



# PARENT INFORMATION BOOKLET

*We believe in educating the whole child, the head, the heart  
and the hands.*

Updated February 2021



NORTHERN TERRITORY GOVERNMENT  
INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOL



# Driver Directions

At Driver Primary School we believe in educating the whole child, the head, the heart and the hands

Often referred to as Driver Directions our students learn about our school values and the characteristics of a good learner.

‘Captain RECS’ helps us promote wellbeing and positive behaviour through the Driver Primary School Values:

**RESPECT**

- ★ Use manners
- ★ Use kind words and actions
- ★ Be tolerant of others




**EXCELLENCE**

- ★ Demonstrate the characteristics of a good learner
- ★ Set personal learning goals
- ★ Believe you can




**COMMUNITY**

- ★ Encourage and help others
- ★ Follow instructions
- ★ Use '5 Finger Plan'





**SAFETY**

- ★ Wear correct uniform
- ★ Follow instructions
- ★ Look after each other




**CHARACTERISTICS of a GOOD LEARNER**



**CO-OPERATIVE**  
**ENGAGED**  
**PERSISTENT**  
**REFLECTIVE**

This is how we strive for **EXCELLENCE**

Be **CO-OPERATIVE** like a green ant and work together



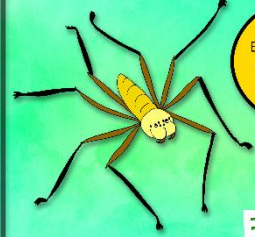
**CO-OPERATIVE**

Be **PERSISTENT** like an eagle and find another way



**PERSISTENT**

Be **ENGAGED** like a golden orb spider and focus



**ENGAGED**

Be **REFLECTIVE** like a turtle and think outside your shell



**REFLECTIVE**

## A regular day at Driver Primary

7:50am	School gates open, Supervision available in inner area.
8:15am	Music plays and class doors open.
8:20am - 9:20am	Lesson one
9:20am - 10:20am	Lesson two
10:20am - 10:40am	Recess play
10:40am - 10:50am	Supervised eating in class.
10:50am - 11:50am	Lesson three
11:50am - 12:50pm	Lesson four
12:50pm - 1:20pm	Lunch play
1:20pm - 1:30pm	Supervised eating in class.
1:30pm - 2:30pm	Lesson five
2:30pm - 3pm	End of school day, students released. Transition need to be collected from class.  Kiss and Go open with supervision from 2:30pm - 3pm.



### Outside School Hours Care

If you require care outside of school hours, The YMCA run an onsite OSHC program with Before school, After school and Vacation care options.

For bookings and more information contact [driver.oshc@ymca.org.au](mailto:driver.oshc@ymca.org.au)

## Zones of Regulation

At Driver Primary School, part of educating the **'whole child'** is using the Zones of Regulation to help students to self-regulate. All students will learn about the Zones within the classroom. They will know how to talk about which Zone they feel in and learn strategies to help them self-regulate within that Zone.

<p>The Blue Zone</p>	<p>is used to describe low states of alertness, such as when a student feels sad, tired, sick, or bored. Students body/or brain is moving slowly or sluggishly</p>
<p>The Green Zone</p>	<p>is used to describe a regulated state of alertness. A student may be described as calm, happy, focused, or content. In this Zone students generally need to be in for schoolwork and for being social. Being in the Green Zone shows control.</p>
<p>The Yellow Zone</p>	<p>is also used to describe a heightened state of alertness; however, a student has some control when in the yellow zone. A student may be experiencing stress, frustration, anxiety, excitement, silliness, nervousness, confusion, and many more slightly elevated emotions and states when in the Yellow Zone (such as wiggly, squirmy, or sensory seeking). The Yellow Zone is starting to lose some control.</p>
<p>The Red Zone</p>	<p>is used to describe extremely heightened states of alertness or very intense feelings. A student may be experiencing anger, panic, terror, devastation, or elation when in the Red Zone. Being in the Red Zone can be explained by being overwhelmed by your feelings and having a loss of control.</p>



## Compulsory School Uniform



Students must wear the Driver Primary School shirt with royal blue shorts, skorts or a skirt **OR** the Driver Primary dress.

Year 6 students are encouraged to wear the Year 6 Driver shirt.

School House Shirts can be worn on Fridays only, however are not compulsory.

In cooler weather:

- A plain royal blue or plain red jumper/jacket over the uniform shirt is permitted.
- Plain royal blue long pants may be worn in place of bottoms.

Students are required to wear a plain royal blue bucket hat whenever they are outside. Baseball caps are not considered sun protective and are therefore not acceptable.

Alternative inside play options are available if a student does not have a school hat but is otherwise in uniform. Students who are not in full school uniform are required to sit on the out of uniform wall during recess and lunch.

Sneakers or closed toe shoes are required all students, for safety reasons thongs and open toe shoes are not acceptable footwear for school.

Parents will be contacted if students are repeatedly out of uniform or do not have the school hat. It is important to maintain this dress code and we thank you for your support.

Uniforms are for sale at the front office.

Please ensure that uniforms and hats are clearly labelled.

## Homework

As we know that reading is a very important life-long skill, we have asked that teachers ONLY set reading homework.

**We ask all students to set aside some time each night for reading homework.**

For those who are not yet strong readers this will also mean practise of sight words and for stronger readers, comprehension activities may be necessary to reach their personal reading goals.



***As part of our focus on reading, a reading log is sent home at the beginning of the year. Parents are asked to assist in filling this in and teachers will reward home reading milestones with a reading award that can be used as a mini merit.***

## Toys and electronic devices

Toys and electronic devices from home are not permitted at school. Toys can get lost, broken or go missing when they are brought to school and this is a source of conflict for students.

Please discourage your child from bringing toys or electronic devices as they will not be allowed to play with them. Toys from home will be confiscated until the end of the day. Parents will be contacted if students continue to bring Toys or devices.

## Mobile phones

Students are discouraged from bringing mobile phones to school however we understand that families may require their child to have access to a phone before and after school.

During school hours, all mobile phones must remain switched off, kept in student's bag. Mobile Phones are not be used during school times.

Students using mobile phones during the day will have them confiscated.

If you would like your child to have their phone stored more safely while they are at school this can be arranged either with the class teacher or the front office.

## Ways we play at Driver



### Transition yard

Complete with a permanent playground, a fossil sandpit, a shallow creek feature, cubby house, magnet wall and an assortment of equipment on rotation, our Transition yard is a safe and exciting place to play for our students in their first year of Primary School.

### Lego Club

A mix of Lego and board games available in the library for all Years 1-6 students at both recess and lunch.

### Minecraft Club

Available in the computer lab and library for all Years 1-6 students, our Minecraft club is a popular choice at lunchtimes.

### Pop up playground

A mix of toys on rotation can be found in the amphitheatre, open to students in Years 1-6



### Stars and Clontarf

The Stars and Clontarf rooms are open to all Years 3-6 students at recess and lunch. Stars room is for our female students and Clontarf is for the male students. Limited sessions throughout the school year are designated for Indigenous students only.

### Peer group Play areas

For student's in years 1-6 we have a range of permanent playgrounds, grassed ball areas, basketball hoops and zoned 4-square courts for students to play together in their peer groups.



### Science Club

Alternating age groups each time our science club runs every Wednesday lunch time.



## Awards

We have 2 rewards systems to acknowledge and reward exemplary behavior and improving choices both in the classroom and the playground.

### 1. Whole school **in class** reward system:

Rewarding excellence  
= 1 Mini Merit

5 Mini Merits =  
1 Maxi Merit

5 Maxi Merits =  
1 Principal's Award

**Mini Merit** - Students receive 'Mini Merits' in the classroom. Once five 'Mini Merits' have been awarded, students will receive one 'Maxi Merit' award at a whole school assembly. *Awards for reaching home reading milestones (each 25 nights of home reading) can also be used as a 'Mini Merit'.*

**Maxi Merit** - Recognition at whole school assembly.

**Principal's Award** - Recognition at whole school assembly by the Principal for receiving five Maxi Merit awards. Principal's morning tea after the last assembly of each term.

***Parents will receive a note home the day before assembly if their child is receiving an award.***



Awards will be sent home at the end of each year. Any unused awards should be returned to school to add to their collection in the new school year.

### 2. Whole school **playground** reward system:

Students who make positive choices aligned to the school's values of Excellence, Respect, Safety and Community. We also reward students for being 'Ready Set Go' for learning time, when lining up for class. Students are acknowledged and rewarded for making positive choices in the playground.





## Stay in touch



**Stay “in the loop” with our communication app!**

**Events | Cancellations | Notices**  
**Newsletters | Permission slips**  
**Instant notifications | Absentees**  
**Parent Teacher Interviews**

**Download today:**  
In Google Play & App store search ‘Skool Loop’. Once downloaded select **Driver Primary School**.

Go to settings, find your child's **YEAR** then **CLASS** and select it. Repeat this step to sign up to groups relevant to your family.

**Parent communication is sent via the Skool Loop app.**



### Methods of communication

#### Skool Loop App

Our **electronic sign** at the front of the school is regularly updated.



Find and follow us on **facebook & instagram**

@driverprimaryschool



**Check out our website at**  
[www.driverprimary.nt.edu.au](http://www.driverprimary.nt.edu.au)



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