



# *THE IRONSIDE JOURNEY*

**Innovative, Inclusive, Involved**  
*with an "I" to the future*



**Prep 2018**

## A School steeped in history, looking to the future

Ironside State School has a long and proud history of academic excellence. The school was founded in 1870. Our school motto is *Servabo Fidem* which means:

*I will be trustworthy*

*I will keep faith in humanity*

*I will be honourable*

*I will not give up faith*





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## Prep 2018

*Ironsides State School is a learner-centred community committed to excellence in education. Our school community values learning and Ironsides students excel in academic achievements.*



*The Prep Year at Ironsides will provide the foundation for your child as a life long learner through a happy and supportive environment. The importance of nurturing the whole child is a key component of our Prep philosophy. Students are engaged through rich, stimulating and challenging learning experiences that foster an enthusiasm and love of learning.*

*At Ironsides, parents and staff value working collaboratively to nurture and support the educational journey of each child.*

# Welcome to Ironside...



We extend a warm welcome to you and your family. We hope you enjoy your journey with us at Ironside State School.

We believe that education is most beneficial for the child when parents and teachers work together, so we look forward to the opportunity of working with you. We welcome your interest and your visits to our classroom.

Welcome to Ironside

As Prep teachers at Ironside it is our passion and commitment to inspire, engage and support your child as they embark on this important journey.

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## School Calendar 2018

*Term 1:* Monday 22 January - Thursday 29 March

*Term 2:* Tuesday 17 April - Friday 29 June

*Term 3:* Monday 16 July - Friday 21 September

*Term 4:* Monday 8 October - Friday 14 December

## Hours of Operation

Monday to Friday — 9:00am to 3:00pm

Please ensure that your child arrives on time as learning will commence at 9.00am.

## School Contacts

*Principal: Damian Johnson*

*djohn137@eq.edu.au Ph: 3258 3111*

*Deputy Principal: Janice Ruddick*

*jrudd10@eq.edu.au Ph: 3258 3111*

*Administration: 3258 3111*

*Student Absentee Line: 3258 3160*

*Student Absentee Email: [studentabsence@ironsidess.eq.edu.au](mailto:studentabsence@ironsidess.eq.edu.au)*

*Email Address: [admin@ironsidess.eq.edu.au](mailto:admin@ironsidess.eq.edu.au)*

*Website: [www.ironsidess.eq.edu.au](http://www.ironsidess.eq.edu.au)*



Everything your child does within our school has a purpose for learning.

# The Prep Program at Ironside

The Preparatory Program is a full time quality educational program, which aims to:

- Provide a wide range of learning experiences that support the development of the whole child.
- Provide a stimulating environment which excites and engages children about learning.
- Encourage active learning, problem solving, effective communication skills, creativity, social skills and participation.
- Incorporate perceptual motor programs to develop fine and gross motor skills.
- Encourage children in becoming positive, happy, confident and independent individuals.
- Have each child as the central learning focus.
- Value the inquisitive and curious nature of children.
- Provide a combination of exploratory and formal learning experiences.
- Encourage strong partnerships between children, parents, staff and the wider school community.
- Celebrate the diversity of life experience and cultural heritage that shape a child's life.

At Ironside, the *Australian Curriculum* (<http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au>) is embedded in the teaching and learning of English, Mathematics, Design Technology, Arts, HASS and Science. In Prep, students are supported in developing their social and emotional competence and health and physical wellbeing as outlined in the *Early Years Curriculum Guidelines*.

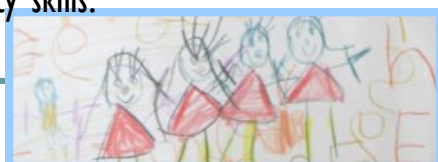
Additionally, children have opportunities to extend and enrich their learning during specialist lessons in Music, Health and Physical Education and Visual Arts.

## EAL/D Support

Eligible Prep students are also able to access quality English language support from highly qualified EAL/D staff from Semester 2 each year. This support is mainly provided within the classroom environment during literacy activities. It is tailored to the needs of EAL/D students by providing classroom support as they further develop their oral language and literacy skills.



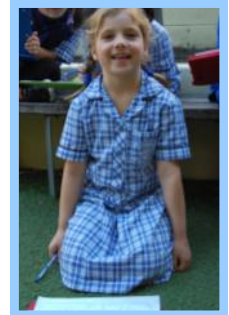
*At Ironside the Preparatory program aims to provide a wide range of learning experiences that support the development of the whole child.*



# Supporting your child in Prep

## Getting Involved...

At Ironside, we value the support and inclusion of parents and welcome your involvement. As a parent, you play a vital role in your child's learning and development. We encourage you to be involved at Ironside, both within the classroom and our school community.



*"We encourage you to be involved at Ironside, both within the classroom and our school community."*

## Involved in the Classroom

- Communicate with your child's teacher any concerns or relevant information about your child, especially significant changes at home.
- Enrich the children's learning experiences by sharing your knowledge and expertise.
- Volunteer as a parent helper.
- Attend Parent interviews to discuss your child's progress.



## Involved in the School Community

- Support the Parents and Citizens Association, which meets on the last Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm in the staffroom.
- Participate in fundraising and social events, such as the Ironside Spring Fair and International Breakfast.
- Keeping up with what is happening by reading our school newsletter. This will be emailed to parents every Thursday.



We value the involvement of our parents in our school community .

### P&C Association

2 Hawken Drive  
St. Lucia QLD 4067  
[pandc@ironsidess.eq.edu.au](mailto:pandc@ironsidess.eq.edu.au)

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## Involved from Home

### Preparing for School

There are some simple skills that will help your child settle into the routines of Prep.

It is helpful if your child can independently:

- Look after their own possessions.
- Pack their own bag.
- Go to the toilet and wash their hands independently.
- Put on their own shoes.
- Care for and put things away.
- Use a tissue or hanky.

- Recognise and write their own name.
- Use scissors, crayons/pencils.
- Open their own lunch containers.

- Follow simple directions and answer questions.
- Look and listen when spoken to and use common manners.
- Seek help if they have a problem.
- Speak clearly and correctly.

*“Read, read, read! Read with your child regularly – daily, if possible.”*

*“Make counting part of everyday life.”*



### Getting Ready for Learning

Here are some ways you can support your child’s readiness for learning at school:

<p><b>English</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read, read, read! Read with your child regularly—daily, if possible.</li> <li>• Encourage a broad vocabulary by interacting in play and conversations.</li> <li>• Engage in simple writing activities together - such as creating shopping lists and birthday cards.</li> <li>• Encourage your child to speak in full sentences - describe situations, recall events or trips, discuss feelings and emotions.</li> <li>• Introduce you child to letters and the sounds they make.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Maths</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make counting a part of everyday life.</li> <li>• Sort and group toys, blocks, shopping items.</li> <li>• Talk about the size and shape of items in the home and environment.</li> <li>• Look for patterns in the environment and encourage your child to make their own.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Science</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage your child to ask questions about the world around them.</li> <li>• Help your child experiment with everyday things.</li> <li>• Take an interest in sustainability.</li> <li>• Encourage them to be active observers by reasoning, problem solving and using their imagination.</li> </ul>	<p><b>History</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engage your child in discussion about their own history and that of their family.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Geography</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engage your child in discussions about where they live, special places they visit.</li> <li>• Observe features of places.</li> <li>• Engage your child in discussions about the world map, Australia and the city of Brisbane</li> </ul>	



Design and Construction:  
Engaging in problem-solving  
and celebrating successes.

In Prep, the children are engaged in reading, writing and oral language activities every day.

# General Information

## Daily Requirements

Each day, your child will need to bring:

- Healthy food for Crunch, First Break (from 10:50am-11:30am) and Second Break (from 1:30pm-2:00pm).
- Spare set of clothes, blue if possible (please include underwear). All of these items are to be clearly marked and to remain in your child's bag.
- Named water bottle
- A **LARGE** bag or backpack is important so children can pack their bags independently and so that a foolscap-size home folder can fit in it.



Clearly label  
all of your  
child's  
belongings.

## Uniform

All children are encouraged to wear the School Prep uniform, including a school hat. Please remember that our school has a **NO HAT NO PLAY** policy.

Uniforms are available from the Uniform Shop (located next to the Tuckshop), which is open

Wednesdays 1:30pm - 3:30pm

Sleeper earrings, medallions of a religious nature and medical alert bracelets may be worn. Other jewellery is better left at home.

Students are to wear black, closed in shoes or joggers with white socks.



Prep children wear yellow hats that distinguish them from the rest of the school.

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# Food at School

## Meal Times

Prep children have three meal breaks each day:

- Crunch and Munch—a small *healthy* snack.
- First Break
- Second Break

Our students are encouraged to eat healthy food at school.



As independence is encouraged in all aspects of your child's day, please pack their lunch in containers that they can open themselves. Children are encouraged to eat healthy food.

At First Break and Second Break, children are given time to eat with their class before playing. Please only send the amount of food that you know your child will eat in approximately 10 minutes. Children can get very discouraged if they have too much food and too much choice.

If your child has any special dietary requirements please discuss this with their teacher.

## Tuckshop

Prep children will be able to purchase food online for lunch from the tuckshop from Term 2 onwards - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

## Food Allergies and Intolerances

Unfortunately, the incidence of childhood food allergies is on the rise, some children can have a dramatic reaction to the smell/touch of items such as, dairy, nut-based products. Their reaction may even result in hospitalisation. As a result, the sharing of food items is not permitted. Please advise your teacher if your child suffers from food allergies or intolerances.

## Birthdays and Celebrations

We love celebrations. If you wish to celebrate your child's birthday or any other significant cultural event please come and discuss this with your child's teacher.

Suggested ideas for celebrations: Small muffins, cakes or gingerbread men, fruit kebabs, fruit and cheese kebabs, pikelets, ice blocks (in Summer).

## Procedures for Picking up and Dropping off

You or another adult must bring your child INTO the classroom at the beginning of the day and collect them from the classroom at the end of the day.

Your child must NOT be left unattended outside the door before it opens at 9:00am.

Please collect children promptly at the conclusion of the day.

Staff should be advised if there are any changes to the usual



## Before and After School Care / Vacation Care



All children can attend the Ironside Before and After School Care and Vacation Care subject to vacancies. It is parental responsibility to make the arrangements. Outside School Care Staff can be contacted on **3870 9849** before 9:00am and after 3:00pm. Prep children will be escorted to and from Before and After School Care.

## Health and Illness

Please keep your child at home if they are unwell. This is for the protection of the other children and staff, and to aid your child's recovery. Please phone the school absentee line and leave a message **3258 3160** if your child will be absent, please state clearly their name, class and reason for absence.

### First Aid

Prep children who become ill are initially given a short period of rest and observation either in the classroom or the first aid room.



If there is no improvement in the child's condition, parents or emergency contact people will be contacted to take the child home. The school does not have the facilities for children to remain in the medical room for more than half an hour.



Notes...

A large, empty rectangular area with a dashed green border and rounded corners, intended for writing notes.



# IRONSIDE

INNOVATIVE INCLUSIVE INVOLVED

academic excellence  
cultural diversity

A learner-centred community committed to excellence in education

innovative thinking  
integrity & independence

...with an **I** to the future

Original document  
compiled and created by  
Rachele Murray & Helen Parker  
— Prep Teachers 2012

