

Junior School Handbook 2025



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WELCOME

Welcome to St Hilda's Junior School. This handbook is intended as a practical parent guide for information regarding school life at our Chidley Campus.

CONTACT US

LOCATION

McCabe Street, Mosman Park WA

PHONE

Main Reception 9285 4500

Junior Absences 9285 4149

Music Reception 9285 4250

Extend Australia 9285 4520

Accounts 9285 4269

Uniform Shop 9285 4239

IT Helpdesk 9285 4295

EMAIL

sthildas@sthildas.wa.edu.au

WEBSITE

www.sthildas.wa.edu.au (main school website)

JUNIOR SCHOOL RECEPTION HOURS

Monday - Friday 7.45am - 4.00pm (Term time only)

POSTAL ADDRESS

PO Box 34

MOSMAN PARK 6912

ST HILDA'S PURPOSE, VISION, AND VALUES

PURPOSE

Inspiring inventive and adaptive thinkers with a curiosity for learning.

VISION

To spark extraordinary futures.

VALUES

Our values aren't just a list of nice words. They are qualities that you will find throughout the School in all interactions. Our staff lead by example and instil these values in our students.

Excellence //

We encourage the pursuit of our personal best and lifting others.

Authenticity //

We value who we are and respect others, knowing that self-belief is our greatest attribute.

Belonging //

We nurture relationships, the St Hilda's spirit and the part we play in the global community.

Imagination //

We are courageous and open our minds to possibilities. These values are woven into our behaviours, recognition programs, and leadership opportunities.

TERM DATES 2025

TERM 1

Wednesday 29 January – Friday 11 April

Mid-Term Break: Friday 28 February – Monday 3 March (inclusive)

TERM 2

Tuesday 29 April – Friday 27 June *Mid-Term Break: Friday 30 May – Monday 2 June (inclusive)*

TERM 3

Tuesday 22 July – Friday 26 September

Mid-Term Break: Friday 22 – Monday 25 August (inclusive)

TERM 4

Tuesday 14 October – Friday 5 December (Lunchtime)

START AND FINISH TIMES

	Junior Kindergarten	Kindergarten	Pre Primary	Years 1-6
Doors Open	8.45am	8.30am	8.10am	8.10am
Start Time	9.00am	8.45am	8.25am	8.25am
Recess	10.15am - 10.40am	10.15am - 10.40am	10.15am - 10.40am	10.15am - 10.40am
Lunch	12.30pm - 1.00pm	1.05pm - 1.40pm	1.05pm - 1.40pm	1.05pm - 1.40pm
Quiet/Rest Time	1.00pm - 1.30pm	1.40pm - 1.55pm		
Dismissal Time	2.30pm	2.55pm	3.00pm	Year 1 3.05pm Year 2 3.10pm Years 3-6 3.15pm

GENERAL INFORMATION

ABSENTEES

If your child will be absent from school, please fill in the Absentee form on the app or email junior.school@sthildas.wa.edu.au before the commencement of school. If you do not notify the School, we will contact the parent/guardian to confirm the absence.

APPOINTMENTS OR LATENESS

Students who arrive after the start time must report to Junior School Reception with their parent or guardian to sign in.

Students leaving early must be signed out by a parent or guardian at the Junior School Reception before being picked up from the classroom.

ILLNESS

If your child is unwell, please do not send them to school. This will aid their recovery and limit the spread of illness. If your child presents to school unwell, parents will be called to collect them.

PERMISSION FOR EXTENDED LEAVE FROM SCHOOL

Please keep holidays and related absences to the allocated school holidays. Permission must be sought for planned absences. This needs to be lodged via an extended leave application form which can be accessed via the School App.

ASSEMBLIES AND CHAPELS

You are welcome to attend Junior School assemblies held on selected Wednesday mornings for Year 1 to Year 6. Honour Certificates for Years 1-6 are presented at assemblies. If your child receives a certificate, your teacher will inform you in advance.

Chapel service takes place at the Chidley Campus on selected Wednesday mornings. Students from Years 1-6 attend Chapel services, with Pre Primary attending in Semester 2. Pre Primary classes attend in Semester 2, and Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten attend on special occasions. Parents, families, and friends are always welcome to attend and receive Holy Communion or a Blessing.

First Holy Communion preparation is offered from Year 5, after consultation with parents, and there is an annual celebration of First Communion. Baptism (Christening) of students and their families is available through the School Chaplain.

HEALTH

WELLNESS CENTRE

Our Wellness Centre is staffed by a Registered Nurse every day and is available to support students who become unwell while at school or have a minor accident. Parents will be called to collect if students are to go home due to illness or injury. Please ensure your Consent2Go health records are regularly updated, should medical conditions change, to ensure our nurses have all the information on hand to attend to your child's health needs. You will be sent a link to Consent2Go each year to update your child's health record and ensure all information we hold is correct.

STUDENT MEDICATION

Please update any new medical information via Consent2Go or send to the Registered Nurse. Health-related policies are available via the School App.

Over-the-counter medications (supply available in the Wellness Centre) are only administered if parental permission has been provided. Special written permission needs to be provided by a parent for short-term medication such as antibiotics. These medications are stored securely and administered by the Registered Nurse. Any medication administered is recorded on the student's electronic medical record, and an Advice of Administered Medication form is sent home to the parent/guardian or alternatively noted and signed in the student's diary.

TREATMENT OF HEAD LICE

Parents will receive an App alert if there is an outbreak in your child's year level.

SUN AWARENESS

A 'No Hat, No Play' policy applies for all outdoor activities. Parents are encouraged to apply sunscreen prior to their child coming to school. Sunscreen is available for students at school.

CALENDAR

The School Calendar can be accessed via the School App or SEQTA Engage and should be checked regularly as dates, venues, and times can change.

CHANGE OF CONTACT DETAILS

It is important to keep the school updated on any changes to your address, email, or contact numbers. You can update your details via SEQTA Engage or by emailing records@sthildas.wa.edu.au to advise us of these changes as soon as possible.

COCURRICULAR OFFERINGS

The cocurricular programs at St Hilda's are designed to ignite, enhance, and spark a thirst for knowledge and to provide opportunities for our students to engage beyond the classroom. Many cocurricular offerings are available, including Sport, Music, Dance, and Drama opportunities. Details can be found on the School App.

Students who attend cocurricular activities must be collected from the drive-thru at the stated finish time. Parents who repeatedly fail to collect their children on time will impact their child's ability to participate in cocurricular activities.

COMMUNICATION AND SCHOOL PLATFORMS

We utilise a range of channels to communicate with our community. Some of these include:

SCHOOL APP

This continues to be St Hilda's main form of communication. The App is used to access year group, cocurricular and sports notices as well as links to newsletters, My Student Account (MSA), term dates, transport options and the School calendar. If you have this already, please ensure you adjust your 'subscriptions' to select your child/s current year level/s and cocurricular activities.

You can access the App via Google Play and the Apple App Store. Simply search for St Hilda's Anglican School for Girls and click on the App with our logo to download to your personal device. Once you have downloaded the App, you will need to enter your St Hilda's issued username and password (i.e. 1234@sthildas.wa.edu.au)

SEQTA ENGAGE

Is our learning management platform which displays your child's timetable and online marks. Timetables will be shared a week prior to the commencement of the school year.

Absentees should also be recorded on SEQTA Engage.

You can also access the opt-in Friendship list on the Contacts tab.

Update your contact details on the My Details tab your child's photo permissions and

Access your fee statements, invoices and credit card details on the Finance tab for your school fee payments.

EMAIL

You may receive direct communications from teaching and operational staff.

NEWSLETTERS

This includes Principal's update, important announcements and events, Junior School updates and notices.

SMS NOTIFICATIONS

These will be used for time sensitive and urgent information.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook, LinkedIn and Instagram are used to promote student and staff achievements, strategic updates and information on events.

SCHOOL PLATFORMS INCLUDE:

- My Student Account (MSA) allows families to add credit to order online or top-up student cards for the Mezze.
- See Saw is used to provide regular insight into your child's learning (Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten students only).
- Consent2Go is a digital solution that easily enables you to keep your child's health records accurate and provides consent for school events, excursions, and camps in a secure and timely manner.

STUDENT CARD

A student card will be required for children who wish to use the following services:

- Students who wish to purchase in person from the Mezze (canteen) require a student card. Parents who order online for their children can continue to do so without a student card.
- Students wishing to use the Horizons West bus service and/or Transperth services will require a student card to use these services.

Please contact junior.school@sthildas.wa.edu.au should you require a card.

Lost cards should be reported to Junior School Reception and a new card will be ordered at a cost of \$7.00. All monies on the lost card will be transferred over to the new card.

Parents can upload funds via My Student Account (MSA).

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND FUNDRAISING

From Junior Kindy through to Year 6, our students actively participate in ongoing learning integrated into the curriculum through age and developmentally appropriate school and community-based programs.

We run many events for charitable organisations during the year through our Community Service program. Community Service fundraising is coordinated by the Head of Community Service.

Proposals for additional fundraising activities can be submitted to the Head of Community Service for consideration, **community.service@sthildas.wa.edu.au**.

COMPLAINTS

If any member of the School community has a complaint, they are encouraged to lodge the complaint verbally by phone, in-person, by letter, email or via the complaints form on the School's website.

Please refer to the Complaints Policy available on the School App for further information.

EXCURSIONS, INCURSIONS AND CAMPS

There are camps for students in Years 4, 5 and 6. These camps are outdoor education focused and facilitate developing students' independence, resiliency, and self-management skills.

To further enrich the students' learning, excursions and incursions are arranged as part of the curriculum. Permission forms will be emailed via Consent2Go. On receiving this you will be asked to update any of your child's health details. Permission to travel by bus is completed upon enrolment (Pre Primary - Year 6).

Further permissions are required for Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten students. You will be contacted as required.

If any changes to permissions are required during your child's time at St Hilda's, please notify Reception. You will be notified via the newsletter, the App, student diary or a note of the event, with any required updates.

GETTING ASSISTANCE

It is critical to work as a team to maximise your child's educational gains. We believe open and regular communication between parent, teacher and student is important. You are encouraged to maintain an ongoing connection to the classroom program and your child's participation, progress, and requirements by checking the diary each day (Pre Primary – Year 6).

YOU CAN COMMUNICATE WITH THE CLASS TEACHER VIA:

- Daily entry in the student's diary
- Email
- Telephone
- Brief exchanges of information 5 minutes prior to the commencement of class or after school.

To discuss issues or concerns, it is highly recommended that these are raised with the class teacher in the first instance as they know your child and the learning context the best. Please make an appointment with the classroom teacher indicating the nature of the discussion. This enables the teacher to give her or his full attention.

PARENT MEETINGS, INFORMATION SESSIONS AND INVOLVEMENT

The parent information evening is held to inform you of the year's activities, to explain the particular directions and uniqueness of the year level, to consider aspects that will help the students settle into their new class and for parents to meet the class teachers and ask any questions and address concerns.

PARENT SESSIONS

A range of sessions are held during the year and are often on pertinent or current topics. Information regarding these sessions will be communicated via email invitation, School Newsletter and the St Hilda's App.

STUDENT SERVICES

A team inclusive of Head of Wellbeing and Operations, Psychologists and Director of Junior School oversee the holistic development of each child. Parents are encouraged to contact Junior School Reception to make a time to meet with one of the team members regarding a student's progress with settling into a new school, academics and learning, social/emotional development, or general welfare, in consultation with your child's classroom teacher.

The School Psychologists provide support and can also connect parents to other specialised services such as Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, Psychological Services and Testing provided by external agencies.

HOUSES AND HOUSE MEETINGS

There are four Houses: Blackwood, De Grey, Fitzroy and Gascoyne. House Meetings for Years 1-6 are organised each fortnight and are conducted by the House Officials and Year 6 Leaders. On alternate weeks, students in Years 3-6 engage in House Sport.

LIBRARY

The Junior School Library is open from 7.55am-8.10am Monday to Friday for students in Pre Primary – Year 6. A teacher is on duty to supervise.

LOST PROPERTY

All belongings should be clearly marked with the student's name. Parents are welcome to check for lost property during school hours at Reception. Any unclaimed lost property that is named will be sorted and delivered to classrooms at the end of each term. After one year, the remaining items will be sent to the Uniform Shop or given to charity.

MEZZE (CANTEEN) AND FOOD

We have students who have certain allergies which are life-threatening. The Junior School is an allergy-aware school.

Please minimise rubbish by using reusable containers. Unnamed lost lunch boxes and containers are stored in the lost property area at reception.

The Mezze is open each day of term for nutritious lunches and snacks. Morning recess 10.15–10.35am and lunchtime 1.05–1.40pm. The current menu is available on the School App.

Junior Kindergarten to Year 6 students may order lunches from the Mezze. Parents complete their orders using the online ordering system. Students may also use a student card to purchase snacks in person at the Mezze.

Years 1 – 6 students may purchase snack items from the Mezze on any day at recess and lunch. Ice-creams are only permitted on Wednesdays and Fridays.

In Semester 2, Pre Primary students may purchase as above for Years 1 - 6.

MOBILE PHONES

Students who have a mobile phone or smartwatch must sign it in at Reception at the beginning of the school day and collect it at the end of the day. Students may use the School telephone at Reception at the discretion of the teacher.

MONEY AND VALUABLES

Valuable items and money should not be brought to school. Should money be required for donation, only small denominations should be brought.

OUT OF HOURS CARE (EXTEND AUSTRALIA)

Extend Australia run the before and after school care program and school holiday program at St Hilda's.

Extend Australia's programs, develop and nurture young minds with science, cooking, sport, and imaginative play. Children's interests and ideas are central to the programs, which promote healthy lifestyles through nutritional food and active play.

Bookings are essential. To enrol or make a booking please book through the Extend Australia Website. The Service opens at 7.00am and closes at 6.00pm.

PARTIES

End-of-year celebrations held by classes are activity based.

Due to the busy nature of the School program, birthday parties cannot be held at school. To support our inclusive philosophy, invitations to private parties may be distributed at school only if they include all class members. If birthday treats are provided in class, please provide enough individual portions for every class member. To celebrate birthdays, mini cupcakes or cookies are suitable (no lollies please). Please check with the class teacher for any special dietary requirements of children in the class or year.

PRIVATE LESSONS IN SCHOOL TIME

St Hilda's is pleased to offer the opportunity for students to have private tuition within class time. However, to minimise the disruption to the students' academic studies and ongoing learning, students in Kindergarten - Year 6 will be allowed only one private (music or drama) lesson during school time. Students who learn a second instrument at school will have this lesson out of school hours. The lessons will be rotated so that the same classroom lessons are not missed.

Parents and students are asked to inform private tutors of a student's absence from lessons, timetable changes, class excursions and illness.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASSROOM

St Hilda's arranges most of the books and stationery requirements for all students. A list of additional requirements for each year level can be found on the School App and will be emailed at the start of each year. If your child needs anything else during the year, we will inform you.

REPORTING TIMELINE

TERM 1

Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten teachers conduct meetings with parents at the commencement of Term 1, during the gradual entry week.

Class visits for Junior Kindergarten – Year 6 will take place at a specified time. For Pre Primary – Year 6 this is held on the morning of the class assembly.

Students learning will be shared regularly via See Saw (Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten).

Feedback for students in Pre Primary – Year 6 will be shared via SEQTA Engage.

TERM 2

Junior Kindergarten - Year 1 will have a parent/teacher meeting at the start of Term 2. Students in Years 2-6 will be involved in a parent, student and teacher meeting at the start of Term 2.

Class visits for Junior Kindergarten – Year 6 will take place at a specified time. For Pre Primary – Year 6 this is held on the morning of the class assembly.

Students' learning will be shared regularly via See Saw (Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten).

Feedback for students in Pre Primary – Year 6 will be shared via SEQTA Engage.

Junior Kindergarten - Year 6: Semester 1 summative report will be uploaded to SEQTA Engage for all students.

TERM 3

Class visits for Junior Kindergarten – Year 6 will take place at a specified time. For Pre Primary – Year 6 this is held on the morning of the class assembly.

Students' learning will be shared regularly via See Saw (Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten).

Feedback for students in Pre Primary – Year 6 will be shared via SEQTA Engage.

TERM 4

Class visits for Junior Kindergarten – Year 6 will take place at a specified time. For Pre Primary – Year 6 this is held on the morning of the class assembly.

Students' learning will be shared regularly via See Saw (Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten).

Feedback for students in Pre Primary – Year 6 will be shared via SEQTA Engage.

Junior Kindergarten - Year 6: Semester 2 summative report will be uploaded to SEQTA for all students.

SCHOOL POLICIES

The School has a number of policies that staff, parents and students need to abide by and be aware of. School Policies can be accessed from the School App.

STUDENT ASSIGNED LEARNING DEVICE (SALD)

Junior Kindergarten - Year 3 will have access to a device in the classroom when needed. Year 4 will have a class set of SALDs. These remain in the classroom. Years 5 - 6 are assigned a Student Assigned Learning Device (SALD). Students in Year 6 are permitted to take their device home. For all other year groups these devices are left at school.

SCHOOL UNIFORM AND UNIFORM SHOP

The School prides itself on its presentation, with the school uniform compulsory for all students. All students are expected to wear their uniform correctly and with pride. They are required to maintain high standards of appearance within the School and outside in the community. The Uniform policy must be adhered to at all times. It is important that all students are correctly dressed every day, and their uniform is clean and fits well. All clothing should be clearly labelled with your child's name.

Please refer to the Uniform Policy on the School App for Summer, Winter, and Sports uniform requirements

The Uniform Shop is located at the Senior School, 3 Palmerston Street, Mosman Park.

Standard trading hours during term time are:

Tuesday by appointment only
 Wednesday
 Thursday
 Thursday
 8.00am - 4.00pm
 8.00am - 4.00pm
 8.00am - 4.00pm

The Uniform Shop will be open on additional dates prior to the commencement of the school year, please check the School App for the current opening dates and times.

If you do not need a fitting and already know the items and sizes you require you can order items via the Online Uniform Shop via the School App.

SAINTS CONNECT

Connection with your child's school positively impacts on them as much as it does on you. We'd love you to be involved in an area you're passionate about. Join one of our Saints Connect groups and meet people who share your interests and help the school continue to thrive. We'd love to see you share some of your time and expertise at the School through Saints Connect. There's a volunteering opportunity to suit everyone.

Further information and how to sign up can be found on the School App.

TRANSPORTATION, PARKING AND DROP ZONES

PARKING

Parking is not permitted in the surrounding streets. Owston Street carpark is for Junior Kindergarten, Kindergarten and out-of-school-hours care.

Parents of Pre Primary to Year 6 children should park in McCabe Street car park. For large functions when additional parking is required, the School Oval will be available for overflow parking.

In addition, the public car park beside the Mosman Park Tennis Club is available.

MCCABE STREET DRIVE-THROUGH PROCEDURES

When using drive-through to drop off or pick up your child, please be mindful of maintaining a steady and smooth flow of traffic. If your child is not at drive-through, please continue to move through and join the queue again.

JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN AND KINDERGARTEN

At the beginning of the year, gradual entry in Week 1 for Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten allows a smooth and happy start to the year. Children attend in small groups. Parent-teacher interviews are conducted during these afternoons.

In Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten, it is recommended that parents establish a routine to begin the day. Students should arrive on time for a smooth start to the day.

Approximately 10 minutes reading or doing a puzzle, then a kiss or hug and parting words such as "I'm off now and I will see you this afternoon". A confident approach provides your child with a sense of security. Staff will contact parents should their child not settle.

Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten parents should park in the Owston Street carpark and drop off and collect their child from the classroom door.

Please Note: The Early Learning Centre gates at Owston Street are locked between the hours of 9.30am-2.30pm. Access is only available via the front reception, McCabe Street.

PRE PRIMARY

Parents should park in McCabe Street carpark and walk their child to class or use the drive-through system. This provides a transition from home to school and a settling-into-class time as well as some independence and familiarity with the whole school. Parents are encouraged to allow their child to carry their own bags and to unpack and prepare independently as the year progresses.

Students and parents are welcome to arrive from 8.10am for a prompt start at 8.30am. Where buses, rehearsals or certain activities necessitate arrival earlier than 8:10am, students will attend the library from 7.55am to 8.10am. Students arriving between 7.00am and 7.55am will need to attend out of school hours care via Extend. Charges apply.

Pre Primary students should be collected from the McCabe Street drive-through at 3.00pm.

YEARS 1 - 6

Parents should use the McCabe Street drive-through. Students are welcome to arrive at school from 8.10am in readiness for a prompt 8.25am start. To support the development of independence and responsibility for belongings and organisation, it is important that parents allow their children to unpack their own school bags and prepare for the school day between 8.10am and 8.25am.

Where buses, rehearsals or certain activities require arrival earlier than 8:10am, students will attend the library from 7.55am to 8.10am. Students arriving between 7.00am and 7.55am will need to attend out-of-school hours care via Extend. Charges apply.

Years 1 to 6 students should be collected from the McCabe Street drive-through.

Dismissal Time: Year 1 – 3.05pm

Year 2 - 3.10pm Years 3 to 6 - 3.15pm

Drop off and pick up occur via the first six bays as marked. No parking is allowed in the drive-through.

BUSES

St Hilda's runs the following bus services:

- Southern Suburbs
- West Leederville Service
- Karrinyup Service
- Nedlands Service
- City-Subiaco Service
- Cottesloe Service (including Mosman Park Train station pick up)

These services are run by Horizons West. Students require a Student Card and tickets need to be prepurchased online <u>here.</u>

Please refer to the School App for the latest routes and scheduled times.

Students in Pre Primary wanting to use the Horizon service must have prior approval from the Director of Junior School.

BICYCLES

If students ride to school, they do not have to wear their blazer or boater while riding but must have them with them. Helmets must be worn at all times. Please padlock bikes in the bike stands provided. Bikes are not to be ridden through school grounds.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The following questions and answers, set out to provide information on why we do some things the way we do at St Hilda's Junior School. With families joining our community from other schools, other states, and other countries, we are often asked about the topics below. We also need to acknowledge that although it is a common experience, there are many aspects of school life that have changed since our parents experienced primary school.

SAFETY & SECURITY

Why do I need to visit reception before entering the school? Why do I need to sign in/sign out from school when collecting my child during the school day?

Our Junior School is open from 7.45am to 4.00pm during term time. It is fundamental to our duty of care during these operating hours that we know who is on our campus at any point in time – this includes all students, parents, and visitors. This information is also vital in the event of an emergency.

Why can't my child wait unsupervised after their cocurricular club in the afternoons?

Our duty of care requires that all staff hand students over to their parent or designated caregiver and we need to sight the person who is taking over responsibility. This process signals that the staff member is no longer responsible for the student.

Are children allowed to play after school in the playground?

Yes, if you, or another adult you nominate, are going to supervise your child/ren.

How do I get a message to my child during the school day?

We understand that occasionally, parents may need messages passed to their child/ren prior to the end of the School day. We ask parents to contact the Junior School Reception, 9285 4500, during school hours to forward any message as classroom teachers are unlikely to have the opportunity to access emails and respond to your message.

BIRTHDAYS

Birthdays are important milestones in the primary years. From Junior Kindergarten - Year 6 each class teacher has a system to acknowledge birthdays within the cohort and it varies from year group to year group. How your family celebrates birthdays is up to you and is not a matter for the School. Our only stipulation is that your child does not hand out party invitations at school unless every member of the class is invited.

Every year we know there are children who are not invited to birthday parties who become upset. As hard as it can be to see your child 'left out,' this experience needs to become an opportunity for you to build resilience in them and discuss the issues it raises. If you need assistance with this, you may contact one of our Junior School Psychologists for support but the School will not engage in any discussion with parents about private birthday events.

SOCIALISING

Can students play with children from different year levels?

Yes, students are encouraged to establish relationships within their cohort, and we also support and encourage social interactions and friendships between year levels during recess and lunchtimes.

PARENT / TEACHER COMMUNICATIONS

Can I see teachers before class begins in the morning or directly after school?

Yes, providing you schedule this meeting because many staff coordinate before and after school clubs. For urgent meetings at the beginning or end of the School day, please contact Junior School Reception.

CLASS PLACEMENTS

Why can't I request my child's classroom teacher each year?

There is a complex process involved in placing students. Moving one student can have knock-on effects for other students and the collective group. Class placements are final and the School will work with families to ensure a successful year ahead. Parents can talk to the Classroom Teacher about any concerns, and we will work with the parent and student to adjust to their new class. Please refer to the Student Allocation to Classes document for further information.

EARLY LEARNING CENTRE

Why is my three-year-old encouraged to be toilet trained before beginning Junior Kindergarten?

Junior Kindergarten at St Hilda's is an educational program with an offering that is different to childcare centres.

We encourage children who are three years of age to be independent with their toileting. Independent toileting in Junior Kindergarten means children:

- Identify for themselves that they need to go to the toilet
- Are able to / will go unescorted by a staff member to the toilet
- Can manage their clothing
- Can position themselves appropriately at the toilet [note: the toilets are sized for under 5-year-olds]
- Can attempt to wipe themselves
- Can wash their hands and return to the classroom.

We know that occasionally three-year-olds will have toileting 'accidents' and staff assistance will always be available to your child. Regarding toilet training, during school hours Staff will support the work that you commenced at home.

GENERAL TOPICS

Why isn't interschool sport compulsory as it is in the boys' schools?

Sport is a compulsory part of our weekly timetable from Junior Kindergarten to Year 6. All students from Year 4 compete in the JIGSSA (Junior Independent Girls' Schools' Sports Association) for: Summer Games, Winter Games, Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics. Year 3 students will also take part in JIGSSA Winter Games and Summer Games. Interhouse sport runs fortnightly for Years 3-6 students on Fridays.

PARENT-TO-PARENT RELATIONSHIPS

St Hilda's is a diverse and busy community. Our core purpose is to provide the best educational experience we can for your child.

There are numerous opportunities for our parents to support and engage with the School beyond the immediate educational requirements of your child and we actively encourage you to do so. In a diverse community, you will encounter people who think and behave differently to you, and we ask that all the relationships you form through the St Hilda's community are respectful and collaborative.

Parent-to-parent relationships are beyond the jurisdiction of the School and we will not engage in discussions about this. We ask that if you encounter difficulties with another parent, you seek advice or support from a professional counselling organisation. If you believe the issue between parents is having an

impact on your child's ability to participate at school, then you should contact the Junior School reception to make a time to see the School Psychologist to seek support, but it must be clear that the School will not contact or involve the parent or child of the person you are having difficulty with.

We also ask that you be conscious of the conversations you have about other parents within hearing of your child. It is unhelpful to burden your primary school child with adult concerns or conflicts when they do not have the maturity to cope with adult problems. This can then translate into the classroom and playground and introduce anxiety for things that should be resolved at an adult level.

PRIVACY & CONFIDENTIALITY

Our operations are governed by the Privacy Act 1988. This means that we will not pass on information about the people (staff, parents, or students) involved or actions we take to resolve issues.

We are most often asked by parents to provide information about how an incident involving two or more students is being resolved. Apart from letting you know action is being taken, we will not discuss the details with you. In Junior School we are working with children who are learning about relationships, making mistakes, and developing as individuals. Our staff are trained and experienced in this, and you need to trust us to look after the pastoral care as much as you trust us to teach maths or music.

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