



Homebush West Public School  
■ Exeter Road  
Homebush West ■ NSW 2140  
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homebushw-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

# Homebush West Public School

## Parent Information

### Early Stage 1



2020

## Welcome to Early Stage 1, 2020

We look forward to working with you and your child/children this year.

### HWPS Mission

Our purpose is to equip students to be active, informed and successful in a changing world.

### HWPS Values

#### We value:

- quality in all that we do
- respect for others
- success for all
- community involvement
- a caring and safe environment



### Our students will leave Homebush West with:

- skills for self-directed learning
- sound knowledge and application of the basic skills
- effective communication skills and the capacity to work successfully with others
- care and respect for self, others and the environment
- effective problem solving and thinking skills
- appreciation of Australia's cultural diversity and heritage



## Staff



Mrs Arzapitian

**Supervisor  
Learning  
Support**



Mrs Jabbour

**Co-Supervisor  
Learning  
Support**



Miss Han

**KH**



Mrs Samisoni

**KS**



Mrs Roberts

**KR**



Mrs Pachos

**KP**



Miss Santoro

**KD**



Miss Byrne

**KB**



Mrs Wafa  
**Learning  
Support  
Facilitator**



Mrs Windon  
**Librarian**



Mrs Lahood  
**Librarian**



Mrs Chow  
**Community  
Language**



Mr Debnam

**Music**

### As a team we:

- set high expectations and standards for Early Stage 1 students
- expect 100% participation in all school activities, for all students
- facilitate success for every student and cater for individual needs
- implement the Healthy Food Policy and 100% School Uniform Policy
- value communication and a partnership approach to learning

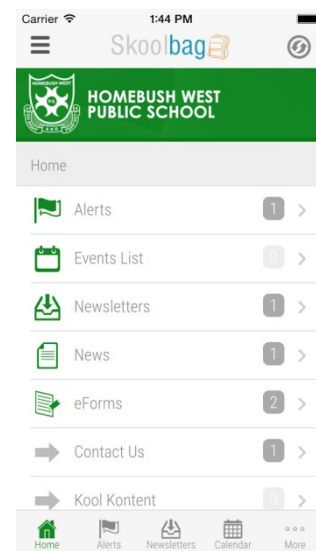
## Interviews and Appointments

Teachers in Early Stage 1 value communication. Please feel free to make an appointment to discuss any issues or concerns with us in person, or over the phone. Please book an appointment at the office. Please be aware teachers are generally unavailable between 8:30-8:55am.

## Newsletter and Notes

The school publishes a weekly newsletter each Thursday. Our school newsletter is a communication link between you and our school. It informs you of events that have occurred and events happening in the future. The newsletter empowers you with information relating to changes within the school and curriculum.

## School Website, Email, App and Facebook



The school website is a useful communication tool. You can access an electronic copy of our school newsletter through the website.

<http://www.homebushw-p.schools.nsw.edu.au>

'Skoolbag' is the ultimate school to parent communication tool. This School App provides our school with an easy way to tell parents and carers everything they need to know about school news, newsletters, events calendar, cancellations, school notices, school information, school timetables, parent sick note forms, school documents and much more.

Please download this app from your appropriate App store.

Homebush West Public School has launched a Facebook page. It will showcase our school's special achievements and other events. You can find the page at this link

<https://www.facebook.com/HomebushWestPS>



## Classes

The children have been placed in classes with their teacher for the year. All classes are mixed ability based. These classes were formed using a range of considerations.

## About the Curriculum

Information regarding the NSW Syllabus for the Australia curriculum is located on the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) website. <https://syllabus.nesa.nsw.edu.au/>

Each class participates in the seven Key Learning Areas:

- English
- Mathematics
- History
- Geography
- Science and Technology
- Creative and Performing Arts
- Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE)

## English

- *Reading and viewing*
- *Speaking and listening*
- *Writing and representing*
- *Handwriting and using digital technologies*
- *Spelling*
- *Grammar, punctuation and vocabulary*
- *Thinking imaginatively, creatively and interpretively*
- *Expressing themselves*
- *Reflecting on learning*

## Mathematics

- *Numbers and Algebra*
- *Measurement and Geometry*
- *Statistics and Probability*

## Online Support for Parents

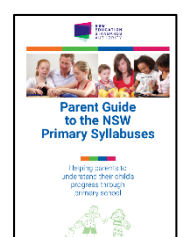
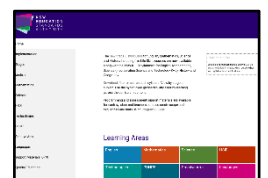
These website will give you more information on how to assist your child in learning.

## Education Standards Authority – Syllabuses for the Curriculum

<https://syllabus.nesa.nsw.edu.au/>

## Parent Guide to the NSW Primary Syllabuses

<https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/wcm/connect/25cb2fe5-c5f4-4ce8-920c-6b4b108bb30a/parents-guide-to-nsw-primary-syllabuses-2017.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CVID=>





## ICT and BYOD

Students will participate in integrated ICT (Information Communication Technology) activities across the curriculum. Students will be part of the BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) program, where students have been asked to bring to school an Apple iPad that will be used in lessons in the classroom.

The policy can be found on the school website. The goal of BYOD is to develop the four C's of learning (see diagram below).



## Digital Portfolios

The school will continue using digital e-Portfolios for students through the 'Seesaw' e-Learning platform. This will allow parents to engage in a dynamic way gaining insight to what learning is occurring in the classroom. This in turn allows parents to have deep and meaningful conversations about school life. Parent access will be distributed in Term 2.

## Creative and Performing Arts

- The Creative Arts KLA will be explicitly taught and embedded in the weekly programs. Early Stage 1 will participate in their music lessons every week.
- Students who wish to participate in Drama, Dance and Choir have been offered to join these groups which run during the Enrichment Groups sessions on Thursday mornings. Additionally, students will participate in a Drama program in Term 2, taught by specialist drama teachers.

## Homework

Children in Kindergarten need to develop social skills to assist in their learning. Happy, secure, rested, socialised students make the best learners.

We encourage:

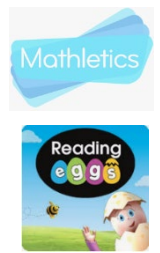
- the children to engage in many play activities with family and friends.
- students to be actively involved in family discussions. Ask your child each night "What did you do at school today?"
- students to draw and experiment with writing
- Allow your child to help with small jobs around the house and encourage them to notice everything in their world.

Homework includes Home Reading and Sight Word practice. Students will also be set digital homework tasks to complete via the *Reading Eggs* and *Mathletics* applications on their device.



### **Reading Eggs & Mathletics**

Reading Eggs and Mathletics are interactive, engaging apps that develop students' literacy and numeracy skills. Students will receive a login and password to access the Reading Eggs and Mathletics apps on their device. Weekly tasks will be set for students to complete. Reading Eggs and Mathletics can also be accessed on a computer if your child does not have access to a device.



### **Home Reading**

Each classroom has a set of home readers. Children are encouraged to read every night for homework. Children can take a new book from the home readers in their classroom every day. Each time the child reads, it should be recorded in their Book Buddy. At the end of each term children will receive awards for consistent reading. The level of the book that is sent home is what your child should be able to read with **little assistance**. If you notice your child having difficulties with the reading please inform the class teacher immediately.

### **Sight Words**

Kindergarten students are expected to practice reading and writing their weekly sight words listed in their Book Buddies.

### **Supporting students**

Students need to develop a daily homework habit. All children should be responsible for managing their homework time, packing their school bags and feeding themselves recess and lunch. You can support students best by helping them become independent and solve their own problems.

### **Best Start**

This assessment assists teachers to identify the literacy and numeracy knowledge and skills that each child brings to school at the start of Kindergarten. You will receive a copy of the report in Term 1. See your child's class teacher if you need any assistance reading the report.

### **Language, Learning and Literacy (L3)**

Language, Learning & Literacy is a program designed for K-2 classrooms and students. It is part of the Best Start initiative and covers all literacy components including Reading, Writing & Talking and Listening. L3 embodies quality teaching practices and is based on current research about literacy learning in early years.

Our Kindergarten teachers continue to be specially trained in L3 teaching practices and will implement L3 in the classroom this year. Students will have the opportunity to engage in rich literacy experiences and they will be provided with a solid start to their literacy development.



**What does my child need on each day?**

<b>KD</b> <b>Miss Santoro</b>	<b>KP</b> <b>Mrs Pachos</b>	<b>KB</b> <b>Miss Byrne</b>	<b>KT</b> <b>Mrs Roberts</b>	<b>KH</b> <b>Miss Han</b>	<b>KS</b> <b>Mrs Samisoni</b>
<b>Monday</b> Music Library	<b>Monday</b> Music Library	<b>Tuesday</b> Sport, Music Library	<b>Tuesday</b> Sport	<b>Tuesday</b> Sport	<b>Tuesday</b> Sport
<b>Tuesday</b> Sport	<b>Tuesday</b> Sport	<b>Thursday</b> Enrichment Groups, Scripture	<b>Wednesday</b> Music Library	<b>Thursday</b> Music, Library Enrichment Groups, Scripture	<b>Thursday</b> Enrichment Groups, Scripture
<b>Thursday</b> Enrichment Groups, Scripture	<b>Thursday</b> Enrichment Groups, Scripture	<b>Friday</b> Buddies	<b>Thursday</b> Enrichment Groups, Scripture	<b>Friday</b> Buddies	<b>Friday</b> Music, Library & Buddies
<b>Friday</b> Buddies	<b>Friday</b> Buddies		<b>Friday</b> Buddies		

**Equipment**

In Early Stage One, students are supplied with pencils, crayons, glue and rulers. We discourage any use of erasers and permanent markers. We expect each student in Early Stage One to have the equipment on the equipment list labelled, and at school every day, each term.

Please supply your child with the following:

- Raincoat
- Library Bag
- 1x Box of Tissues
- 1 x Old T-shirt for Creative Arts

**LABEL EVERYTHING** - with students name and class.

**Events and Activities you can expect**

- You can expect one excursion each term relating to our curriculum or a guest speaker or a special program at school (incursion)
- Best Start Parent Feedback Letter- Term 1
- Parent Teacher Interviews- Term 1
- Meet The Teacher- Term 1
- Gymnastics Program- Term 2
- Drama Program- Term 2
- School reports at the end of each semester (Term 2 and Term 4)
- School Musical- Term 3
- Sporting events
- Award Night- Term 4
- Kindergarten Graduation- Term 4



Student Term Dates 2019	
<b>Term 1</b> Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> January 2020 to Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> April 2020	<b>Term 2</b> Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> April 2020 to Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2020
<b>Term 3</b> Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2020 to Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> September 2020	<b>Term 4</b> Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 to Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2020

**Uniform**

The school community is committed to maintaining a strong uniform policy. A strong uniform policy supports our student well-being and discipline policies and anti-bullying strategies.

Uniform includes;

- black shoes, school hat, yellow shirt with school emblem, green shorts or long pants, long hair tied back, school colour accessories, school jumper, tracksuit for winter.

**LABEL EVERYTHING** - with students name and class.



**HWPS encourages a Healthy Lifestyle**

- Breakfast - nutritious, include fruit
- Crunch & Sip – fruit or vegetable and water
- Recess & Lunch - healthy food, snacks and water
- Physical Activity – three lessons weekly (2 x fitness, 1 x sport)
- Wear a hat in the sun or play in the shade
- Uniform – yellow shirt, green pants, white socks and black shoes



**Crunch & Sip, Recess and Lunch**

Students are asked to bring three items of food for school each day packed in separate containers/compartments or zip lock bags for easy access. Suggestions are listed below.

Crunch and Sip	Recess	Lunch
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fruit or vegetables cut into small pieces</li> <li>- Water</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Yoghurt, crackers, popcorn, fruit, muesli bars etc</li> <li>- Water</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sandwiches, salads, sushi etc</li> </ul> <p><i>Please supply a fork or spoon for your child if necessary</i></p>

**Please store all containers in one lunch bag.** Having all contents in one bag makes this transition much more manageable for your child. Please label all belongings with your child’s name.

**Celebrating Birthdays in Schools**

If you wish to organise a birthday celebration you will need to:

- Contact your child’s class teacher in advance and organise the celebration for 2:50pm.
- You may provide a cup cake for each child in the class
- Lolly bags, balloons and toys are **not** to be given out at schools.

**School Gates & Office**

School hours are from 8:55am – 3:00pm. Our school is open from 8:30am.

All school gates are open in the morning. During the day the gates on Exeter Rd and Eastbourne Rd are closed. All school gates are reopened at the end of the day for collection of students.



### Drop and Go

'Drop and Go' for student drop offs is Tuesday to Friday mornings. This supports students to develop independence, resilience and gives them time to be prepared for learning.

### Drop and Go Procedure

- Monday mornings' parents and community are invited to attend our whole school morning assembly from 8.55am for approximately 10minutes.
- Tuesdays to Friday, say goodbye to children at the gate, or the area just inside the gate.
- Tuesdays to Fridays, the area beyond the administration office is a 'no go' zone for parents.
- The office is available normal hours, for all parents every day.
- Parents can phone the office, or drop into the office, or leave a note with the office, or use the email service to advise of any concerns/issues.
- Teachers will continue to be available if required between 3.00pm and 3.30pm.

### Proactive Parents - Teaching Resilience

Research shows that good resilience skills help students perform better at school and avoid risky behaviour. It's important for your child to know how to turn things around when the going gets tough.

- Children with good resilience perform better at school.
- Children with good resilience are less likely to take part in risky behaviour. NSW public schools teach resilience skills to children from Kindergarten to high school.
- Helping a child feel successful is an important aspect of resilience.

See the link and article in the Proactive Parents sections for more reading and support.

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/practical-help-for-parents-and-carers/wellbeing/how-to-raise-resilient-kids>

### Attendance/Absence

Please be aware daily attendance is mandatory.

Unexplained absence or unacceptable absence will be recorded on your child's attendance record. Please provide a written explanation as soon as possible after a student has been absent for any reason.

### HWPS Absent Note Information

Student Name:	Class:
Date/s absent:	
Reason:	
Parent Signature and Date:	

### Early Arrival

No teacher supervision is provided on school site until 8.30am. Students who arrive before the 8.30am supervision bell are asked to sit quietly in the front office foyer. Parents who arrive early with their child **must** remain with them to supervise them until 8.30am.

### Late Arrival

School commences at 8:55am. If your child is late to school (after the bell) they are required to receive a late note from the school office. This is recorded on the class roll.



### Early Departure

School concludes at 3:00pm. If you need to take your child early from school you **MUST** go to the office to get an Early Departure Note.

### Before and After School Care

YMCA provides before and after school care options available on school grounds for children who need to be dropped off early and picked up late.

You can find more information at <http://www.ymcachildcare.com.au>

### Early Stage 1 Standards

We are enjoying working with your children. Already they have made a great start to the educational journey at Homebush West.

We expect all students to follow a behaviour code and settle into the school life.

### The Discipline Policy

The School Rules and Behaviour Code are used to guide all behaviour, and as a framework for awards and for all discipline.

The discipline policy has been developed in partnership with the students and community. It is the guide for all conduct. An award and certification system is in place which awards 'Red Stars' to students who demonstrate excellence in citizenship. A system of 'levels' is in place for students who experience difficulty with areas in the code of conduct.

### CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

#### Homebush West STARS are:

- Safe and strong
- Team players
- Active learners
- Respectful
- Successful





## SCHOOL RULES

### Homebush West STARS follow the school rules:

- Make choices to keep yourself safe
- Help ourselves and others to learn
- Show respect for yourself, others and the school
- Take pride in the school environment

### Discipline Policy

For the school to function effectively there needs to be clear recognition that individuals have rights, but within these rights there must be responsibilities.

All students and teachers have the responsibility to respect the rights of other students, staff, visitors and community members. When all rights are respected and responsibilities carried out, the school will run smoothly and result in an atmosphere of self-discipline and respect where students are encouraged to succeed.

### AIMS

- To foster co-operation and respect for the rights, needs and responsibilities of all.
- To establish practices to recognise and reinforce student achievement
- To establish strategies to promote good discipline and effective learning within the school
- To develop strategies for dealing with unacceptable behaviour
- To provide a safe, ordered, secure and caring environment, that is conducive to working, learning and academic success.
- To provide a framework of school rules to develop a consistent approach.

### Positive Reinforcement

#### **House Points**

*Building Team Ethic*

#### **Merit Awards**

*Individual Rewards*

#### **Sport Awards**

*Individual Rewards*

#### **Annual Awards**

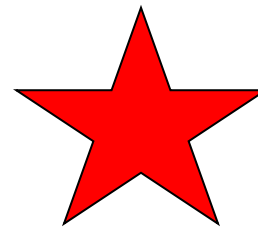
*Individual and Team Rewards*

#### **Red Star System**

*Building Individual Citizenship*



## Red Star System

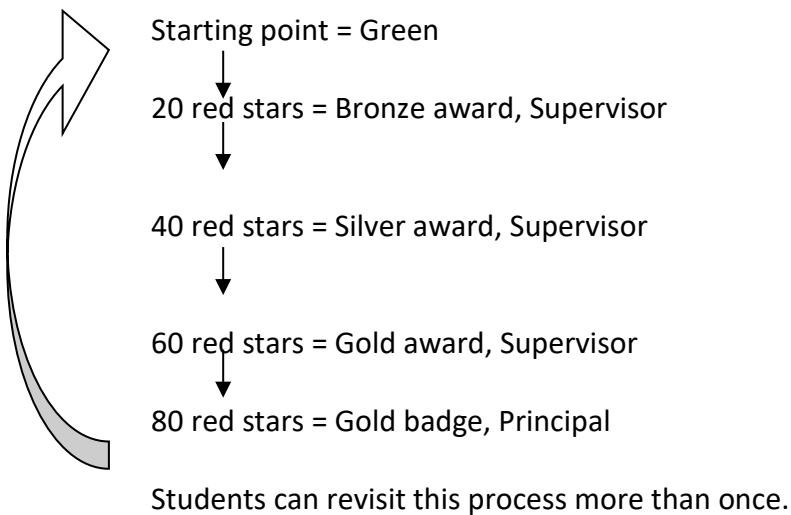


*Individual Rewards*

### Aims

- To develop a consistent approach across the school reflecting positive reinforcement and discipline.
- To establish a reward system supporting student behaviour and responsibilities.
- To recognise and reinforce student achievement.

### Red Star Flow Chart



### Disciplinary levels

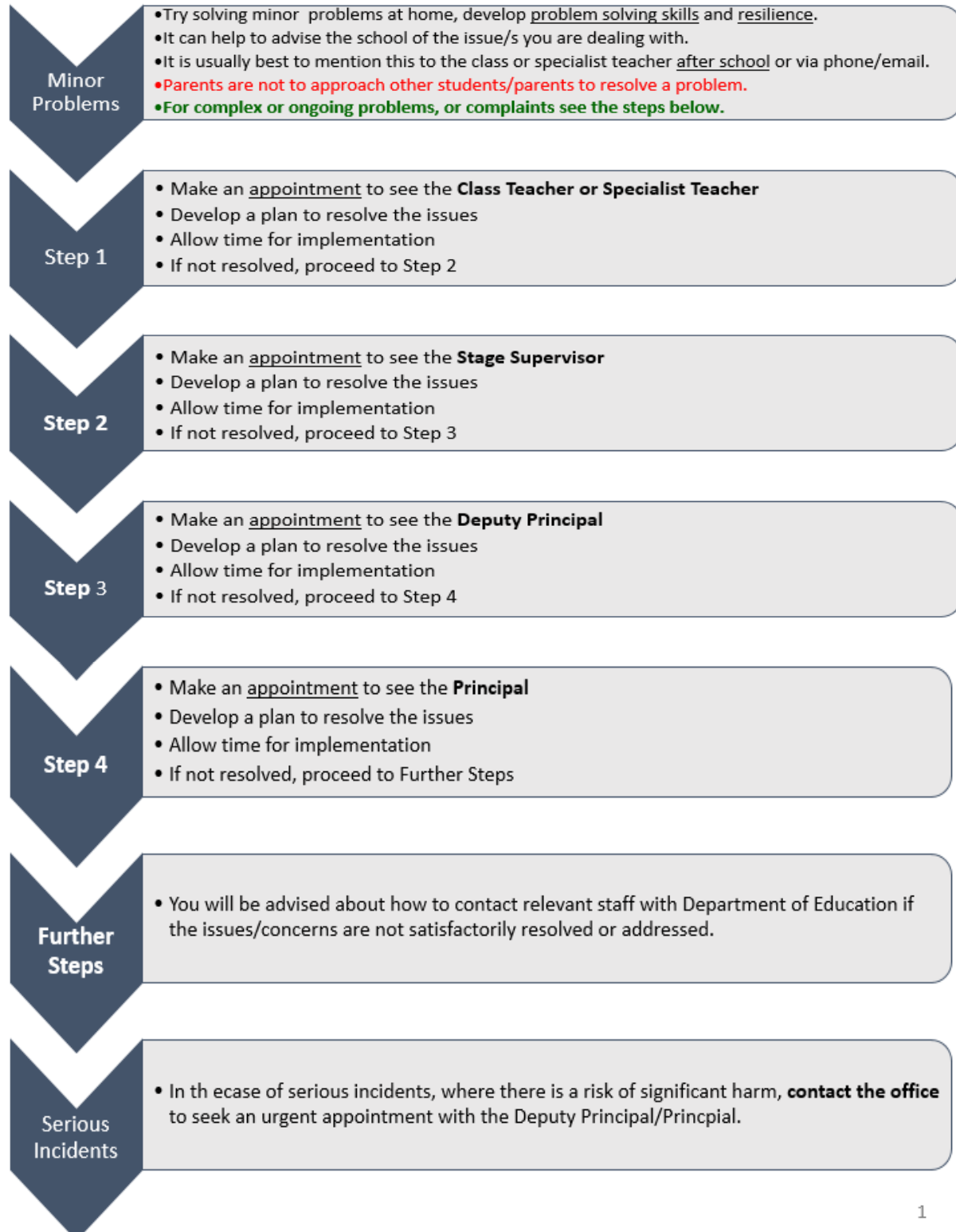
Supervisors and Principal will place students on Disciplinary levels after discussion with class teachers. Students return to Standard (green level) after 3 days of improved behaviour. The Principal has the right to remove privileges or suspend students at any level if necessary.

### Disciplinary Procedure

Parents are notified by letter when a student reaches a level and are invited to discuss the discipline situation.

### Solving Problems at School

Sometimes, problems at school may arise for your child. If this happens, please follow the steps below.





### **Road Safety/Drop-off/Pick up zones**

All children must cross the road holding an adult's hand. Children are to enter the car from the kerb-side, not the road side.

### ***Kiss & Ride Zone***

The 'Kiss and Ride' zone is located at the front of the school. This is a strict pick-up/drop-off zone only; cars should not be left unattended or parked in this zone.

### ***Morning Drop off***

To build your child's resilience and to avoid congestion in line up areas, it is expected that parents drop-off their child in their allocated zone in the morning. Waiting may cause distress to some students and at times can cause unwanted delays getting students up to their classroom. Please be mindful of teacher's duty of care in the morning and make an appointment to speak with them in the afternoon if required.

### **Volunteers**

Parents and community members are more than welcome to volunteer in our classrooms; we encourage each parent to participate in some way on a regular or semi-regular basis.

We look forward to having you working with us in various educational activities across the year.

Thank you for your support

Mrs Jenna Arzapitan  
Assistant Principal Early Stage One