

Bega Valley Public School



Information Booklet 2012



Bega Valley Public School

Contents

Caring for students

Absence Notes	4
Access to Children	4
Allergies	4
Asthma Management	5
Breakfast Club	5
Collection of a Child	5
Entrance Requirements	5
Late Arrival	6
Medication	6
Regular attendance	6
Returning Permission Slips	7
Reading Recovery	7
School Counsellor	7
Support Teacher Learning	7
Staff Development Days	7
Sick Children	8
Wet Weather	8

STUDENT MANAGEMENT

Behaviour Expectations	9
Bicycles	9
Expensive Items	9
Buses	9
Canteen	10
Excursions	10
Student Leadership	11
Sharing of Food	11
Playground Behaviour	11

COMMUNICATION

New sletters	11
Assembly	12
Notices to Parents	12
Parent/Teacher meetings	12
Pupil Reports	12

CURRICULUM

Computer Education	13
Homework	13
Grade structure	13
School Policy	14
Library	14
Special Needs	14
Performing Arts	15

EXCURSIONS/CAMPS

Camps	16
Excursions	16

MANAGEMENT

Picking up and Dropping off	17
Casual teachers	17
Lunches	17
Money – Payment Envelopes	18
School Crossings	18
Staff Meetings	18
Supervision and Safety of Pupils	18
Is your child ready for school?	19

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

Parents and Citizens Association	21
Parent Involvement	21

SERVICES

Bank	22
Book Club	22
Canteen	22
Dental Health Services	22
First Aid	22
Photographs	22

UNIFORM

Lost Property	23
Uniform	23

APPENDIX

Exclusion Table – Infectious Diseases	24
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School Address

27 Auckland Street
BEGA NSW 2550

School Phone Number

02 64921280

School Fax Number

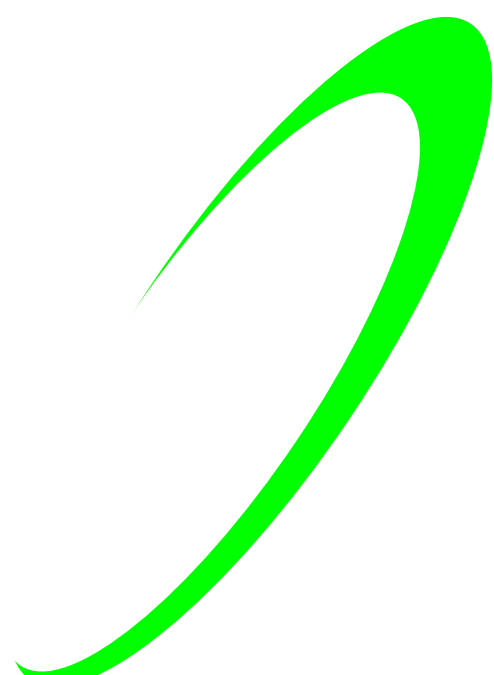
02 64923965

School email

bega-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

School website

www.bega-p.schools.nsw.edu.au



School Hours

The regular school hours are: 9.15a.m. - 3.15p.m.

Morning recess: 11:20 a.m. - 11.45 a.m.

Lunch break: 1:10p.m. – 2p.m

Please note that these times are currently being discussed with community stakeholders and may change for the 2012 school year.

Term Dates

Term 1	27 th January 2012 to 5 th April 2012
Term 2	23 rd April 2012 to 29 th June 2012
Term 3	16 th July 2012 to 21 st September 2012
Term 4	8 th October 2012 to 21 st December 2012



Bega Valley Public School – Caring for students

Our school strives to ensure that the students in our care are safe at all times. With this in mind we have designed some procedures to support them throughout their education at BVPS.

Absence Notes

Parents are requested to provide an explanation whenever a child is absent from school. To assist parents in this task the school provides a 'Student Absence' form which is available from the school office and is regularly in the school newsletter. Alternatively parents may contact the school office on 64921280 when your child is unable to attend school.

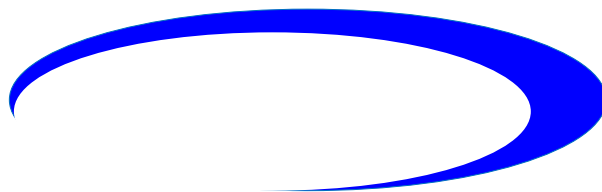
This procedure is a requirement of all schools by the Department of education and Communities.

Access to Children

There are times when parents are concerned about incidents involving their children and want more information, or seek to 'fix' what they see as a problem. Parents are of course always welcome in our school. If you have a concern about a child or children, you should see the class teacher and/or the Principal or Assistant Principal. We need and want to know of your concerns - we can only act on what we know about.

Allergies – Severe Nut Allergies Present At Our School

We have a small number of students at our school that may have a severe allergic reaction to nut products. These allergies can be fatal and can be brought on by contact with nut products. With this in mind, we ask that you think twice before sending your child with products that have nuts in them, for example, peanut butter and Nutella. Although this can be an inconvenience, we are committed to protecting these children from a potentially fatal reaction. Further details on this policy can be obtained from the principal.



Asthma Management

In the event of a child developing signs of asthma the Asthma Management Plan provided by parents will be enacted. If no Asthma Management Plan is available the following treatment will be undertaken:

1. Without delay, four separate puffs via a spacer from a blue reliever puffer (Ventolin) will be administered. If the child's own puffer is not available the puffer housed in the first aid room will be used.

Note: A problem that may be encountered is when a student is having difficulty breathing at school, and is not known to have pre-existing asthma. In this situation we will still administer the blue reliever puffer via the spacer. This treatment could be life saving for the child whose asthma has not been previously recognized and it will not be harmful if the breathing difficulty is not due to asthma.

2. Wait for four minutes. If there is no improvement another four puffs will be administered.
3. Wait for four minutes. If there is still no improvement an ambulance will be called. In the event of all asthma attacks the child's parents will be notified of the incident by phone.
4. If you have any questions regarding asthma and its treatment please contact us at school.

Breakfast Club

A breakfast club operates every school day apart from the last day of term. This club offers breakfast to any child, who for whatever reason has missed breakfast or feels they have not had an adequate breakfast. The club is funded by the Red Cross and the Anglican Church and is run by volunteers from these organisations.

Collection of A Child

All children arriving at school, or leaving school, outside of normal hours must have their name entered in the logbook situated at the office. An early dismissal or late arrival slip will then be issued and must be presented to the classroom teacher. Children must be signed in, or out, by a parent or guardian. Children will not be permitted to leave the school grounds during school hours unaccompanied.

Entrance Requirements

Children to be admitted to Bega Valley Public School must turn five on or before the 30th June of the year of their starting school. It is in the child's best interests that they do not commence school until they are mature enough to cope with the demands of formal schooling. We ask that parents give careful consideration to enrolling very young children, to ensure that they find school a positive experience.

Immunisation Certificates - since 1990 all children enrolling in primary school are required to present a School Entry Immunisation Certificate. This certificate states if children have completed the required childhood immunisation against Diphtheria, Tetanus, Poliomyelitis, Measles and Mumps. Legislation does not make immunisation compulsory, however certification of immunisation status is compulsory. All immunisation must be completed prior to beginning school. There is no further immunisation carried out at primary school.

Late Arrival

Everyone is late sometimes with good reason and on these occasions we are sympathetic to their problems. However, frequent late arrivals can be disruptive to both your child and their classmates. We expect your child to be at school in time to line up at 9.15 a.m. when the first bell rings. Parents of latecomers must report to the office and sign a late arrival slip before taking their child to the class teacher.

Medication

Following illnesses or as a preventative measure, there may be occasions when children are required to take prescribed medications during the course of the school day. In order to provide adequate supervision and ensure correct administration, we ask that parents provide clear written instructions and a signed authorisation.

No medication will be administered without the written permission of a parent.

- The medication should be clearly labelled with the child's name and grade.
- The required dosage should be clearly stated and, in the case of liquids, an appropriate dispenser included.
- The exact times for administration of the medication should be stated.
- Any other relevant instructions should be included.
- Medication should be delivered to the First Aid Officer, upon arrival at school.
- All medications are administered by our First Aid Officer according to the instructions provided by parents.
- The only exception to this is asthma medication required for self-administration if children are trained in the use of such medication. However, there is still a requirement for written instructions

Regular Attendance

Regular attendance is essential for the education of your child. It is also, of course, a requirement of law. However home is the best place for a sick child.



Returning Permission Slips

Meeting deadlines is something with which we all must deal. Within the school environment we often have deadlines. We provide written notice of forthcoming events, excursions, camps etc and the due date for responses. The due date for responses is extremely important for our organisation. Often there is a money collection associated with the notes and we are required to make payments based on numbers of children attending. In addition, legal requirements mean we need to ensure all permission forms are in and accurately completed. Forms, which are not returned on time, do create problems with our organisation. Children who have not returned forms may miss out on attending events. We would like all children to have the opportunity to fully participate in programs offered. If there is a problem in returning forms, please contact the organising teacher, before the due date. If forms are returned after the due date, the final decision on participation will rest with the Principal or Assistant Principal.

Reading Recovery

Reading Recovery is an early intervention program that focuses on ensuring reading success. This daily program provides one to one reading support for selected students in their second year of schooling.

School Counsellor

The School Counsellor provides counselling services to the students and parents/guardians, on request. He may also provide intellectual and psychological assessment for students and is an active member of the Bega Public School Learning Support Team.

Mr Ralph Cullen can be contacted or through our office staff on 64921280.

Support Teacher Learning Assistance (S.T.L.A)

The Support Teacher Learning Assistance supports regular classroom teachers with the identification of student needs, assessment of students, the implementation of appropriate programs and follow-up of recommendations. Students targeted are those who are not performing to their full potential. The STLA's preferred method of operation is team teaching within the regular classroom setting, however, this is flexible depending on identified needs.

Staff Development Days

The Department of Education and Communities sets aside five days a year for teacher professional development, curriculum planning and reporting to parents. These occur on the first day of the first 3 terms and the last two days of the school year.

Sick Children

Sometimes your child will be too ill to send to school. Sick children are better off in the comfort of their own home. Our school is well equipped but no school has the facilities to look after children who are ill at school.

If a child is ill we try to contact the parent at home to come and collect the child. If there is no answer we will then contact the person listed as the Emergency Contact and then on to the parents at work. It is important that these numbers are kept up-to-date and also that the people know that they are your Emergency Contact at the school. Some common diseases of childhood with the appropriate details of absence required are listed in the appendix section.

Wet weather

All rooms are also well heated so cold weather is not a big problem. If it is raining at the beginning of lunchtime or recess, or commences to rain during these periods the children will remain indoors.



Bega Valley Public School Student Management

We strive to prepare students for future success through fostering and teaching the values necessary for positive contributions as adults in the community.

Behaviour Expectations

Our School develops a positive, realistic and consistent approach to pupil behaviour. There is an emphasis on courtesy, co-operation and consideration and respect for rights of others. The support of children in maintaining effective school functioning is encouraged and in all situations pupil welfare is the prime concern. The school code of conduct operates on a number of levels.

- All grades have their own classroom rules, which the children and the teacher have decided on together. At all times and at all levels the emphasis of our rules is on the safety of every child and their right to work in a safe and happy environment.

Bikes/Scooters at school

- Bikes/scooters should be walked through the school.
- There is a bike rack at the side of the administration block, and we recommend each bike should have a suitable lock provided by the child.
- Bike helmets **must be worn**. This is a legal requirement.
- It is recommended by the Road Safety Council that no child under 10 years old ride a bike to school, unless accompanied by an adult.
- The bike rack area is an out of bounds area, except for before and after school.

Expensive Items

There have been occasions when children have brought along to school quite expensive items from home. Such things as phones, ipods, cameras, radios, calculators and CD's are easily damaged, or even stolen, if left around the playground or handled by friends. We understand that some children bring these items to use on the school bus. In these circumstances, all children must bring them to the school office in the morning. The school is unable to guarantee the safety of these items and children bring them at their own risk.

Buses

All Kindergarten to Year 2 students are entitled to free bus travel irrespective of where they live. ***Year 3 to Year 6 students who live more than 1.6km radius from the school*** are also entitled to free bus travel to and from school.

Students who live more than 1.6km from their gate to the bus pick up point are entitled to a conveyance subsidy from the NSW Department of Transport for transport to the bus pick up point. This subsidy applies only to travel on public roads and is paid twice a year by the NSW Department of Transport.

Bus and Conveyance forms are available at the school office.

Teacher supervision occurs each afternoon at the buses and for the first few weeks of school, kindergarten students will be escorted to their bus at the end of the day.

Conduct on Buses

There is a strict code of conduct that has been drawn up in relation to conduct on buses.

Students must:

- obey the driver
- remain seated
- be sensible and respect property and other people
- not eat or drink on the bus.

Any concerns about conduct of students on buses should be raised first with the driver or Bus Company.

Canteen

Control of the canteen is vested in a committee of the P&C. The successful operation of the canteen depends on the cooperation of volunteers to operate the canteen each day. A roster is compiled at the beginning of each term.

The canteen provides healthy lunches, drinks and various other snacks. Information regarding the type of food and cost is published each term.

It is the policy of the canteen to provide wholesome food as cheaply as possible. Any profits are donated to the school.

To order lunch, students write their name, class and order on a paper bag, enclose the money, and place the order through a slot beside the canteen door as soon as they get to school. Lunches are delivered to the classroom prior to the lunch bell.

If your child does not have lunch, a sandwich and drink will be provided and a note sent home for payment. As the canteen is a non-profit organisation, it is unable to provide credit.

Excursions

These are arranged throughout the year and are of great value both educationally and socially. They may vary from short walking excursions to major overnight camps. Each excursion is carefully considered and planned, and supports the classroom learning program or the school's personal development program.

A note is sent home informing parents of dress requirements, lunch, times, costs and supervision details when excursions are arranged. Approval is always required from parents to participate and parents are asked to contact the Principal if financial hardship might prevent their child participating in any excursion.

Student Leadership

Each year the students in Grades 3 - 6 elect members to represent them on the Student representative Council and The SRC is co-ordinated by teachers and meetings are held on a weekly basis. The student members are responsible for certain programs at school such as planning and implementing whole school events, i.e. talent quest, social service, recycling and garden developments.

The SRC are responsible for promoting and conducting one fundraising event per term to raise money for local, national or international charities. Some examples of past events are out-of-school uniform days, coin trails and selling badges. We believe in 'children helping children' less fortunate than themselves and these activities help to develop such qualities as awareness, tolerance, understanding, generosity, caring and sharing.

Sharing of food

We have an increasing number of children with allergies who require special attention. Most of these children are well able to manage their medications and other essentials like ensuring they do not accept food from others. We have several children with food allergies, in particular nut allergies where even skin contact can trigger an allergic reaction which may be life threatening to the child. Nuts are a common allergen and traces are found in many foods. For this reason Bega Valley Public School has a **No food sharing policy**. All children are required to have their involvement in special occasions, where food may be shared, detailed at the beginning of each year. We ask for your cooperation to assist with this very important rule. Should you require further explanation please contact your child's class teacher.

Playground Behaviour

With over 350 pupils in the school it has been necessary to establish firm guidelines to ensure the safety and protection of all pupils. All school rules have been carefully considered in view of the large number of children in the playground at any one time. The school attempts to develop a positive, realistic and consistent approach.

The following are a number of procedures relevant to the yard relating to the children's safety, which are reinforced by playground duty teachers.

- There will be three playgrounds in operations at Bega Valley Public School
- The K-2 playground will be between F Block and the school hall
- The 3-6 playground will be outside O and B Block
- The back playground will be a share area for K-6
- Children must wear school hats whilst in the playground or they will be directed to play in the shade.

Newsletter

The school newsletter, containing details of school activities, is published each Thursday. Newsletters are sent home with the oldest child at the school or if you would prefer it to be emailed, let the office staff know.

A school calendar of events is sent home with the newsletter in the 2nd week of each term and can also be located on the school website.

Emergency announcements, eg during floods, heavy rain on the day of sporting carnivals, will be made over the local radio stations 2EC, Power FM and the ABC.

Assemblies

Assemblies will occur each fortnight and will be conducted in K-3 and 4-6 groups on Friday mornings at 9:30am. In week 8 of each term a special whole school assembly will take place.

Notices to Parents

Special notices for excursions etc. may be sent home from time to time, so ask your child to check in his/her school bag.

Parent / Teacher Meetings

Education at BVPS is a 3- way partnership between teachers, students and parents. Early in term 1 we provide an opportunity for the parents to meet the class teacher at which time whole school and stage specific information is provided. This is a great opportunity for parents to learn and ask questions about the requirements for the upcoming year.

Formal opportunities for parents to meet with teachers are provided at both mid and end of year reporting times. A major goal of parent-teacher meetings is to develop enhance the communication between the home and school. There is no doubt that the child benefits from co-operation between parent and teacher.

If you have a concern at any time regarding your child's progress please contact the school to arrange a mutually convenient time to discuss the matter with the class teacher.

Pupil Reports

Twice a year children's written reports are sent home to parents with the children. These reports together with the parent-teacher meetings that take place during the year are aimed at helping parents obtain answers to the following questions:

- How is my child progressing at school?
- What are my child's individual achievements?
- Is my child achieving at a level broadly appropriate to his/her age?
- Has my child particular strengths that should be fostered?
- How best can I help my child?

Computer Education

Bega Valley Public School has developed a technology rich learning environment for its students.

There is an Interactive whiteboard, desktop and laptop computers in every classroom to maximise student engagement.

Our teachers have each been equipped with a laptop computer and are supported by extensive training programs to enable them to develop the confidence and skills to implement new technologies. Bega Valley Public School ensures that the richness of the technology we have in our classrooms is matched by the richness of our learning programs. We are using technology to help our children learn more effectively and efficiently, ensuring that the children are well prepared for the knowledge revolution and developing as life long learners in a global community.

Grade Structure

Grade placement decisions have become much more complicated as we strive to achieve the best placement for each child. The school clearly seeks to accomplish five goals with its placement: -

- It provides a situation in which each child may learn best
- It provides a learning situation in which each student will have confidence
- It provides a learning situation in which each parent will have confidence
- It pairs each teacher with children and parents with whom the teacher can succeed
- It provides classes of about equal size and ability, each of which can function as a group

Our placement process is a team effort done with great care. Our teachers will draw up initial lists after the grade structure has been decided. They must carefully balance classes according to boy-girl ratio, academic performance, social and emotional development, special learning needs, independent work habits and any other reasons considered important. These initial lists are then reviewed by all involved teachers and specialists to ensure that we have not overlooked any aspect of an appropriate placement. The process is repeated until we are satisfied with the result. While this is being done (and it takes a few weeks) the teachers are being allocated to their duties for the next year.

Homework

Homework is set to extend or consolidate the child's educational program. Homework attempts to build a responsible attitude and a purposeful approach to work and achievement. Quality of effort is the main focus.

The school believes many of the normal activities that take place at home complement the child's work at school - reading for pleasure, personal writing, current affairs, good television programs, developing hobbies, being read to, involvement in community groups/teams, listening and talking and discussing, helping around the house, learning "tables" etc., can be fostered and developed by interested and involved parents.

In 2012 we will be conducting a whole school review of homework. As part of this process we will seek the views of teachers, students and parents.

School Policy

The school will continue to review its school policies. This process of reflective enquiry by a school community into the what, the how and the why of its current activity, is policy formulation and revision. The product of this process is 'the school policy' - a statement of ideals and goals and the appropriate procedures for their attainment. This statement should be unique to our school, that is, school policies should express the individuality of our school.

Our school policies:

- set our general goals for all curriculum areas;
- outline how we expect to achieve them;
- provide a framework within which we can operate;
- let the school community know what we are aiming for and what can be expected of the school.

School policies determine all aspects of our operations, organisational arrangements and relationships between staff, students, parents and other groups associated with the school

Library

Our library contains a wide range of resources to meet the needs of the school's curriculum and its students. As a resource centre it contains not only books but a growing collection of audio visual materials, charts, pictures, kits, CD's and computers that have Internet access.

Our school library/resource centre has a definite teaching function, which is to facilitate and encourage the development of:

- independent library users
- information skills
- an appreciation and enjoyment of a variety of children's literature
- technology in teaching and learning.

Special Needs

Children who have special needs in their learning programs are given assistance at various levels. Our staffing is arranged to assist and support classroom teachers to develop programs for children within their classroom.

Performing Arts (Music)

All students have a music session per week. The music room is very well equipped with a variety of instruments including keyboards, percussion and string instruments.

The program is sequential and aims to develop students' skills in singing, movement and instrumental work. There are many opportunities for creative and expressive responses from students. Performance is encouraged by individuals and groups within lessons.

The school engages local specialist tutors to provide the students with expert tuition and inspiration.

African Drumming group – Students in Grades 4, 5 and 6 have the opportunity to join the African Drumming group. The group rehearses weekly and performs at school assemblies and local festivals held throughout the year.

Choir – Students in Grades 3 – 6 have the opportunity to join the school choir, who rehearse at lunchtime. The choir perform at assemblies, and other special functions and local festivals during the year.

A school band and dance group will be established in 2012 to supplement the school Creative Arts program.



Bega Valley Public School Excursions and Camps

Camps

Camps are held each year for children from Grades 5-6. The camping program provides an opportunity for your child to explore new environments, and supports the language, physical education, personal development and integrated studies curriculum.

Excursions

Excursions are seen as a vital means of developing children's experiences and understanding in all areas of the curriculum. They are also part of the school's educational program. At each year level children will be expected to participate in both local excursions, where they can walk to the venue, (Library, Parks, Sporting Grounds, Shops, etc.), or to excursions further a field requiring transport. Parents will be requested to pay for the cost of their child's participation in the excursion as well as signing a consent form permitting the child to go on the excursion and for teachers to arrange medical attention if needed. Parents are requested to give permission for their child to take part in such activities on all occasions, as the experiences gained are valuable to the children's development and are not always encountered in a family situation. These experiences are important to the work in the classroom. If parents are finding it difficult to meet the financial costs associated with these experiences, please contact the school office as assistance can be provided.



Dropping off and picking up children at school

Auckland Street, outside the school, is narrow and frequently congested. Please take the utmost care to park in the correct place – avoid the crossing zone (marked with flags). It is illegal to let children out of a vehicle on the crossing. It also is illegal to turn on a crossing zone. Make sure all children are safely on the footpath before driving off. Police often patrol this area.

Encourage your child

- against loitering on the way home, visiting friends without permission, or going anywhere with strangers.
- to always tell you where they are going.
- to always give a set time to be home.

Safety on the street

Be sure your child knows the safety rules for our busy streets.

- if there is a marked crossing, use it
- walk quickly across the street, do not run
- use the stop, wait, look, listen rule
- take special care when you get off a bus
- wait for the bus to leave before crossing the road
- play your games in a safe place, away from the street
- ride your bike safely, obeying all signs and giving correct hand signals. Walk your bike across the road where there is no footpath, walk on the right hand side of the street, facing the traffic
- always wear something white at night.

The RTA recommends that children under 10 should be accompanied by an adult to and from school or their bus stop.

Casual Teachers

There may be occasions when your child's teacher is absent. It is the normal practice for the school to employ a casual replacement teacher to replace the class teacher for the period of absence. Generally the school attempts to locate a casual teacher who is well known to the pupils and who has a good understanding of the school's procedures.

Lunches

Lunches are eaten in designated areas under the supervision of teachers from 1:10 to 1:20 p.m. Any food or drink consumed outside must be done in the designated eating area.

Please have young child's name written clearly on their bag - all lunch boxes should be labelled. If drinks are sent they should be in a well sealed container. Glass bottles are not permitted.

Money – Payment envelopes

During the course of the year there will be school-related activities that will require payment by parents – excursions, swimming program, special activity days etc. We ask that all payments be made using the Bega Valley Public School payment envelopes. These envelopes allow for all information required in the processing of the payment, to be entered on the front, including payment method – cash or cheque. Parents simply need to fill in the front of the envelope, enclose payment and send it to school with their child. The envelopes are collected by the classroom teacher each day and sent to the office for processing. Parents are able to make multiple payments for more than one child, but a separate envelope must be filled in for each child and attached to the envelope containing the payment.

School Crossings

There is one crossing that allows your children to arrive at and leave the school safely. Please make sure that the children use these crossings correctly.

Staff Meetings

Staff meetings are held on Tuesday afternoons at 3.30 p.m. Other curriculum, administrative and area meetings are held before or after school, or during lunch times.

Supervision and Safety of Pupils

Supervision of pupils at our school begins at 8.45 a.m. until 3.30 p.m. This includes all recesses. Parents are requested to see that their children do not arrive at school too early as the playground is not supervised until 8.45 a.m. each morning.

1. Once a pupil enters the school that she/he is under our control for period of normal hours of instruction. Where a child is required by a parent to leave early it is expected that a note be provided wherever possible as a courtesy. Parents must collect an early dismissal slip from the office before collecting a child from the classroom.
2. Two teachers are on duty in the playground before and after school between 8.45 and 9.15 a.m. and 3.15 – 3.30 p.m. During morning recess and at lunch time four teachers are on duty. This is to ensure the safety of children, to supervise their conduct, to maintain cleanliness of play areas and to encourage respect for all equipment and buildings. The teachers on duty are responsible for elementary first aid. If further treatment is needed this will be the responsibility of the First Aid officer.
3. Children visiting this school in any other capacity other than as pupils cannot be the responsibility of the Principal or staff because they cannot be held to be under our supervision.
4. Regulations do not give Principals responsibility for behaviour outside school boundaries. However it is the opinion of the Department that heads of schools are justified in dealing with cases of misconduct which, in their opinion, may have a prejudicial effect upon tone and discipline of their school (and the safety of its pupils).
5. Supervision of all activities will be based on a teacher/pupil ratio required by the relevant regulations.

Ready for school?

Does your child:

1. know how to listen to others and respond to questions?
2. know their name and address well enough to repeat them when necessary?
3. put away play things and materials after using them?
4. take turns and share?
5. take off and put on clothing without help?
6. know that hands should be washed before meals and after visiting the toilet?
7. know how to use and flush the toilet without assistance?
8. know the safest way to and from school?
9. always have a handkerchief and know how to use it correctly?
10. know how to tie shoelaces? (Shoes with Velcro openings are very user- friendly for kinder children).

Mum! Dad! What you can do to help.

- Talk to your child about meeting new friends, playing games, singing and learning new things at school
- Teach your child how to put on and do up shoes.
- Buy clothes that are easy to manage.
- Provide your child with a library bag. This helps to protect books and helps the child keep track of them. A plastic bag is great.
- Label **clearly** with **full name, ALL** possessions your child will take to school eg: raincoat, hat, cardigan, parka, pullover, bag, case, plastic bottle etc.
- Use easily manageable lunch boxes, drink bottles and food wrapping.
- Give your child simple duties around the home. This will help to foster confidence in the performance of small tasks.
- Encourage your child by admiring work when it is brought home. Give paintings and handiwork a place of honour for a few days at least.
- Select suitable stories, picture books, radio and television programs for your child.

Helping your child at home

All children need help and encouragement with their schoolwork. The following suggestions may help you to play a more positive role in the process of your child's learning:

Talking and Listening to your child.

Children must have opportunities to express themselves and be heard.

Encourage them to talk about things they have seen and done. Generally speaking, the more the child talks and hears, the more they are likely to be successful readers.

Listen to your child read.

Talk about the book they are reading. Help them to understand what is being read. Build up a reading atmosphere at home. Let your child see you reading. Talk to them about what you read. The more they read, the better they become.

Read to your child.

This builds up a good language base for the development of reading, as well as an appreciation of books and reading. A child read to regularly is usually more successful at reading, and more willing to read.

A point worthy of note here is that their listening and interest levels are usually above their reading level. Reading to your child also helps them with ideas to use in their own writing.

Buy books for your child.

Buy them for birthdays, presents, holidays etc. A child who owns a few good books is usually interested in reading. Let them select their own books under your supervision. If the books they select appear too simple, don't worry. The focus is on reading, achieving, and developing an interest in success. Allow children to read newspapers, magazines, program guides and even some comics.

Praise.

Praise them whenever you get an opportunity. Success has generative value.

Give them Responsibilities.

Give them responsibilities that they can carry out successfully with a sense of achievement.

Buy games.

Buy games and puzzles. These help them to learn number concepts, letters, shape, some examples of good games to buy are; Uno, Monopoly, Scrabble and Chess.

Play games while travelling in the car – hangman, I spy, etc.

Encourage them to use the public and school libraries.

Enjoy the town library together. Allow children to browse around and absorb the atmosphere. Encourage use of the school library.

Allow children to select their own books – give your advice if necessary and encourage them to select books at their interest level.

Set aside a definite time for private study.

GIVE them a definite place in which to work.

HELP them develop a definite routine.

TRY not to get angry with them if they do not appear to understand your methods when you try to help them.

This type of parent/student friction over schoolwork produces very unfavourable attitudes in all concerned. If you have any problems or concerns, come along to the school and talk them over.

Interested, relaxed, helpful parents are the most valuable co-workers and they are the partners we need.

Be involved with your school

Remember that if you have positive attitudes towards your child's education, their attitudes will most likely reflect yours. You can help them by helping their teachers to understand them.

Parents & Citizens Association

The Parents' and Citizens Association is open to membership from all members of the school community. One of the main functions of the Parents' Association is as a disseminator of information. At our meetings we discuss issues of importance to the school, and education generally.

The Principal, Mr Troy Mott, generally attends to tell us what is happening around the school, and is available to answer questions. The meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month staffroom. This is done in a relaxed and informal atmosphere.

Another role of the Parents' and Citizens Association is to raise funds for the school. This is done through planned activities, which include Mother's and Father's Day stalls and many other fundraising activities. Details of forthcoming events will appear in the school newsletter.

The Parents and Citizens Association are an important part of Bega Valley Public School. It needs to constantly grow and change and look towards the future. This can only be achieved by new members, new ideas and renewed enthusiasm. Please consider joining our committee.

Parent Involvement

The school invites parents to participate and become involved in school activities. Many opportunities are presented for parents to offer their help, assistance and obvious expertise in many areas. Parent assistance is a vital component of our school.

Current opportunities include

- Parents and Citizen Association
- Swimming
- Sport
- Classroom programs e.g. hearing reading
- Excursions
- Working Bees
- Library assistance - book covering, borrowing and returning books, reshelving, word processing, shelf checking, processing book repairs, book club etc.



Bega Valley Public School Services

Bank

Bank day is Tuesday. Your child may become a weekly contributor to the Commonwealth Bank through the school.

Book Club

The school participates in the Scholastic Book Club during the year. Scholastic Australia sends out pamphlets with descriptions of books for sale. All children receive these pamphlets, but there is no obligation to purchase books. Book orders are processed on computer by a parent assistant.

Canteen

The school canteen operates 2 days a week, Monday and Friday. Control of the canteen is vested in a committee of the P&C. The successful operation of the canteen depends on the cooperation of volunteers to operate the canteen each day. A roster is compiled at the beginning of each term.

The canteen provides healthy lunches, drinks and various other snacks. Information regarding the type of food and cost is published each term.

It is the policy of the canteen to provide wholesome food as cheaply as possible.

To order lunch, students write their name, class and order on a paper bag, enclose the money, and place the order through a slot beside the canteen door as soon as they get to school. Lunches are delivered to the classroom prior to the lunch bell.

Dental Health Services

If children require any treatment an appointment can be made by contacting Pambula Community Health Centre on 1800 450 046.

First Aid

In addition to class teachers, First aid treatment is provided by our First Aid Officer, Jenny Munro and Mandy Legge.

All medication taken during school time is to be given to the First Aid officer upon arrival at school. These medications are housed securely in the First Aid Room.

Photographs

Each year the school arranges for class and individual photographs to be taken by a professional photographer. Details are given in the newsletter.

Bega Valley Public School Uniforms

Lost Property

Lost Property is housed in the Main Office. Parents and children are welcome to view lost property outside the Main Office. All unclaimed lost property is discarded at the end of each term.

Please help us to help you - mark your child's name on all articles of clothing, etc.

Uniform

Wearing of correct uniform is encouraged at all times. It gives students a sense of belonging and helps to generate a positive school climate.

Uniform	Bega Valley Public School
Girls and Boys - Summer	Green BVPS interlock polo shirt
	White socks
	Black shoes/joggers
	Navy blue shorts
Girls and Boys – Winter	Navy blue track suit pants
	Navy blue and green jumper

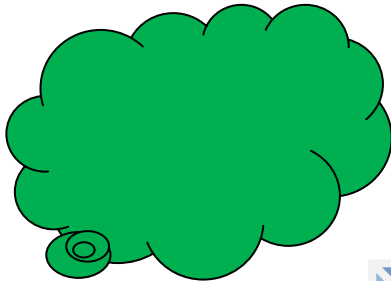
The Department of Education and Training requires each school to have a Sun Safe Policy.

Hats must be worn throughout the year. Broad brimmed hats are preferred and can be purchased from the School Canteen between 10:30am and 2pm Monday or Friday or at the office.

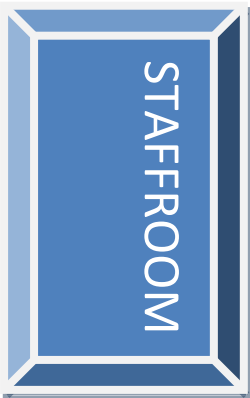
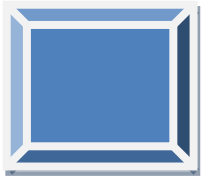


Infectious Diseases

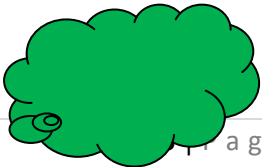
Chicken Pox	Excluded until fully recovered. Minimum of 5 days after first spots appear
Diphtheria	Stay at home until doctor has given a certificate of recovery
Encephalitis	Excluded until fully recovered
German Measles (Rubella)	Excluded until fully recovered. Minimum of 6 days after rash appears
Hepatitis - Type A	Excluded until symptoms subside or a medical certificate is produced. Minimum of 7 days from onset
Hepatitis - Type B	Medical certificate required before return to school
Measles	Excluded for a minimum of 5 days after rash appears
Mumps	Excluded until fully recovered. Minimum of 7 days from onset
Whooping Cough (Pertussis)	Contact the school
Scabies	Keep child at home until a day after treatment has began
Ringworm	As for Scabies
Trachoma (Sandy Blight)	Excluded until discharge from eyes has ceased
Acute Conjunctivitis	As for Trachoma
Impetigo (School Sores)	Excluded when not covered if on exposed surfaces (Legs, hands, face)
Pediculosis (Head Lice)	Parents contacted and support provided



Infants Playground



Primary Playground



Shared Playground