



# Dalton Public School

## INFORMATION BOOKLET

### Principal's Message

Dalton Public School is a pivotal point in our community that fosters a positive and safe learning environment where everyone looks after each other; feels respected, understood and encouraged to become strong active participants in our community.

At Dalton Public School, we strive to ensure our students achieve positive social skills and academic success with high expectations of achievement by:

- ◇ Showing RESPECT for all
- ◇ Promoting RESILIENT behaviours (withstand and recover quickly from difficult conditions)
- ◇ Strengthening feelings of SELF-WORTH through INCLUSIVE practices
- ◇ COMMUNICATING positively and CONSTRUCTIVELY with others
- ◇ Providing a MOTIVATING and STIMULATING learning and work environment
- ◇ COLLABORATING between parents, students and staff

Above all else Dalton Public School recognises that it is our community responsibility to develop and support our students to become the best they can be.

Alison Finlayson  
Principal

#### Contact Details

##### ADDRESS

1-5 Jobson Street  
Dalton NSW 2581

##### TELEPHONE / FAX

02 4845 6210  
02 4845 6203

##### EMAIL

[dalton-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:dalton-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

##### WEBSITE

[www.dalton-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.dalton-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)

#### Inside

- Before & after school care
- Enrolments
- Kindy Start
- Student Welfare
- Attendance
- Information Technology
- Assessment
- Library
- Key Learning Areas
- Communication
- School assemblies
- Bus Travel
- Music
- Burrinjuck & Binit Binit
- Homework
- Sport
- Excursions & Carnivals
- Parent involvement
- P&C Association
- School uniform
- Playgroup



**Staff**

Principal:

Mrs Alison Finlayson

Classroom Teacher/Librarian:

Mrs Carolyn Harrison

School Administrative Manager:

Mrs Elizabeth Young

General Assistant:

Mr Peter Dempsey

Cleaner:

Robyn

**Before and After School Care**

Children can access before and after school care at Paradise4Kids (located at Gunning Public School) with bus transportation to/from Dalton School every day. For further information contact the Coordinator on 4845 1710 as bookings are essential.

**Enrolments**

The enrolment of any child at Dalton Public School is always welcome. Children may enrol in any grade from Kindergarten to Year 6. Student enrolments can be arranged by contacting or calling in to the school. Parents considering enrolling their child/children are encouraged to visit the school to view our wonderful environment first hand.

Upon enrolment, parents/caregivers will be asked to complete school enrolment forms and to provide a birth certificate, proof of residential address and Immunisation History Statement. It is not compulsory for children to be immunised, but if there is an outbreak of a vaccine preventable disease at school, unimmunised children will have to stay home for the duration of the outbreak for their own protection.

**Kindy Start**

A Transition to School program supports preschool children in making the transition to primary school. Pre-schoolers are introduced into the classroom with a weekly morning session which gradually increases to one full day per week towards the end of term 4.

This gentle introduction to “big school” gives the preschool children a “taste” of school life, helps them to adjust to routines, get to know their teachers, meet other children and become familiar with their new surroundings.

Details of dates are distributed to Gunning Early Learning Centre, families by mail and through the school newsletter. Kindy Start operates in Term 4 each year.

**Student Welfare—Respect and Responsibility**

Dalton Public School endeavours to foster self-discipline through appropriate classroom and playground management practices. This is done through the PBS program (Positive Behaviour for Success) whereby the school focuses on the two values of Respect and Responsibility.

*School Rules:*

- ◇ Be respectful of other people’s rights
- ◇ Be responsible for your own actions
- ◇ Keep your hands and feet to yourself
- ◇ Follow teacher’s instructions
- ◇ Put your hand up to speak
- ◇ Move in an appropriate manner
- ◇ Stay on task
- ◇ Do your best work



*Disciplinary Action / Unacceptable Behaviour:*

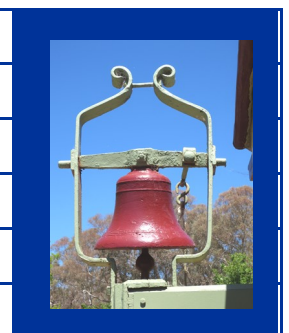
Appropriate behaviour must be displayed at school and when representing Dalton PS on excursions. Communication regarding behaviour will be via a phone call or email. Parents may be requested or can request an interview to discuss student behavioural concerns in a constructive and collaborative meeting with the Principal.

**Attendance**

Parents are legally responsible for the regular attendance of their children. Regular attendance at school is essential for your child’s academic and social progress. Families should contact the school when their child is absent by a written note, email or a telephone call. Parents planning holidays in school time may apply for leave for their children. Application forms are available from the office.

**School Routines**

Supervision is provided from	8.30 am
Starting time	9.00 am
Recess	11.15 am - 11.35 am
Lunch	12.50 pm - 1.20pm
Finishing time	3.05 pm
Bus leaves	3.05 pm



## Information Technology

Computing is an essential part of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning. Students and teachers at Dalton Public School learn and develop skills in Information and Communication Technology across all areas of the curriculum.

Digital tools are used to critically design and construct texts, search for and sort information, present/share learning and communicate with others. Our computer suite has a workstation for each class member. Each classroom has a Smart Board (Interactive Whiteboard) and access to a pod of laptop computers and iPads. The school is wireless networked allowing for “anywhere, anytime” online access. Our school has been fitted with a Virtual Classroom where classes can interact with other schools and participate in virtual excursions to many of our nation’s leading institutions without the added cost of travel and accommodation to burden our families.

---

## Assessment

Reporting to parents occurs regularly throughout the year at Dalton PS. Some of this reporting is through verbal communication between parents and staff before or after school. The small size of our school enables such communication to take place. On a more formal basis, reports are sent home at the end of Terms 2 and 4. Formal parent - teacher interviews may then be arranged to discuss school reports and student progress.

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) takes place in all schools annually for all students in Year 3 and Year 5. Kindergarten will be assessed through Best Start in the beginning weeks of Term 1 and again later in the year to gain a clearer understanding of their learning needs.

---

## Library

Students have a structured library lesson for an hour each week. During this time children interact with literature, study authors, learn how to use resources effectively, learn research skills and are able to borrow and return books.

Students are encouraged to participate in the Premier’s Reading Challenge each year. K-2 students do the challenge as part of their library lessons with books read to them by the teacher/librarian and followed by a lesson themed around the book. Students in Years 3-6 are supported by the teacher/librarian to find books listed in the challenge to be read at home.

---

## Key Learning Areas

Dalton Public School is committed to helping all children reach their full potential. Particular attention is given to developing skills in reading, writing and mathematics while developing children’s abilities across all of the Key Learning Areas, which are:

- |                         |                          |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| ◇ English               | ◇ Science and Technology |
| ◇ Mathematics           | ◇ Creative Arts          |
| ◇ History and Geography | ◇ PD/Health/PE           |

## Communication

Communication between the school and parents is very important to ensure the best possible outcomes for all our students. Please notify the school if there is a change of address, contact phone numbers or family circumstances. All information is confidential and helps us to understand any sudden changes in your child's behaviour or emotions. In an emergency it is vital that we have up to date contact details and at least one other family member or friend we can contact.

The Dalton Dispatch is our newsletter published fortnightly to keep parents informed of upcoming activities. You may choose to receive the newsletter as a hard copy via your child's school bag or by email. The newsletter is also available to view on our website.

Information for parents is provided through a variety of means:

- ◇ speaking to the Principal / your child's teacher;
- ◇ contacting the school office;
- ◇ reading newsletters;
- ◇ attending P & C meetings;
- ◇ attending school functions and assemblies;
- ◇ attending formal and informal meetings;
- ◇ reading the school noticeboard; and
- ◇ checking the School website.

Concerns addressed early are usually much easier to solve, so please make contact with the school if you have anything to discuss.

---

## School Assemblies



School assemblies are held at the end of each term and are a time for students to showcase all they have learnt in the term. Everyone is welcome to attend assemblies.



### Bus Travel

All K-2 students are eligible for free bus transport. Parents who live more than 1.6 kms and use their vehicle to drive their children to Dalton PS or bus pick up point, may be entitled to a bus conveyance subsidy. Application forms are available from the school office. A new application must be completed for children moving from Year 2 into Year 3.

Students travelling on the school bus are expected to obey the Code of Conduct as set out by the NSW Department of Transport. The school will support bus operators in the application of the Code's procedures and processes and facilitate effective communication between bus operators, students/parents/carers. **NB:** Bus drivers have the right to refuse transport to misbehaving children.

### Music

All students have the opportunity to participate in private music tuition through the Goulburn Regional Conservatorium on the instrument of their choice. Lessons are every Wednesday morning and the Conservatorium can provide an instrument for your child if necessary.



### Burrinjuck Learning Community



Our school is part of the Burrinjuck Learning Community, together with Gunning, Bowning and Wee Jasper Public Schools. Combining small schools to form learning and sporting environments where students thrive.

### Binitt Binitt Learning Community

The Binitt Binitt Learning Community consists of Yass High, Boorowa Central and seven primary schools—Berinba, Yass, Gunning, Bowning, Dalton, Wee Jasper and Rye Park. We work in partnership with these schools for academic, cultural and sporting opportunities for our students. This partnership is also used for transitioning students to high school.

## Homework

Homework is set to allow the student to develop effective and positive study habits. It aims to reinforce work covered at school, to allow the student time to catch up on work not completed at school and to foster home-school links. There are things you can do at home to help your child make the most of what they learn at school. Reading to children at home and involving them in family activities will greatly assist the development of their skills in literacy, numeracy and problem solving. Homework is generally sent home each Monday and is expected to be returned the coming Friday.

## Sport

Regular sport usually happens one afternoon per week. We also have professional coaches who provide tuition in a variety of specialist sports and activities, such as:

- ◇ Gymnastics
- ◇ Orienteering
- ◇ Tennis
- ◇ Athletics.



All our students participate in swimming, athletics and cross country carnivals with schools from the surrounding district. All students participate in the Department of Education's School Swimming & Water Safety Program with lessons held at Gunning Pool during Term 4.

## Excursions and School Carnivals

Excursions and school carnivals are held regularly to enhance students learning and sporting experiences and increase social opportunities. Dalton PS regularly visits surrounding schools to access academic opportunities and to establish social relationships. Throughout the year Dalton PS mixes with other schools in events such as athletics, swimming, cross country, choir, gala days, public speaking competitions, spelling competitions and small schools days.



Every two years, Years 4-6 are also offered a camp to a Sport & Recreation venue.

A signed permission note is required before children are able to participate in excursions. Notes should be returned to the office before the event. Attendance will be at the discretion of the Principal and staff and based upon behaviour and attitude.

## Parent Involvement

Parent and community involvement is sought and encouraged within the school. Help is always needed with fundraising, reading with students, helping in the classroom, assemblies and school excursions etc. All parents working with children in the school need to complete a *Working With Children Check* form which is available from the office.



## Parents and Citizens Association

The Dalton P&C Association is active in supporting the school. General meetings are held on Mondays at 7:00pm during Week 2 and Week 8 each term.

Through fundraising, the P&C has been able to make valuable contributions to the provision of resources to benefit our students. The Dalton fete, held in March, is our major fundraiser each year.

The P&C also determines the school uniform.

### School Uniform

A school uniform, as suggested and approved by the parents, is in use. Wearing of the uniform is encouraged to display pride in their school. The school colours are sky blue and navy blue. Uniforms can be purchased from department stores such as Target or K-mart.

#### SUMMER Boys

- ◇ Plain sky blue polo shirt
- ◇ Plain navy shorts
- ◇ Navy socks
- ◇ Black shoes

#### SUMMER Girls

- ◇ Plain navy shorts or skirt
- ◇ Plain sky blue polo shirt
- ◇ White socks
- ◇ Black shoes



## Parents and Citizens Association

### School Uniform (continued)

#### WINTER Unisex

- ◇ Plain navy jumper
- ◇ Plain sky blue long sleeve polo shirt
- ◇ Plain navy trousers
- ◇ Navy/white socks
- ◇ Black shoes

#### SPORTS Unisex

- ◇ Plain white polo shirt
- ◇ Navy shorts
- ◇ Girls can choose to wear a sports skirt
- ◇ Navy track pants
- ◇ Navy/white socks

Good clean second hand uniform items are available from the clothing pool located near the office.

The P&C Association has purchased school hats for the children to wear during outside activities in the warmer months.

---

### Playgroup

Playgroup is offered weekly on Monday mornings from 9:30am till 11:00am at school, with a playgroup co-ordinator who runs a certified program. This is a joint initiative of Schools as Community Centres (SaCC) and Goulburn Regional Art Gallery. All are welcome.



## Shared Learning Days

Dalton Public School students are provided with a wide range of curricular activities and social engagement through our Shared Learning Days with other local small schools, Breadalbane and Rye Park.

All three schools meet at Dalton PS on Wednesdays to undertake a variety of subjects at student year levels. This allows students to fully engage in and master the required skills and knowledge for science, technology, music, history and geography at their level.

The Shared Learning Day also provides students a wider social group to play with, enabling strong wellbeing and social outcomes for all students.



## Playgroup

Playgroup is offered weekly on Monday mornings from 9:30am till 11:00am at school, with a playgroup co-ordinator who runs a certified program. This is a joint initiative of Schools as Community Centres (SaCC) and Goulburn Regional Art Gallery. All are welcome.

