



Ravenswood Prep Class

New to Ravenswood in 2021 is the commencement of a Prep class. Ravenswood Prep will cater for girls in the year prior to Kindergarten. Located at Annesley House, Ravenswood Prep will offer a nurturing, dynamic program in a beautifully renovated environment.

Philosophy

The Prep program is inspired by Reggio Emilia principles. This approach values the rich potential and deep curiosity of each child and acknowledges that children are natural inquirers. It builds on children's innate ability to construct meaning by interacting with their environment. Sparking wonder, excitement and joy, the environment at Annesley House promotes exploration, risk-taking and learning. Both the indoor and outdoor learning spaces are designed to engage students in wondering, questioning and discovering.

'The wider the range of possibilities we offer children the more intense will be their motivations and the richer their experiences.'

Loris Malaguzzi, founder of the Reggio Emilia Approach

Curriculum

An approach to teaching and learning that values inquiry, collaboration and active learning begins in the Prep class and is implemented through the International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Programme (PYP). The PYP transdisciplinary framework is highly regarded worldwide and offers students authentic opportunities to focus on key developmental abilities in the early years. The most important aspect of the PYP is that students are encouraged to become active learners. They work collaboratively with teachers and peers to plan, present and assess their own learning. Teachers facilitate this by posing significant, relevant, challenging and engaging questions that involve learning across different curriculum areas.

Prep students will be introduced to Early Stage 1 outcomes from the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) that are usually introduced in a Kindergarten classroom. Explicit teaching of concepts and skills, in both literacy and numeracy, will be part of each day. Additionally, students will participate in core learning areas including STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), Art, Music, Drama, and Physical Education (including swimming). Specialist staff will teach these subjects and the students will have access to facilities on the main school campus.

Wellbeing

Positive Education at Ravenswood offers a range of empirically validated approaches from the field of Positive Psychology that are delivered through interventions, programs and practices to promote the wellbeing of our students, staff and wider community. Social and emotional development is a vital component of the Ravenswood Prep experience. Wellbeing practices to enhance resilience, social skills and optimism will be woven into the Prep program. Building relationships with K-6 students is an important component of the wellbeing program. This will happen through the Junior School Buddy Program as well as involvement in a number of Junior School events.

Parent/Teacher Partnership

Research has shown that positive relationships between parents and teachers can improve children's academic achievement, social competencies and emotional wellbeing. A strong connection between parents and teachers will be developed through regular communication and sharing of students' learning.



FAQs

What age does my daughter need to be to attend the Prep class?

Students must turn 4-years-old by 30 April 2021.

Are there options for flexible attendance?

The Prep program is full-time, operating from Monday – Friday during school term time. Students may, however, attend for four days a week, from Monday – Thursday, with the possibility of increasing this to full-time attendance later in the year.

What are the Prep class hours?

The day commences at 8.30am and concludes at 2.45pm during school term time. Ravenswood Prep follows the Junior School term dates.

Are the students required to wear a uniform?

In Terms 1 and 4, the students wear the Ravenswood summer dress or sports uniform that the K-6 students wear. In Terms 2 and 3, they wear the same uniform as the K-2 students (skivvy, fleece track pants and jacket, white socks and sneakers). The School sun hat is worn when the students are outside and moving between the School campuses.

How many staff work in the Prep class?

There are two full-time staff for the Prep class: a qualified teacher and a teaching assistant.

Where is the Prep class located?

Ravenswood Prep is located in Annesley House, which is across the road from the Junior School in Cecil Street. The house has been renovated specifically for early learners and has a number of learning spaces including an 'Atelier' (a dedicated space for artistic expression). Prep students have their own playground and outdoor learning space. They also have access to many of the facilities on the main campus.

Can my daughter attend After School Care and Vacation Care at Ravenswood?

Yes. Our provider is OSHClub and all students must be registered with OSHClub in order to attend. Annesley House is the venue for OSHClub, so there is a smooth transition for Prep students who are attending After School Care. The hours during term time are 2.45pm-6.00pm.

Will my daughter automatically proceed to Kindergarten at Ravenswood?

Yes, all Prep students will move into Kindergarten at Ravenswood the following year. In Term 4, the Prep students will visit the Kindergarten classes and participate in a transition to Kindergarten program.