



THE IRONSIDE JOURNEY

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



Prep at Ironside

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*



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.

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 2022

Term 1:	Monday	7 February to Friday 1 April
Term 2:	Tuesday	19 April to Friday 24 June
Term 3:	Monday	11 July to Friday 16 September
Term 4:	Tuesday	3 October to Friday 9 December

Hours of Operation

Monday to Friday — 8:55am 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

Deputy Principal: Scott Murdoch
smurd31@eq.edu.au

Administration: 3258 3111

Student Absentee Email: studentabsence@ironsidess.eq.edu.au

Email Address: admin@ironsidess.eq.edu.au

Website: www.ironsidess.eq.edu.au



Everything your child does
within our school has a pur-
pose for learning.



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THE IRONSIDE JOURNEY

Prep

The Prep Year at Ironside 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 Ironside, parents and staff value working collaboratively to nurture and support the educational journey of each child.



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

The Prep Program at Ironside

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

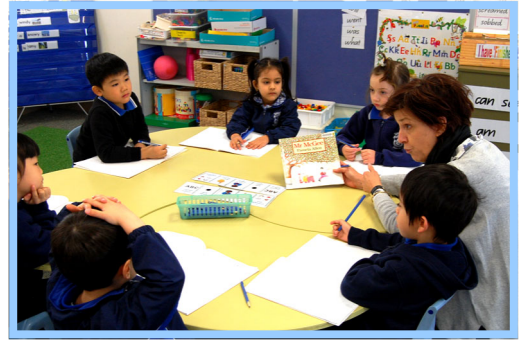
- Provide a wide range of learning experiences that support the development of the whole child
- Provide a stimulating environment which excites and engages children about learning
- Encourage active learning, problem solving, effective communication skills, creativity, social skills and participation
- 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, Science, HASS, Technologies, The Arts and HPE.

In Prep, students are supported in developing their social and emotional competence and health and physical wellbeing.

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.



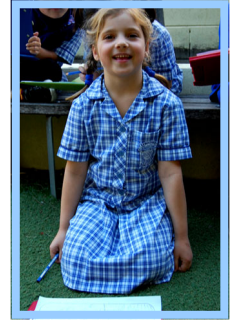
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Supporting your child in Prep

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.



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
- Keep 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

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

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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:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognise and write their own name • Use scissors, crayons/pencils • Open their own lunch containers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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
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“Read, read, read! Read with your child regularly – daily, if possible.”

Getting Ready for Learning

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

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



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.

“Make counting part of everyday life.”



Bridge Builders



Bridge Builders® is a school-wide proactive program aligned to the Australian Curriculum (Personal and Social Capabilities), implemented sequentially from Prep–Year 6. Students are explicitly taught to apply conflict resolution strategies, communicate using a common language and build their confidence to solve interpersonal problems.

Bridge Builders® at Ironside State School is a whole school approach that promotes resilience and self-worth. It encourages students to respond appropriately and challenge conflict behaviours and to develop positive and safe relationships. It is embedded into the everyday life of the school.



Bridge Builders Online

To support families with younger children, Ironside State School provides access to the Bridge Builders Online Program. This program is designed to help students with resolving everyday conflict and will be implemented during the course of the year with students accessing material both during class, and outside of class time.

Teachers will provide further information in Term 1.



Thinking + Feeling
= Behaviours

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Involved from Home

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*Clearly label
all of your
child's
belongings.*

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General Information

Daily Requirements

Each day, your child will need to bring:

- Healthy food for Crunch - approximately 9:45am and First Break - 10:50am to 11:30am and Second Break - 1:30pm to 2:00pm
- A spare set of clothes, blue if possible (please include underwear) All of these items are to be clearly marked and do remain in your child's bag
- A 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

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: 2:30pm - 3:30pm

Fridays: 8.30am - 9.30am

Please check school website as opening times may change. Online ordering is also available.

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.

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. Please see our website for ordering details.

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 and 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

PREP Arrivals:

Using the entrances at either Swann Rd or Hawken Drive, parents and Prep students may make their way to the Prep Precinct from 8:30am. Parents, we ask that you observe our “Hug and Go” stations, and let our Preppies independently make their way to the classroom.

Students are to place their bag on the bag rack and organise their belongings as per the classroom routines. Teachers and Educational Support Officers will be there to assist children, particularly in the first weeks of school.

Each classroom teacher will have their own routine and expectations before the school day starts i.e. putting bag on rack, placing water bottles and ‘crunch’ containers in the appropriate spot. Your classroom teacher will practise these with the students.

Your part in this process is to allow your child to manage these little routines on their own and to ensure conversations are had with your child about what they need to do. These conversations and preparation are vital to ensure your child’s readiness for routine changes later in the year.

If your child is experiencing difficulty or uncertainty, remember we are here to help and support.

* The playground equipment is not to be accessed during this time. Prep students are expected to wait in front of their classroom. This is for safety reasons.

* It is important for parent to leave this work to the students and teachers. Should your child seek your assistance, direct them to listen and follow the teacher’s instructions.

School starts promptly at 9:00am. A bell will ring (this is a standard school bell), signalling to students that they should be ready to enter the classroom and start their day. Upon hearing this bell, it is expected that parents promptly vacate the Prep Precinct and school grounds.



PREP Departures:

At the end of the school day, Prep students will be waiting in the Grassy Patch for parents, known adults or siblings to collect them.

Students will be in class lines. Signs and markers will help to locate and collect your child.

Parents, known adults or siblings are to speak to the supervising adult and state who they are collecting.

* This is a matter of student safety and needs to be conducted in an orderly manner. Patience during this process will be greatly appreciated.

Things to note (Prep):

If your child attends before or after school care - the OSHC educators will ensure that students they arrive and depart class safely.

For students that access the care provided by Playhouse - the educators will ensure the safe arrival and departure as per their advice.

If your child attends a program provided by an external provider after school (dance, tennis, etc.), the duty of care remains with the parents accessing this service.

Students are to be collected promptly by 3:00pm at the end of the school day.

In the event of inclement weather, Prep students should have a raincoat in their school bag. Umbrellas are a hazard to other Prep students. Students with umbrellas will be asked to close them due to safety concerns.





Outside School Hours Care / Vacation Care

Children can attend the Ironside Outside School Hours Care and Vacation Care subject to vacancies. It is parental responsibility to make these arrangements. Outside School Care Staff can be contacted on **3870 9849** before 9:00am and after 3:00pm or at contactus@ironsideoshc.org.au
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. If your child will be absent please email studentabsence@ironsidess.eq.edu.au, or advise using the QParents App.

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 and asked 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.



Education Queensland has an exclusion policy for children suffering from various infectious diseases, e.g. chicken pox, German measles, school sores, etc. Refer to the Ironside State School Information Booklet for more information.

The school has facilities to deal only with minor injuries and parents are advised if a minor injury may require further medical attention.

In more serious cases the parents are contacted immediately. If they are unavailable the nominated emergency contact person is contacted. If there is no response, the Queensland Ambulance Service is called.

The Queensland Ambulance Service is called to assist with all accidents resulting in serious injury or urgent need for medical attention.



IRONSIDE



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

