees across all play areas enable students to play in winter sunlight and summer shade. Gardens and vegetable beds have also been set up for mentor programs and classes to use throughout the year.



Sunsafe Policy

Broad brimmed and bucket hats are part of the uniform. All students are encouraged to wear a hat and the policy is “No hat – shade play”. Sunscreen is available in every classroom for students to apply as needed.

Library

Over the last few years, the library has been refurbished with colourful modular furniture and is an inviting open-plan space.

The library is a popular place during lunchtime for students to read books or magazines, play board games or access computers (Years 3 - 6 on Mon – Thurs; K – 6 on Fri).

All students visit our library each week with their class for a lesson with the librarian which includes both book and technology skills. Students will need to provide a library bag so



they can borrow a book or two every week. Details are provided in the School Requirements list provided in the starting pack and available on the website.

Technology

Technology is an intrinsic part of education and students have opportunities to use a variety of devices. Smartboards are standard in all classrooms and other computers, tablets, notebooks and laptops are used as appropriate to enhance learning and provide opportunities for collaboration.

Our video conferencing facilities are used for both staff training and student learning.

Canteen

The YPS canteen is operated by Mrs Rowena Moncrieff.

It is open every day at recess and lunch and meets the Healthy Canteen guidelines. Lunch orders are also available daily.

A sample menu, including details about placing lunch orders, is included in the starting pack. It is also available online or at the school office. Parent volunteers are always welcome.

TOO and Commendation Scheme

The school awards system operates throughout all year levels. Yellow and white cards are given out in classrooms. These contribute towards certificates and awards which are presented at parent assemblies. More information is available on the separate yellow flyer and on our website.



Buddy Classes

Every class buddies up with another class from a different year group. These classes do activities throughout the year, plan performances and celebrate special holidays. It encourages inclusivity across the school and promotes a sense of togetherness, as well as providing leadership opportunities for older children.

Our Community

Staff

Staff at YPS include a Principal, Deputy Principal, Assistant Principals and classroom teachers. They are supported by the Aboriginal Community Education Officer, School Counsellor, chaplain, general grounds assistant, librarian, office and admin staff, and school learning support officers (teacher's aides).

Staff are continually updating their professional practice to ensure they are providing quality teaching using evidence-based practices. As part of their training, staff development days are held at the beginning of Terms 1, 2 and 3. Students do not attend on these days.

Parental Involvement

Children enjoy their parents or carers being involved; it helps our school to run more efficiently and enables parents to be part of their child's schooling. Our Parents and Citizens Association (P&C) meets at 7.00pm on the second Wednesday of each month during school terms, in the staffroom. All parents are welcome to attend. Parents are updated on school happenings, are able to offer opinions on school matters and are also involved in fundraising. Opportunities to volunteer also occur in the canteen, as classroom home-reading helpers, in the disco canteen and helping with infants' sport, primary sporting teams and with other special events.

The Department of Education provides extensive general information to help all parents at <http://www.dec.nsw.gov.au/parents>.

Communication of School Information

The **YPS newsletter** is sent home each Thursday with the eldest child. It is also available on the **SkoolBag app** (free to download to your smartphone), on the website and via the school facebook page.

Class newsletters are sent home from time to time to highlight classroom or special activities.

The SkoolBag app is also used to send updates and reminders eg school information, excursion notices, excursion bus return times.

Facebook provides further information and photos showing student achievements and school activities.

The **website** has much information about the school, policies and procedures, curriculum, and Department of Education information and links. There is a link to a **secure online payment portal** and it is also linked to the **school calendar** so you can see what is happening in our busy school.

Some classes use the **ClassDojo** app as a way to communicate class activities and information to parents.

Reporting to Parents

Teachers are reporting to parents every time a discussion or interview takes place about a child's work. This feedback can be both formal and informal.

A formal report is sent home twice a year and is a summary of the child's work and progress over a given period of time. Reporting will provide:

- evidence of what the child has learnt
- information about what curriculum has been covered
- opportunities for communication between children, teachers and parents
- a record of the child as a learner
- a description of a range of achievements
- advice about improving weaknesses

There is also an opportunity to discuss your child's progress at parent-teacher meetings after reports are sent home.

As well, all classes have a parent information evening at the beginning of the year.

Staff are available at any time of the year for an appointment to discuss your child's progress, but please phone to arrange a time.

Assemblies

Assemblies are held at school on a regular basis to allow for class items and recognition of student achievement. Parents are most welcome to attend.

Infants (Kindergarten to Year 2) assemblies are held on Thursdays at 12:15 pm, **fortnightly** during the term.

Primary (Years 3-6) assemblies are held **each** Friday at 12:15pm. Further information is in the school newsletter or on the website.

Special assemblies are also held throughout the year, such as those during Education Week, Christmas and Easter periods, ANZAC Day, Harmony Day and Presentation Night.

Thinking Of Others Ethos

Young Public School proudly established this program 20 years ago. It has won a Ministerial Award. This program now runs alongside our wellbeing programs of BounceBack! and Smiling Mind.

After School Care

A fully qualified, licensed and registered Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) program runs every afternoon in the Young Public School library. This service is run by Mrs Raylene Slade who is a qualified child care provider.



Student Leaders

Twenty Year 6 children are elected each year to the **Student Council** – captains, vice captains, house captains and councillors. They assist in:

- conducting school assemblies including the annual Presentation Night
- organising fund raising activities such as supporting our World Vision child, guessing competitions and out-of-uniform days
- discussing and suggesting improvements around the school

A **Student Representative Council (SRC)** has been formed to enable students from Years 2 to 6 to make and implement suggestions which focus on improving the management and environment of our school. It also plans and conducts fundraising activities for selected charities and relief funds. The students learn correct meeting procedures and how to be a good representative of their class, which gives them a feeling of ownership and pride in their school, as well as providing leadership opportunities. The SRC meets three times a term. It is comprised of the Student Council and class representatives from Years 2-5.

Library Monitors assist with the organisation and student services in the library.



Students in Year 6 are also able to be involved in the **Infants Peer Support** program. These students assist K-2 students with activities during lunch time, encouraging physical and social skills development.

HOOPS

YPS is part of the HOOPS group of schools (Hilltops Organisation of Public Schools) who meet regularly to support each other, share resources, and increase opportunities for students to be part of mentoring and skills development sessions as part of a wider community.

Early Start – Transition to School

Children from local pre-schools and day care centres, visit the school in groups during Term 3 prior to starting kindergarten, to participate in a comprehensive program. In addition, all students enrolling into kindergarten are invited to attend the Early Start program in Term 4. The children visit the school in small groups to become familiar with some school routines and activities, providing excellent support and an easy transition to school.



Transition to High School

YPS maintains an effective relationship with Young High School (YHS) resulting in a comprehensive transition to high school program, Linkages. Students participate in afternoon sessions for five consecutive Wednesdays in Term 2 and several full days in Terms 3 and 4.

Year 6 students also participate in various additional activities at YHS such as the Ray Ferguson Maths Challenge, and watching the MADD Night creative and performing arts production.

Academically gifted students can sit the selective high school test and then access the virtual selective school, Aurora College, through Young High School.

School Banking

The South West Slopes Credit Union (SWSCU) provides the school banking program on Tuesdays. The school office or SWSCU have application forms.

Our Learning

Our school, as part of the HOOPS network, continues to collaborate and reflect on teacher practice and student achievement. The Visible Learning model encompasses evidence for what really works best in education and ways to apply this to a classroom setting.

Literacy

Our teaching staff are trained in proven evidence-based quality literacy programs such as L3 (Learning, Literacy, Language), Accelerated Literacy, and Focus on Reading. Literacy support programs are provided as needed and include Reading Recovery (Year 1) and the MultiLit suite of programs, offering effective literacy intervention. Programs are delivered both to individuals and small groups by trained teaching staff, learning support staff and volunteers.

Home-reading is encouraged for every student across all years. Listening to your child read and becoming a home-reading helper at school, supports every child's literacy development.

Numeracy

Teachers deliver strategy based lessons following the NSW DoE syllabus and Numeracy Continuum. Mathematical understanding of concepts is considered key, not just rote learning of processes, although consolidated learning and practise of essential knowledge, such as times tables, is encouraged. Targeted Early Numeracy is embedded in all infants classes to ensure students have a firm foundation in numeracy understanding.

Debating and Public Speaking Programs

YPS has a strong tradition in debating and public speaking. Trained teachers develop interested primary students' skills in poise, voice projection and content. Students compete in interschool competitions.



Music

Proudly, we offer a variety of programs across K-6. The Senior Band meets twice a week and performs at weekly primary assemblies and participates in Eisteddfods. The Junior Band was formed to introduce music students to playing in a band and feeds into the Senior Band. Other musical opportunities include a recorder group, senior and junior choir, and ukulele group. The Young Regional School of Music can timetable tutors to come during school hours for lessons, for the convenience of families.



Wellbeing

Student wellbeing is a high priority. It is the foundation to students being resilient, and ready and able to learn. Professional development for all staff ensures current proven programs are delivered with consistent language and message across the whole school. These programs include Bounce Back!, Smiling Mind, and our TOO (Thinking of Others) program. Our school Wellbeing Team meets weekly to discuss individual needs and whole school issues. Students may be referred to our school counsellor, school-based speech pathologist or occupational therapist, mentor, school chaplain, Aboriginal Education Officer or external services. Our school also offers other resilience programs such as Seasons for Growth, Cool Kids and Rock/Water as needed.

Best Start

Each kindergarten student undertakes this individual assessment within the first weeks. Its purpose is to help the teacher gather information to guide the teaching of your child. A feedback report is sent home highlighting what they are able to do and activities to support your child at home.

Home Learning

Current research is suggesting a shift in homework policy. Home-reading every day is vital for all students. Other home learning provided or set by teachers reinforces concepts studied at school, enhances practical life-skills and hands-on learning or is preparing students for high school.

Sport

Being a large primary school, we are able to field full sporting teams for carnivals, gala days and Riverina knockout competitions. Interested teachers and parents train teams for rugby union, rugby league, netball, soccer, league tag, Oztag and cricket competitions. Opportunities are available to trial for Riverina teams at state competitions across every sport. Weekly primary sport includes rotating sports, athletics carnival training, tennis, lawn bowls, walking and croquet. Weekly Year 1 and 2 sport includes fundamental movement skills based activities run by teachers and parents, as well as a dance-based fitness program in Term 2. Kindergarten students enjoy Thursday sport rotating groups with parents and teachers.



Excursions and Visiting Shows

Excursions enhance children's development and are related directly to the curriculum. Written parental consent is required for excursions. At the beginning of the year a general permission note is completed by parents that covers smaller walking excursions. Parents will always be notified before these happen.

Visiting shows are additional extra-curricular educational entertainment. They deliver key concepts around health, safety and/or learning. They are held at school, three times a year, including the Life Education Van visit.

ICAS

ICAS (International Centre for Assessment in Schools) tests are offered to interested students across the areas of English, maths, writing, spelling, science and digital technologies. These external tests have a small cost each and are supervised at school.

NAPLAN

These national tests in literacy and numeracy are held each year for all students in Years 3 and 5. Parents receive a personal report on their child's results. Further information is available from the school or <http://www.nap.edu.au>.

Administration

Enrolment

Please see the school office for an enrolment form. The School Principal and Deputy Principal are available for tours, by appointment.

Fees

Young Public School has a Family Parental Contribution Fee, which is set by the P&C each year. Details of costs are available at the beginning of each school year. Fees can be paid at the office or using the online payment system on the website.

Bulk Payment

This payment includes the extra-curricular costs for your child throughout the year. It is an upfront payment for the Life Education Van and visiting shows. It is one less thing to worry about throughout the year.

Excursions are billed separately. Traditionally, Year 4 attend Borambola Sport and Recreation Camp and Year 6 have a 3-day excursion in Sydney. Parents and caregivers are given plenty of notice and payment plans for these lengthy excursions. Years 1-6 travel to other towns by bus for their excursions. Kindergarten walk to their excursion in town.

Changes to Family Information

Schools need to be kept up to date with changes to mobile phone numbers, emergency contact details and address. This enables the school to contact you when needed and help your child when family circumstances change.

Medical Information/Sick Children

If your child becomes sick at school, the emergency contact will be rung to pick up your child. If your child has been sick, it is in the best interests of your child and the school to allow them to stay at home until they are fully recovered.

For children who require medication on a daily basis, over an extended period of time, please contact the school to ascertain the correct procedure. In particular, children who suffer from asthma or an anaphylactic condition, need to have an Asthma Management Plan or Anaphylaxis Management Plan. Details of this will be conveyed to all staff.

Class Information

At the beginning of the school year, each teacher prepares a class information newsletter. It has details of your child's library day, sport day, class requirements and key learning area content. Newsletters can be obtained at the class parent information night, from the front office or on the Skoolbag app.

Absences

Department Policy requires a written note when your child has been away. It can be completed using the Skoolbag App, on paper to the class teacher or via the front office. We understand children get sick and families have appointments.

Early/late Procedures

Please call into the school office before dropping off or picking up your child if it is inside school hours. The office staff are able to update our system that your child is not on the school grounds.

Lost Property

Lost property is held in baskets in the library foyer. Names embroidered on or written on all clothing greatly reduces lost items. When writing names on lunch boxes with permanent marker be aware that it may rub off over time.

Entering and Exiting the School

Students entering and exiting the school must do so through the correct gateways. Students walking home are supervised to cross Campbell Street (Olympic Highway North) before and after school, and Bruce Street and Allanan Street after school. Parents are welcome to wait for their children in the quad. Students travelling by bus are supervised after school in bus lines and getting on the bus.

Class Requirements

These are set out on the Skoolbag App and class newsletters. Requirements are minimal. Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 students do not require stationery items. Teachers may ask for tissues, a homework scrapbook and/or a glue stick throughout the year. The school supplies all workbooks.

Bus Travel To and From School

Children who travel to school by bus do so on buses owned and operated by private operators. The contract to provide travel is between the operator and the child's parents or caregivers. Applications are completed online at www.transportnsw.info/school-students.

Bus operators have a common code of conduct for students travelling to and from school. They have the right to terminate a student's bus travel if behaviour is not appropriate.

- K-2 students are granted free bus travel.
- Years 3-6 students living 1.6km or more from the school are granted free bus travel.
- Our school office has an information sheet with bus operators' routes and mobile numbers for your convenience.
- At the end of the school day, students walk straight to their bus lines.
- At the beginning of the year, Kindergarten students are walked to bus lines.

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