



Welcome to Willowbank's Pre School Visits

The transition to school process is an important one, both for the child and the parent.

Below are some helpful tips to ensure this experience is smooth and successful.

At Willowbank School we have two visits prior to your child's 5th birthday.

First Visit: 8.50 to 11.00am.

We encourage parents to stay and settle their child. It is important that you support the teacher to ensure your child is joining into the classroom programme by encouraging them to take part in the activities provided by the teacher.

The first visit can be an anxious one for both the parent and the child.

It is important to give your child some time in the classroom without you. This is so they can fully settle and also for them to realise you are going to come back to pick them up.

As the visit is only a short one you are very welcome to go to the staffroom for a tea or coffee during the visit.

We recommend that you stay and eat morning tea with your child if you are able.

Second Visit: 8.50 - 12.45.

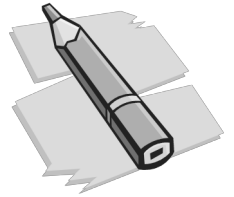
It is important that you stay and settle your child for up to 20 minutes but after that we do ask that you leave. This is an important time for your child to become part of their new class.

We recommend that you return at 12.30 and stay with your child to eat lunch. This is a great opportunity for your child to see our lunchtime routine.

It is preferable that toddlers do not accompany parents on pre school visits. This enables you to focus fully on your child and minimizes disruption to the children's learning.



Frequently Asked Questions



Where do I purchase my child's Stationery?

Stationery lists and packs are available from Michelle in the office. You should have received one in your enrolment pack.

Stationery packs are available from School Supplies, just ask for a Willowbank School, Year 1 pack. You can order online at

www.myschool.co.nz

You can also purchase a stationery pack from Michelle from Term 2 onwards for the cost of \$60.00

It would be great if you could have your child's stationery for their first day at school.

What happens if my child cries when I leave?

Most children will stop crying 2-5 minutes after a parent leaves.

If your child is really upset we will contact you. Remember the aim of a preschool visit is to ensure a smooth transition. We do not want your child to be upset either. ☺

What happens at morning tea and lunchtimes?

Each class sits in a designated area for food eating. Once the duty teacher releases the children they are free to play wherever they choose.

All NE teachers set up indoor activities such as blocks and mobilio in their Awhina space for children who feel overwhelmed in the playground. This is a quiet place where your child may choose to play. We buddy up new children with a friend in their class for their first week at school. This means they always have someone to play with until they make new friends.

Will the teacher make sure my child eats their lunch?

The duty teacher does her best to check each child's lunchbox before they are released to play. If you do notice your child is not eating enough at school perhaps give them a little less or check that they like what you are giving them. (They may bring home uneaten food)

It is important to pack your child's morning tea and lunch separately so your child knows what to eat at morning tea and what to eat at lunchtime.

We encourage healthy eating at Willowbank so please no sweets or fizzy drinks.

Can my child go to the toilet when they need to?

Of course, the children are allowed to go to the toilet when they need. They need to ensure they let the teacher know for safety reasons. Each class teacher will have their own system for this.

Where do I buy the school uniform?

School uniforms can be bought from:

John Russell Menswear

9 Moore Street

HOWICK

Ph: 534 9373

What home learning will my child get?

Your child will get a home reader every night.

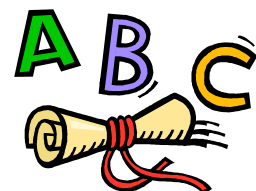
A poem book will come home on Friday and needs to be returned to school on Monday morning.

Wordrings come home daily. They are changed frequently.

A card with ideas for reading at home and activities for wordrings will be put into your child's bookbag so you can support his/her learning at home.

Home Learning is designed to be fun and not a time consuming activity.

If you have any other questions please talk to your child's teacher after your visit. They will be happy to speak to you at morning tea or lunchtime. ☺



Welcome to
Willowbank's
Pre-school Visits

