Every student belongs. Every voice matters.
Every learner is supported to thrive.



FAMILY
INFORMATION BOOKLET

Integrity • Safety • Excellence

Welcome to our small school community.

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School Office: 5361 8888
Student Absence Line: 5361 8866

Welcome to Ashwell



Choosing a school is an important decision for every family. Whether your child is taking their very first steps into Prep, joining us during their primary years or your family is simply exploring whether Ashwell might be the right school for you, we are pleased to welcome you.

Ashwell is a small school with a strong sense of community, where children are known, valued and supported as learners and as individuals.

We have high expectations for every student, supported by strong relationships, quality teaching and a learning environment where children feel safe, valued and connected.

Our school values of ***Integrity, Safety and Excellence*** are part of everyday life at Ashwell. We teach students what these values look like in the classroom, in the playground and in the way we treat one another.

Families are important partners in this work. We value open communication and want families to feel welcome, informed and connected to their child's learning and school experience.

At Ashwell, our vision is that every student belongs, every voice matters, and every learner is supported to thrive.

We look forward to welcoming your family to our school community.

Tracey Clark
Principal
Ashwell State School

Why Ashwell

A small school where every child is known
There is something special about being part of a small school.

Our size allows staff to know children across the school – their strengths, interests, friendships and the support they may need – and to build strong relationships with students and their families.

Belonging comes first
Children learn best when they feel safe, connected and that they belong. We deliberately build a school culture where students are welcomed, included and supported to participate successfully in learning and school life.

High expectations, with the support to succeed
We want every student to make progress and achieve to their capacity. Our teachers use evidence about student learning to identify strengths, respond to individual needs and determine the next steps for learning.



Why Ashwell

Learning together
Our multi-age classes provide opportunities for students to learn with and from one another, while teachers plan learning towards the Australian Curriculum expectations for each student's year level.

Opportunities beyond the classroom
Students have opportunities to participate in sport, swimming, camps and excursions, leadership, performances, community events and other experiences throughout their primary years.

Connections with neighbouring schools also give our students opportunities to learn, compete, perform and connect with a wider group of peers.

Families are part of our school
Strong schools are built through strong partnerships. We encourage families to communicate with us, participate in school events and celebrations and become involved in our P&C and wider school community.

Small enough to know every child.
Strong enough to help every child thrive.

Our School

Ashwell State School has been part of the local community since **1887**. While we are proud of our history, our focus is firmly on providing students with the knowledge, skills, confidence and sense of belonging they need for their future.

We provide quality education for students from **Prep to Year 6** in multi-age classes.

Our school community includes families from Ashwell, Rosewood and surrounding areas. Families choose Ashwell because they value our small-school environment, strong relationships and commitment to every learner.



Our People

At Ashwell, relationships matter.

Our staff work closely together to create a welcoming, supportive and engaging learning environment where every child is known and valued.

Teachers, teacher aides, administration and support staff, chaplaincy, visiting specialists, volunteers and our P&C all contribute to the life of our school and the opportunities available to our students.

We are proud of a culture where people work together, know our students and families, and share responsibility for helping every child thrive.

Our Vision

Every student belongs, every voice matters, and every learner is supported to thrive through high expectations, strong relationships and quality teaching.



Our Values

Integrity

We do the right thing, even when no one is watching.

What this means at Ashwell

We act with honesty, fairness and respect, build trust through our words and actions, and take responsibility for our choices.

Safety

We make safe choices to look after ourselves and others.

What this means at Ashwell

We create a calm, inclusive and supportive environment where everyone feels safe to learn and grow, and where wellbeing and positive relationships are prioritised.

Excellence

We always try our best in everything we do.

What this means at Ashwell

We hold high expectations for ourselves and others, strive for excellence in teaching and learning, and celebrate effort, progress and achievement.

Learning at Ashwell

High expectations. Quality teaching. Every learner making progress.

At Ashwell State School, we believe every student can learn and make progress.

Our teachers plan and teach from the Australian Curriculum, providing learning across **English, Mathematics, Science, Humanities and Social Sciences, Health and Physical Education, Technologies, The Arts and Auslan**.

We place a strong emphasis on developing foundations in **reading, writing and mathematics**. Learning is carefully sequenced, explicitly taught and regularly reviewed so students have opportunities to build knowledge, practise new skills and apply their learning.

Knowing our learners
Every child brings different strengths, experiences and learning needs to school.

Teachers use assessment and their knowledge of students to understand what children already know, what they are ready to learn next and where additional support or challenge may be needed.

We maintain high expectations for every learner while recognising that students may require different levels of support, adjustment or extension to experience success.

Learning in multi-age classes
Multi-age classes are an important part of learning at Ashwell.

Students learn within a class community that may include children from more than one year level. Teachers carefully plan learning so every student works towards the curriculum expectations for their year level while receiving the support, challenge and opportunities they need to succeed.

Multi-age classes also provide opportunities for students to work with different peers, develop independence and contribute to a classroom community in which everyone is learning and growing.

Learning beyond the classroom
Learning at Ashwell extends beyond classroom lessons. Throughout their primary years, students have opportunities to learn, participate and connect through sport, swimming, excursions, camps, performances, leadership and community experiences. Our connections with other schools and the wider community also provide opportunities for students to learn, compete, perform and connect beyond Ashwell.

At Ashwell, success does not look exactly the same for every child. What matters is that every learner is known, supported, challenged and making progress.

Little Owls, Big Steps

Starting Prep at Ashwell

Starting Prep is an exciting milestone—for children and their families.

Whether your child is eager to begin or feeling a little unsure, our goal is to make the transition to school a positive and enjoyable experience.

Our **Little Owls, Big Steps** transition program helps children become familiar with our school, meet staff, make new friends and begin building confidence before their first day.

Children who participate in **Little Owls, Big Steps** also receive a special transition pack to help them get ready for school, including an Ashwell school hat and library bag.

For some children, the first day of Prep cannot come quickly enough. Others may take a little longer to feel comfortable with new people, routines and surroundings. Both are completely normal.

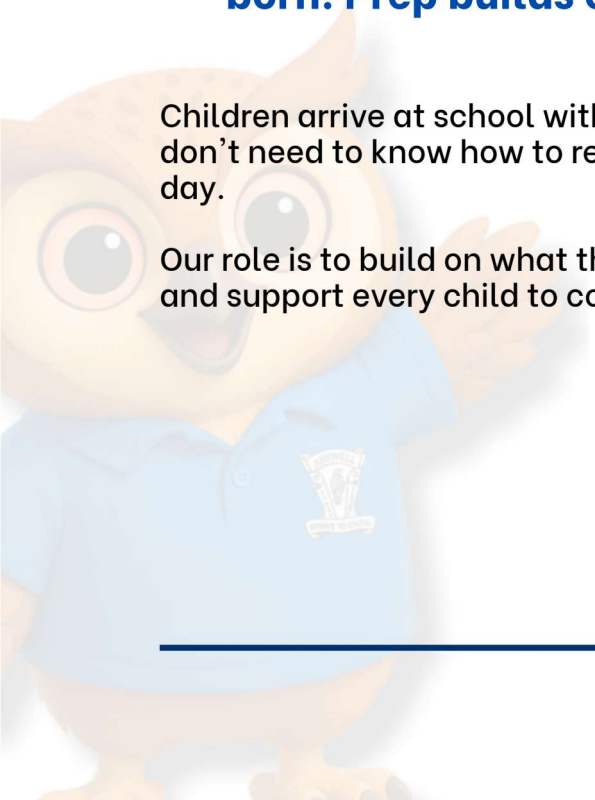
At Ashwell, we want children to begin school feeling safe, welcomed and excited about becoming part of our school community.

Our small-school environment means Prep students quickly become familiar with the adults and children around them. They are part of their class, but they are also part of the wider Ashwell community.

Your child has already been learning since the day they were born. Prep builds on those experiences and continues that learning journey.

Children arrive at school with different experiences, strengths and interests. They don't need to know how to read, write or count to a particular number before their first day.

Our role is to build on what they already know, nurture their curiosity and confidence, and support every child to continue growing as a learner.



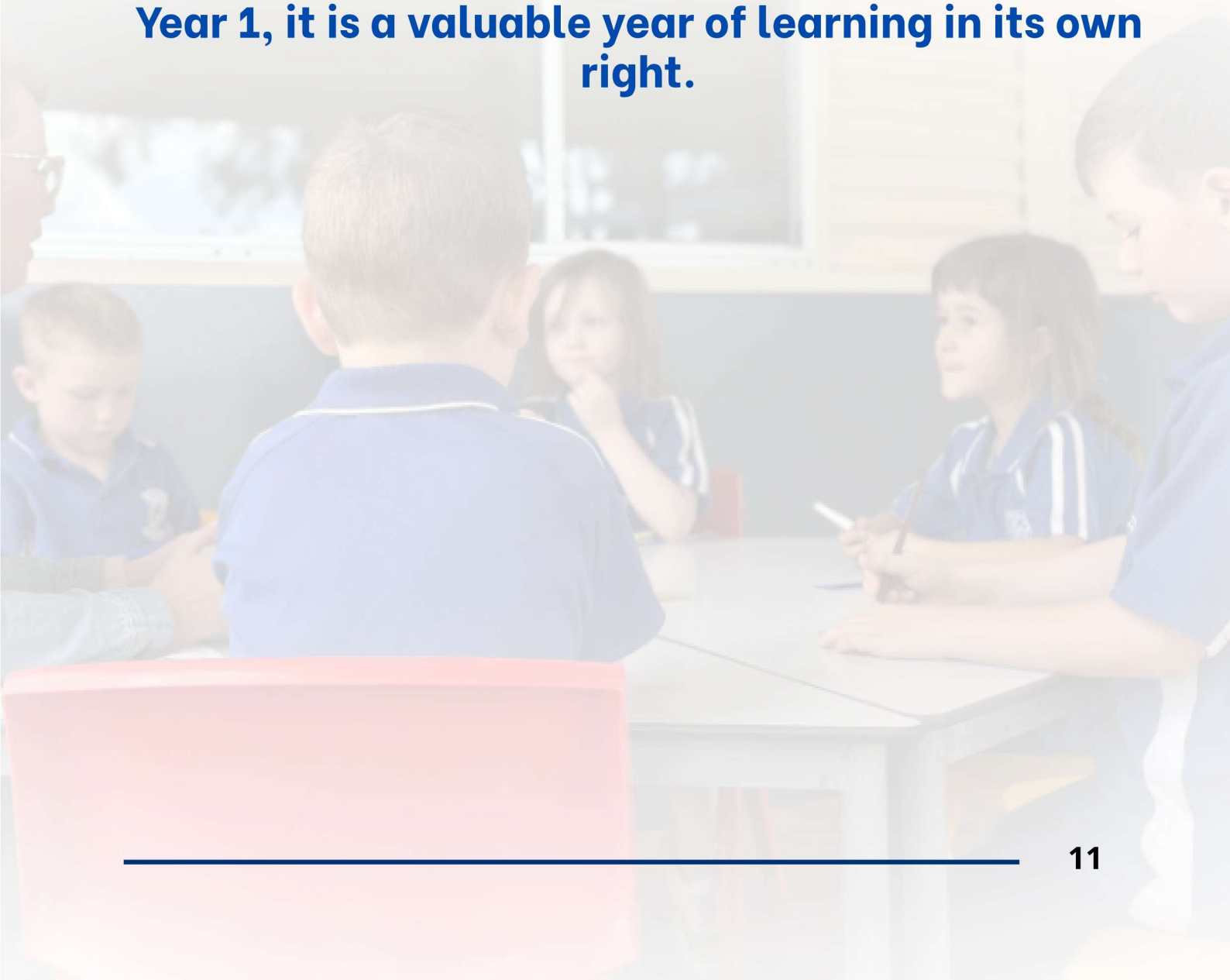
What will my child learn in Prep?

Prep is the first year of school and an important year of learning.

Children learn through purposeful, carefully planned experiences that build the foundations for future learning. They develop knowledge and skills across all areas of the Australian Curriculum, with a strong focus on early literacy and numeracy.

Children learn to listen, speak, read, write, investigate, create, solve problems and explain their thinking. They also learn how to participate successfully in a classroom – following routines, working with others, persisting when something is difficult and becoming increasingly independent.

Importantly, Prep is not just preparation for Year 1, it is a valuable year of learning in its own right.



Getting Ready for Prep

There is no checklist of academic skills a child needs to master before starting school.

Reading together, talking, playing, exploring and enjoying time together all help children develop important foundations for learning.

There are also some everyday skills that can help children feel more confident when they begin school. Before Prep begins, families can help children practise:

- recognising their own name and belongings
- carrying, opening and packing their school bag
- opening and closing their lunchbox and drink bottle
- putting on their shoes and hat
- using the toilet, flushing and washing their hands independently
- eating and drinking independently
- following simple instructions
- taking turns and sharing space with others
- packing away after an activity
- asking an adult for help when they need it.

These don't need to be perfect before the first day. We will help.



What does my Prep child need?

For school each day, your child will need:

School bag – large enough for their belongings and easy for your child to manage

Lunchbox – with food for the school day in containers your child can practise opening.

Water bottle – clearly named and easy for your child to use.

School hat – clearly named. Hats are required for outdoor play and activities.

Uniform and suitable enclosed shoes – comfortable for learning, running and playing.

Library bag – children who participate in our Little Owls, Big Steps transition program receive an Ashwell library bag as part of their transition pack. If your child is joining Ashwell without having participated in the transition program, please speak with us about what they will need.

A change of clothes – particularly during the early stages of Prep, a spare set of clothes in the school bag can be very handy.

And perhaps the most important preparation:

Talk positively about starting school. Let your child know that school is a place where they will learn, play, make friends and have adults they can ask for help.



What if...?

Children often worry about very practical things that adults may not think to explain.

What if I need to go to the toilet?
Tell your teacher or another adult. We will show you where to go.

What if I can't open my lunchbox?
Ask an adult for help.

What if I can't find my hat or something from my bag?
Tell us. We'll help you look.

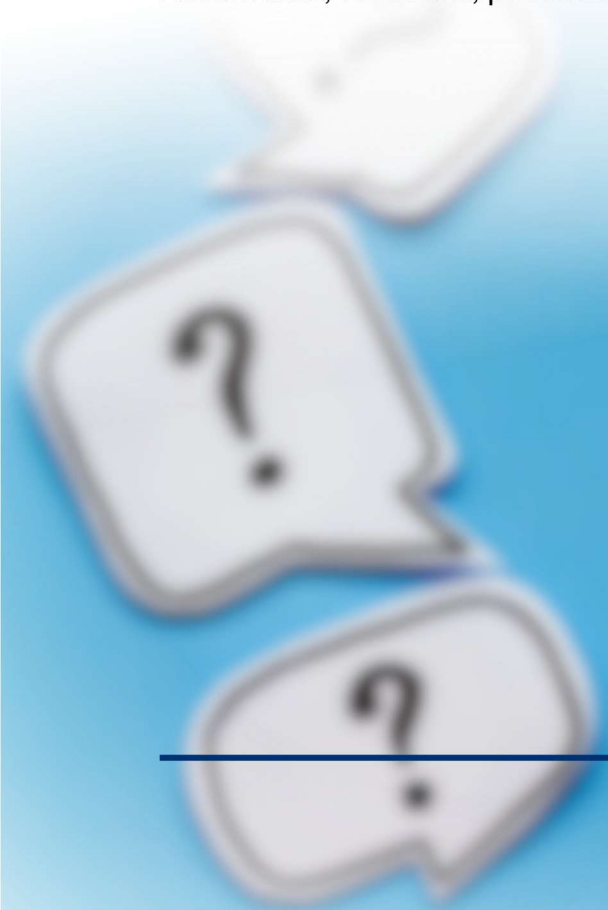
What if I don't know who to play with?
Talk to an adult. We can help you find someone to play with or something you might enjoy doing.

What if I miss my family?
Tell us. Starting school can feel strange at first and there will always be adults nearby to support you.

What if I make a mistake?
That's okay.

Mistakes help us learn.

At Ashwell, we learn, practise, ask questions and try again.



Your Child's First Day at Ashwell

A warm welcome for our newest Little Owls

The first day of Prep is a big milestone – for children and their families!

On the first day, our Prep classroom will be open from **8:30 am**. We invite you to walk with your child to their new classroom, where their teacher and teacher aide will be ready to welcome you both.

Your child will be shown where to place their school bag on the bag racks outside the classroom, and families are welcome to come inside and help their child settle in and say hello.

On this special first morning, our new Prep students will be invited to stay and play inside the classroom. Their teacher will spend time welcoming each child, chatting with them and helping them reconnect with the other children they have met through our Little Owls, Big Steps transition program.

Those first-day feelings

Excitement, nervousness – and sometimes a few tears – are all part of starting school.

For children who have participated in **Little Owls, Big Steps,** many of the faces, spaces and routines will already be familiar. Even so, saying goodbye on that first morning can still feel like a very big step.

If your child is finding goodbye difficult, our staff will be there to support them to settle, connect and begin their day.

When the first end-of-play bell sounds, children will be supported to pack away and gather together on the carpet. The older students in their multi-age class will then join them, ready to begin their first day together.

Throughout the day, the teacher and teacher aide will gently introduce our new Prep students to the routines, people and places that will soon become a familiar part of everyday life at Ashwell. There will be plenty of opportunities to learn, play, explore, ask questions and, importantly, find out where everything is!

Our school day finishes at **2:50 pm**. Families wait at **The Numbers**, our line-up area.

Staff walk students to the adjacent **Play Shed and handball court area,** where children remain with staff until the person collecting them has been sighted.

Once we see you, your child will be released to come and meet you.

Then comes that very special first-day reunion – and the chance to hear all about their first day as an Ashwell student.

The first few weeks

Starting school is a significant adjustment. Children are learning new routines, concentrating for longer periods, meeting new people and managing a busy school day.

Don't be surprised if your new Prep child is very tired after school, particularly during the first few weeks.

Keeping mornings calm, establishing predictable bedtime and morning routines, and arriving at school on time can help make the transition easier.

Talk with your child about their day. Instead of asking "**What did you do today?**" – which can sometimes receive the highly informative answer "**nothing**" – try:

- **What made you smile today?**
- **What did you learn that you didn't know before?**
- **Who did you play with?**
- **What was tricky today?**
- **Who helped you today?**

Belonging at Ashwell

Every student belongs.

At Ashwell State School, we believe children learn best when they feel safe, valued, connected and that they genuinely belong.

Belonging is built through relationships – being welcomed by name, knowing there are adults who will listen and help, having opportunities to contribute, and feeling accepted as an important member of the school community.

We want every child to know that they belong at Ashwell not because they always get everything right, but because they are part of our community. When children experience challenges, make mistakes or need additional support, our role is to help them learn, repair, reconnect and move forward.

Creating this culture is everyone's responsibility. We work together to build respectful relationships and help students develop the confidence, skills and sense of responsibility they need to participate successfully in learning and school life.



Learning to Live, Learn and Play Together

Positive behaviour is something we teach, model, practise, encourage and recognise every day.

Our school values of **Integrity, Safety and Excellence** guide the way we learn, work and play together. Students are explicitly taught what these values look like in different settings – in classrooms, in the playground, during transitions, at assemblies and when representing our school.

Just as children need opportunities to practise reading, writing or mathematics, they also need opportunities to learn and practise the skills involved in managing emotions, solving problems, building relationships and making positive choices.

When mistakes happen, we help students reflect, learn from what has happened and make things right.

Ready to Learn

There are times when every child may find it difficult to stay settled, focused or ready for learning.

Our **Ready to Learn** process provides a consistent and supportive way to help students pause, reset and return successfully to learning.

The focus is not simply on stopping a behaviour. Staff work with students to understand expectations, manage their emotions, make positive choices and reconnect with their learning.

As students grow, we want them to develop increasing awareness of their emotions and behaviour and a greater ability to use strategies that help them manage challenges successfully.

Families are important partners in this process. When a student requires additional or ongoing support, we work with families to understand their needs and help them experience success at school.

Student Voice

Children are more connected to their school when they know their ideas and perspectives matter.

Students have opportunities to contribute to school life through leadership roles, Student Council, classroom discussions and by sharing their ideas about their learning and our school.

Student voice means listening, inviting contribution and helping children understand that their ideas can make a positive difference.

Listening to our students helps us continue building a school where they feel valued, connected and able to contribute.

Celebrating Success

Children thrive when their effort, growth and contributions are noticed.

Throughout the year, we celebrate learning, improvement, positive choices, attendance, leadership, kindness and contribution to our school community.

Some successes are easy to see. Others might be a child persevering with something difficult, showing courage, improving their attendance, helping a friend or achieving something they once thought they could not do.

We want students to understand that achievement matters – and so do **effort, growth, persistence and the way we contribute to our community.**

Want to know more?

Every family receives a copy of our **Student Code of Conduct** at enrolment. It provides more detailed information about our school expectations, behaviour support processes and the ways we work with students and families to maintain a safe, supportive and inclusive learning environment.

Partnering with Families

We are stronger when we work together.

Families bring knowledge of their children that is invaluable to us, and we value the important role parents and carers play throughout every child's learning journey.

We believe children are best supported when families and school work together through strong relationships, open communication and shared expectations.

We want families to feel comfortable talking with us – whether your child is celebrating success, facing a challenge or simply having one of those days. When we share information and work together, we are better able to understand and support your child.

Staying Connected

We know families lead busy lives, so we aim to keep communication clear, timely and accessible.

Depending on the information being shared, we connect with families through:

- QParents
- email
- fortnightly newsletters
- Facebook
- phone calls
- parent-teacher meetings
- notes sent home when required
- informal conversations.

If you have a question or concern about your child's learning or school experience, we encourage you to contact your child's teacher or the school office.

You never need to wait for a formal parent-teacher interview to talk with us. We do ask families to contact the teacher to arrange a suitable time for longer conversations. This allows your child's teacher to give the conversation the time and attention it deserves.

We would much rather have a conversation early and work together than allow a small concern to become a bigger one.

New to QParents?

QParents gives families a convenient way to report absences, respond to many consent requests and access important school information.

Celebrating Together

School is about much more than classrooms.

Throughout the year, families are invited to join us for assemblies, special celebrations, performances, sporting events, Book Week, community activities and other school events.

These occasions give us opportunities to celebrate our students, strengthen connections between families and school, and create lasting memories together.

Parents & Citizens' Association

Our Parents and Citizens' Association plays an important role in the life of our school.

Through fundraising, volunteering and community involvement, the P&C helps provide resources, opportunities and experiences that benefit our students.

There are many ways to be involved. Some families attend meetings regularly, others volunteer at activities or events, and some simply lend a hand when they can. Whether you have a little time or a lot, your involvement is welcome.

Being involved with the P&C is also a great way to meet other families, contribute to our school and become part of the Ashwell community.

Whether you have a little time or a lot, your involvement is welcome.

Knowing How Your Child Is Progressing

We pay close attention to student learning and progress throughout the year.

Teachers use assessment, classroom observations and their knowledge of each learner to understand what students know and can do, identify their next steps and determine where additional support or challenge may be needed.

Families receive a written report at the end of each semester.

We also provide opportunities for parent-teacher conversations during the year. However, you never need to wait for a formal interview if you have a question or concern about your child's progress. We encourage you to contact your child's teacher to arrange a suitable time to talk so the conversation can be given the time and attention it deserves.

We encourage families to celebrate progress with us – including the small steps that can sometimes represent very big achievements.

NAPLAN

Students in Years 3 and 5 participate in the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN).

NAPLAN provides one source of information about student achievement. Teachers consider

NAPLAN alongside classroom assessment and their knowledge of each learner to build a broader picture of progress.

Learning doesn't stop at the school gate

Families make an enormous contribution to children's learning without turning home into another classroom.

One of the most valuable things you can do is **read with your child every day**. Read to them, listen to them read, talk about books and stories, visit the library and let them see you enjoying reading too.

Everyday experiences also provide rich opportunities for learning – cooking together, measuring, counting money, playing games, gardening, exploring outdoors, talking about the world and simply having conversations.

Across Ashwell, our consistent home-learning expectation is **reading**. Your child's teacher will provide information about reading and how you can support your child at home.

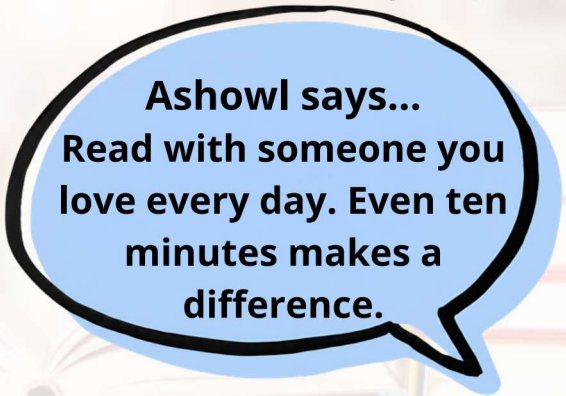
Our Library

Growing readers

Our school library gives students access to books that inspire imagination, curiosity and a love of reading.

Students have regular opportunities to borrow books to enjoy at home, and we encourage families to make sharing and talking about books part of everyday life.

Please help children care for borrowed books and return them regularly so they can choose their next reading adventure.



A Day at Ashwell

Familiar routines help children feel safe, settled and ready to learn

Our school day follows predictable routines so students know what to expect and can move confidently between learning, eating and play.

8:15 am | Breakfast Club opens
Breakfast Club begins at 8:15 am for students who would like to enjoy breakfast before school.

Students may arrive at school from 8:15 am; however, for families dropping children at school, our preferred arrival time is between 8:30 am and 8:45 am. This gives students plenty of time to organise their belongings, connect with friends and prepare for the school day.

Students who arrive earlier on their scheduled school bus are supervised through our usual morning arrangements.

8:30 am | Time to get organised
A bell sounds at 8:30 am. After a quick morning greeting, students walk to their classrooms, place their bags on the racks and put on their hats before heading out to play.

Staff supervise students during morning play.

8:45 am | Getting Ready to Learn
The 8:45 am bell signals that it is time to finish play and prepare for learning.

Students have time to use the toilet and have a drink before gathering at our line-up area, known at Ashwell as "The Numbers."

8:50 am | Our day begins
At the 8:50 am bell, our student leaders welcome students and staff and share whole-school messages or reminders for the day ahead.

Students then head to class with their teachers for the first learning session.

10:50 am | First eating break
Students and staff gather in our eating area for 15 minutes of eating time.
Students sit together, enjoy their food and chat with friends before heading off to play.

11:05 am | Time to play
A bell signals the beginning of playtime. After any quick reminders from our student leaders, students head off to enjoy our playgrounds, oval and other play spaces.

11:25 am | Getting ready to learn again
The bell signals the end of play.
Students visit the toilet, have a drink and return to The Numbers, where their teachers meet them.

At 11:30 am, students head back to class for the middle learning session.

A Day at Ashwell

1:20 pm | Second eating break
Students return to our eating area for their 10-minute second eating break.

1:30 pm | Afternoon play
After any reminders from our student leaders, students head off for their second playtime of the day.

1:45 pm | Preparing for our final learning session
The bell signals the end of play.
Students visit the toilet, have a drink and gather at The Numbers to meet their teachers.

At **1:50 pm**, classes return to their classrooms for the **final learning session.**

2:50 pm | Home time
Parents and carers wait at The Numbers, our line-up area. Staff walk students to the adjacent Play Shed/handball court area, where students remain with staff until the person collecting them has been sighted.

Once a parent or carer is seen, students are released to walk across and meet them.

Students travelling by bus are supported to follow their usual afternoon routine.

After a busy day of learning, playing and connecting with friends, it is time to head home and recharge for another day at Ashwell.



Play, Explore and Grow

Play is an important part of childhood, giving children opportunities to move, imagine, create, explore and connect with others.

At Ashwell, students can choose from a range of play spaces and experiences, including our:

- adventure playground
- large sandpit
- swings
- tractor, water pump and stream
- stage area
- resting net
- climbing and balancing equipment
- large oval
- handball courts.

Children might spend a break building and creating in the sand, pumping water into the stream, inventing a game on the stage, challenging themselves on the climbing equipment, playing handball or enjoying a game on the oval.

These different spaces give students opportunities to develop **friendships, creativity, confidence, physical skills and independence** while simply enjoying time to play.

Staff supervise playtimes, and students are taught to use our spaces and equipment safely and respectfully so everyone can enjoy them.



Lunches and Healthy Eating

A healthy lunch helps children concentrate, learn and enjoy their day.

Students have **two eating breaks** each day, and we encourage families to pack:

- food for first and second break
- a refillable water bottle.

Students eat together in our shared eating area before heading off to play. It is a relaxed and social part of the day, with children sitting and chatting with friends while they eat.

Where possible, please pack food in containers and packaging your child can manage independently. This is particularly helpful for younger students as they build confidence and independence.

Tuckshop

SCAN HERE

Our tuckshop is proudly operated by parent and community volunteers.

Tuckshop is generally available **one day each week**, with orders placed through the **Flexischools app**.

As well as giving students the opportunity to enjoy a special lunch, tuckshop raises valuable funds that support our school and students.

Current menus and ordering information are shared with families throughout the year.

Breakfast Club

Every child deserves a positive start to the day.

Our **Breakfast Club** operates each school morning from **8:15 am**, providing students with a welcoming place to enjoy breakfast and connect with friends before the day begins.

Students can choose from breakfast favourites such as toast, cereal and Milo, with other options such as crumpets or raisin toast available from time to time.

Breakfast Club is supported through the generosity of the **YMCA Schools' Breakfast Program**.

Attendance Matters

Every day counts.

Regular attendance gives children the best opportunity to build friendships, develop confidence and make steady progress in their learning.

Each school day builds on the one before it. Regular attendance helps children stay connected with classroom learning, familiar routines and their friends.

We encourage families to make school attendance a priority and, wherever possible, to avoid arranging holidays during school terms.

If your child is unwell, please keep them at home to rest and recover.

If your child is going to be absent, please let us know as soon as possible through:

- QParents
- our Student Absence Line
- phone
- email.

If we haven't heard from you, we will contact you to confirm your child's absence and ensure their whereabouts are known.

Working together helps us support both your child's wellbeing and their learning.

Attendance Matters

Every student. Every day.

Health and Wellbeing

Helping us care for your child

The health, safety and wellbeing of every student is a priority at Ashwell State School.

If your child becomes unwell or is injured during the school day, staff will provide appropriate care and contact you or your child's emergency contact when required.

To help us provide the right support, please keep your contact details and your child's health information up to date, and let us know if their medical needs change.

Medication

If your child requires medication during the school day, please contact the school office so we can ensure the appropriate arrangements are in place.

Medication can only be administered when the required documentation is in place and the medication is supplied in its original container with a current pharmacy label and clear instructions.

Our staff are happy to talk with you about your child's individual needs.

Medical Conditions

If your child has asthma, anaphylaxis, diabetes or another medical condition requiring ongoing support at school, please provide current medical information and any relevant action plans before your child starts school, or whenever their needs change.

Working together helps us ensure your child can participate safely and confidently in school life.

Sun Safety

Ashwell State School is a SunSmart school.

Students are expected to wear their school hat whenever they are outside. Hats are an important part of protecting children from the sun during playtimes, sport and outdoor learning.

Students who do not have a hat can still enjoy outdoor time in designated shaded areas.

We also keep a small number of spare hats for students to borrow when needed. These are intended as a backup, and wherever possible we encourage children to bring and wear their own hat for comfort and hygiene.



School Uniform

Wearing our uniform with pride

Our school uniform helps create a sense of belonging and pride in our school community.

Students are encouraged to wear the full Ashwell State School uniform each day and when representing the school at events and activities.

Our uniform is designed to be practical, comfortable and suitable for active school days.

Current uniform information and prices are available through the school, with orders placed through Flexischools and uniforms supplied by our P&C.



Booklists and School Supplies

Students in all year levels have a booklist outlining the stationery and learning supplies they will need for the school year.

Families are responsible for purchasing the items on their child's booklist, as these supplies are not provided by the school.

Booklists are provided to families each year. If your child joins Ashwell during the year, please contact the school office for the current booklist for their year level.

Growing Independence

One of our goals is to help children become confident, capable and increasingly independent.

Families can support this by encouraging children to:

- unpack and pack their school bag
- open their lunch containers and drink bottle
- look after their hat, jumper and other belongings
- pack away after activities
- speak to an adult when they need help.

These everyday skills help children feel more confident and successful at school. Independence develops gradually, and staff will continue to provide support as children learn.

Looking After Belongings

Label, label, label!

With lots of blue hats, jumpers, lunchboxes and drink bottles around the school, belongings can sometimes look remarkably alike.

Please clearly label your child's belongings, particularly:

- uniforms and hats
- jumpers
- lunchboxes and food containers
- water bottles
- school bags.



We encourage students to take increasing responsibility for their belongings as they grow.

Valuable, fragile or treasured personal items are best left safely at home unless a teacher has specifically asked students to bring them to school.

Getting to and From School

School Bus

Many Ashwell students travel to and from school by bus.
We are happy to assist families with any questions about school transport.

Before and After School Care

Ashwell State School does not currently provide an onsite before or after school care service.

Breakfast Club opens from 8:15 am, although our preferred arrival time for students who are not attending Breakfast Club is between 8:30 am and 8:45 am.

Families who require care outside school hours will generally need to make their own arrangements.

If before or after school arrangements are a challenge for your family, please talk with us. While we do not have a dedicated care service, we are always happy to understand your circumstances and discuss any options that may be available.

Keeping Everyone Safe

The safety of our students is a shared responsibility.

Please take particular care when dropping off or collecting your child. Young children can find it difficult to judge the speed and distance of approaching vehicles and may act unpredictably, particularly when excited at the beginning or end of the school day. There is no pedestrian crossing directly outside the school. If you park on the opposite side of the road, please walk across with your child rather than allowing them to cross independently.

Please also:

- observe the 40 km/h school zone
- park safely and legally
- check carefully before moving your vehicle
- be patient and considerate of other road users.

Working together helps keep every child safe.

Technology to Support Learning

Technology is an important part of learning at Ashwell State School, providing students with opportunities to create, investigate, collaborate and develop essential digital skills.

Technology is one of the many tools our teachers use to enrich learning. Students continue to learn through discussion, hands-on experiences, reading, writing, creativity and problem-solving alongside the thoughtful use of digital technologies.

Ashwell has made a significant investment in technology to support teaching and learning. Students have access to a growing range of digital devices, including individual laptops in our middle and upper years, ensuring technology is available when it enhances learning.

Teachers also use a range of assistive technologies and learning software to personalise learning, remove barriers and support students to access and participate successfully in learning.

Excursions, Camps and Special Events

Throughout their time at Ashwell, students have opportunities to participate in experiences such as excursions, camps, sporting events, performances, celebrations and community activities.

These experiences extend learning, build confidence, strengthen friendships and give students opportunities to connect with the wider community.

Families will receive information about activities in advance, including any costs, consent requirements and practical details.

Where consent is required, families are encouraged to respond through **QParents**.



Ready to Spread Their Wings

Just as we support our youngest students as they take their first big steps into Prep, we support our oldest students as they prepare to spread their wings and move into the next stage of their education.

Throughout their final year of primary school, students have opportunities to learn about secondary school, participate in transition experiences and develop the confidence and independence they need for this next step.

We work with local secondary schools and families to support a positive and successful transition from primary to secondary school.

Enrolling at Ashwell

Come and discover our school

We welcome families who would like to learn more about Ashwell State School.

Ashwell is not currently enrolment managed, which means families do not need to live within a defined catchment area to enrol with us. Families from Ashwell, Rosewood and surrounding communities are welcome to explore whether Ashwell is the right school for their child.

We encourage prospective families to contact the school and arrange a visit. Meeting our staff, seeing our learning spaces and experiencing the school environment is one of the best ways to discover whether Ashwell is the right fit for your family.

Enrolment is available for students from **Prep to Year 6**.

Starting Prep

Children are eligible to start Prep if they turn five by 30 June in the year they commence Prep.

Families considering Prep are encouraged to contact us early so their child can participate in our **Little Owls, Big Steps** transition opportunities before beginning school.

Ready to enrol?

Our school office can guide you through the enrolment process and let you know which forms and documents are required.

Keeping Us Up to Date

When something changes, please let us know

Up-to-date information helps us care for your child and contact you when needed. Please let the school office know if there are changes to:

- your address, phone number and email
- emergency contacts
- your child's medical information
- family circumstances that may affect your child at school
- parenting or legal arrangements relevant to your child's care.

Where formal parenting orders, court orders or other legal arrangements apply, please provide the school with current documentation.

Consent and Permissions

Throughout your child's time at Ashwell, there will be occasions when we ask families to provide consent for activities, services or the use of student information or images.

Some consent is collected during enrolment, while other permissions may be requested throughout the year for particular activities, programs, excursions or camps.

Most consent requests can be completed conveniently through QParents, and we encourage families to use QParents to view and respond when requests are issued.

Where consent is required, we will provide the information families need to make an informed decision.

Quick Reference

NEED TO	BEST PLACE TO START
Report an absence	**QParents, Student Absence Line, email or phone**
Ask about your child's learning	Contact your child's teacher to arrange a time to talk
Give consent for an activity	QParents
Order tuckshop	Flexischools
Purchase a uniform	Flexischools
Find a current booklist	School Office
Update contact or family details	School Office / QParents
Update medical information	School Office
Ask about school bus arrangements	School Office
Find current school news	Fortnightly newsletter or Facebook

School Office: 5361 8888
Student Absence Line: 5361 8866

Ready for Your First Day?

Before your child starts at Ashwell:

□ Clearly label their clothing, hat, lunchbox, drink bottle and school bag.

□ Purchase and clearly label the stationery and learning supplies on your child's current booklist.

□ Pack food for two eating breaks and a refillable water bottle.

□ Make sure they have their school hat and are wearing their school uniform.

□ Provide any required medication, medical information or action plans to the school office.

□ Talk positively about their new school and remind them that there will always be an adult they can ask for help.

□ Make sure your child knows how they will get home and who will collect them, if applicable.

□ Take that first-day photo – you'll treasure it!

☑️ And relax… we'll help with the rest.

Welcome to the Ashwell Community

Whether your child is beginning Prep or joining us during their primary years, we look forward to getting to know them, celebrating their successes, supporting them through challenges and watching them grow.

Thank you for choosing Ashwell State School.

Small enough to know every child.
Strong enough to help every child thrive.

We look forward to sharing your child's learning journey with you.



35 Reinke Road, Ashwell Qld 4340
School Office: 5361 8888
Student Absence Line: 5361 8866