



2025

Welcome to Prep



Empowering lifelong learning with
curiosity and wonder to make our
world a better place



Acknowledgment of Country

Bardon State School
acknowledges the traditional owners, the
Turrbal and Jagera Aboriginal people as the
custodians of where we gather today,
recognising their connection to land,
waters and community. We pay our
respects to Australia's first peoples
and to their elders past, present and
emerging. May their strength and
wisdom be with us today.



Welcome from the Principal



I am sure it is with equal measures of excitement and trepidation that you and your child begin the first year of their formal education journey. At Bardon State School we are excited to partner with you to continue the great work you have already started in preparing your child for school. We strive to create excitement about learning and foster a love and sense of pride for our beautiful school.

The Early Years at Bardon State School provide a rich learning environment, where a range of learning styles are catered for, to develop key foundational literacy, numeracy and social skills. We value active learning where students collaboratively work together to inquire and explore the world around them. We believe that providing opportunities for students to investigate curriculum concepts in a collaborative and meaningful way is important during the foundational years. Through Learning Play and our Forest School Program, we encourage children to take risks, to engage with nature and to continue learning outside the classroom. We offer opportunities for students to take control of their learning based on interests and their surroundings. Scaffolded explicit teaching, balanced in Key Learning Areas, is also used to build fluency in essential skills, enabling our learners to respond and deepen the way they critically view the world around them.

You and your child will be a part of an energetic and dedicated community that invites you to be involved in the classroom environment and at the whole of school level. Being involved in the classroom and being an active member of our Parents and Citizens Association will help you to support the achievement of our vision, working together: "Empowering lifelong learning with curiosity and wonder to make our world a better place".

I look forward to getting to know you and your child over the coming years as we "Learn and Grow" together.

Kind Regards

Mrs Jill Rutland
Principal





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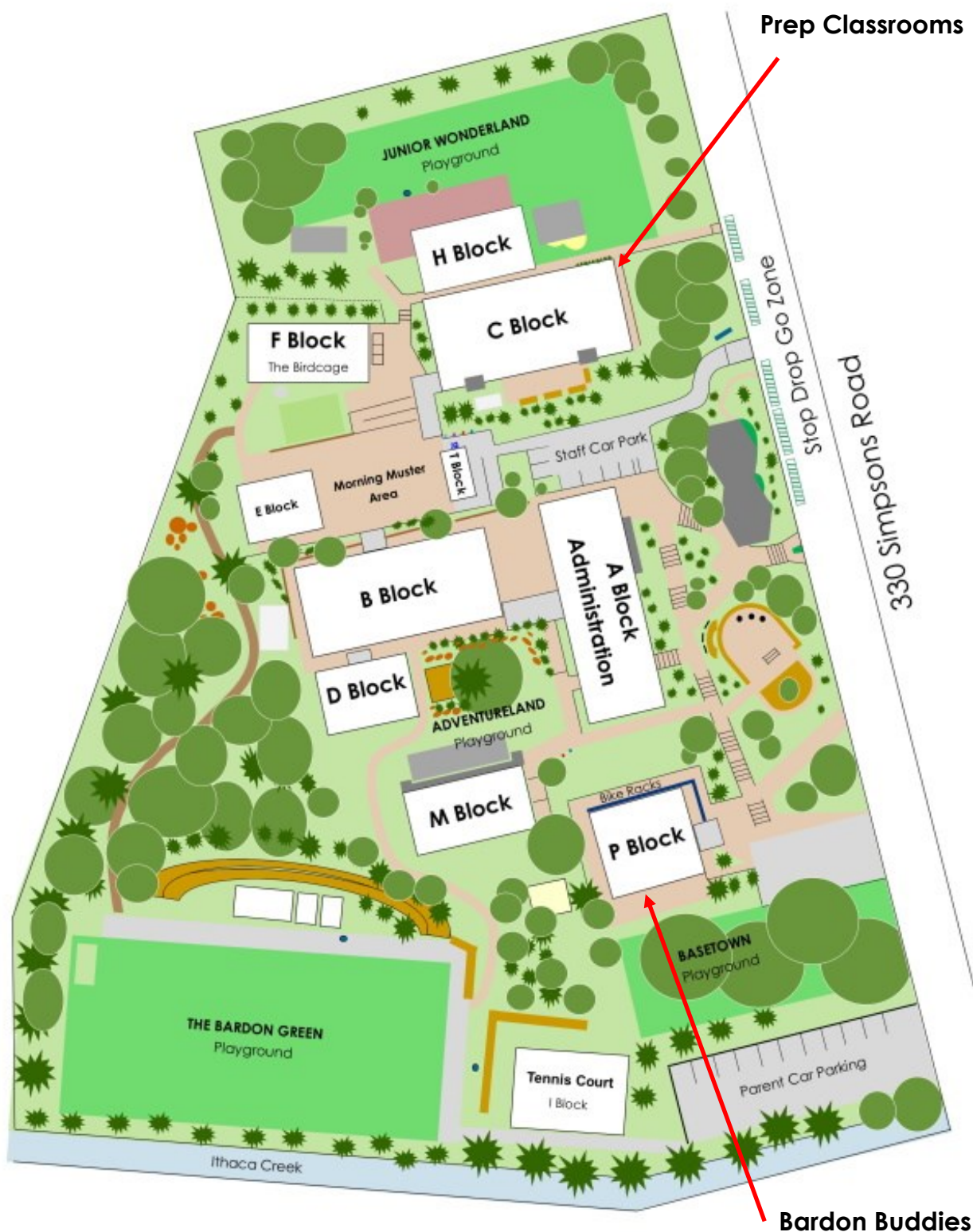
Contact Information

Address	Bardon State School 330 Simpsons Road Bardon Qld 4065
Email	office@bardonss.eq.edu.au
Website	www.bardonss.eq.edu.au
Phone	(07) 3511 4555
Student Absence Line	(07) 3511 4560
Principal	Mrs Jill Rutland
Business Manager	Ms Brenda Gibb
Office Hours	8:30am to 3:30pm Monday to Friday
School Hours	8:45am to 3:00pm
Tuckshop	tuckshop@bardonss.eq.edu.au (Monday, Tuesday and Thursday Orders must be in before 8:30am)
Uniform Shop	UniformShop@bardonss.eq.edu.au (Friday 8:00am to 9:00am)
PCYC Before & After School Care	0428 311 019 bardonsac@pcyc.org.au





School Grounds



Prep Classrooms

Bardon Buddies

Held Friday mornings during term time - 9:00am to 10:30am in P Block and Basetown



Progression in Prep

Term 1



Term 2



I had ^{some} ^{ice} ^{cream} ^{poles}.



Term 3

On Thursday we had ^{icy poles} for Mary's birthday. She was turning six. It was fun. Then we went back in the classroom and we did some ^{work} wrack. It was fun.

Term 4





Prep at Bardon State School

The Preparatory Program is a full time quality educational program, which aims to:

- provide a combination of exploratory and formal learning experiences
- provide a wide range of learning experiences that support the development of the whole child
- provide a stimulating environment which excites and engages children about learning
- encourage active learning, problem solving, effective communication skills, creativity, social skills and participation
- incorporate perceptual motor programs to develop fine and gross motor skills
- encourage children in becoming positive, happy, confident and independent individuals
- have each child as the central learning focus
- celebrate the diversity of life experience and cultural heritage that shapes a child's life
- encourage strong partnerships between children, parents, staff and the wider school community
- value the inquisitive and curious nature of the children at this developmental stage by offering student centred learning and investigation opportunities

At Bardon State School, the **Australian Curriculum** (<https://v9.australiancurriculum.edu.au/>) informs all learning experiences.

Learning Play in Prep

Learning Play, our signature approach to teaching is developed from Kath Walker's research in student centred, developmentally appropriate teaching and learning. It entails investigation areas intentionally set up based on student interests and curriculum explorations, allowing student creativity and voice in how they learn the content of the Australian Curriculum.

Learning Play investigations are balanced with more formal explicit lessons to complement the concepts covered in investigation times. The connection between explicit teaching





and learning play investigations allows students opportunities to apply their learning in more connected and engaging ways. Investigation areas for Learning Play include:

Reading Corner
Writer's Workshop
Tinkering Table
Sensory Areas
Collage
Science
Dramatic Play



Students become the centre of teaching in this approach with key roles assigned to several students each day, on a rotation schedule. These roles include:

Focus students – the teacher honours the authentic interests of the focus children and spends time 1-on-1 with them throughout Learning Play so their learning needs are deeply understood and acted on throughout the day.

Reporter and Photographer – these students are assigned teacher directed tasks based on the connections with the Australian Curriculum and needs of the child/class. They report back to the whole class at the end of Learning Play.

Additionally, children have opportunities to extend and enrich their learning during specialist lessons in Music, Health and Physical Education and Science.

There will be a comprehensive Parent Information Session at the beginning of Term 1. This session will give parents a detailed look into how the day is structured, the Australian Curriculum and the teaching and learning during Prep. This date will be advertised at the beginning of the 2025 school year.

Forest School

Forest School is an opportunity for the children to learn and play in the natural environment of Ithaca Creek. Connection to Country and regular nature immersion support links to learning across the curriculum (<https://australianforestschoollassociation.org/>).

Involvement in the Classroom

At Bardon State School we value and encourage parent involvement both inside and outside the classroom. If you would like to volunteer in a classroom, you will need to complete a short departmental mandatory training session.

If you are volunteering during school hours then please ensure that you have signed in and out at the office.



Other Ways to support the School Community:

- Attend assemblies on Friday mornings 9am to 9:30am
- Read the school newsletter fortnightly via email or <https://epublisher.net.au/public/campaignarchive/CampaignArchivePage/>
- View the Classroom Communication boards, teacher emails and front of school electronic notice board for reminders
- Attend school events, such as Mayfair and Arts Evenings etc
- Attend Parent & Citizens (P&C) meetings *(third Tuesday of each month)*
- Follow Bardon State School on Facebook
- Volunteer to help organise and run school fundraising events

Ways to support your Child in Prep:

- Communicate with your child's teacher any concerns or relevant information about your child, especially significant changes at home
- Enrich your child's learning experiences by sharing your knowledge and expertise
- Attend Parent Interviews to discuss your child's progress



Please speak to your child's teacher if you have an interest in volunteering in class and they will suggest ways that best suit each individual class environment.

Getting ready for School

Encourage your child to:

- Look after their own possessions
- Pack their own bag
- Go to the toilet and wash their hands independently
- Put on their own shoes
- Care for and put things away
- Use a tissue or handkerchief
- Recognise and write their own name
- Use scissors, crayons or pencils
- Open their own lunch containers
- Follow simple directions and answer questions
- Look and listen when spoken to and use common manners
- Seek help if they have a problem
- Speak clearly and correctly



Getting ready for Learning

English

- Read, read, read! Read to your child regularly - daily if possible
- Encourage a broad vocabulary by interacting in play and conversations
- Engage in simple writing activities together - such as creating shopping lists and birthday cards
- Encourage your child to speak in full sentences - describe situations, recall events or trips, discuss feelings and emotions
- Introduce your child to letters and the sounds they make
- Sing nursery rhymes or poems together

Maths

- Make counting a part of everyday life
- Sort and group toys, blocks, shopping items
- Talk about the size and shape of items in the home and environment
- Look for patterns in the environment and encourage your child to make their own



Science

- Encourage your child to ask questions about the world around them
- Help your child experiment with everyday things
- Take an interest in sustainability
- Encourage them to be active observers by reasoning, problem solving and using their imagination

2025 School Terms

Term 1	28 January 2025	4 April 2025
Term 2	22 April 2025	27 June 2025
Term 3	14 July 2025	19 September 2025
Term 4	7 October 2025	12 December 2025

Bardon State School runs a whole day, full time Prep program from the beginning of the school year.



School Hours

8:45am	1st Bell - Go to class Children get ready for instruction
8:50am	Session 1 - including Brainfood snack
11:00am	First Break Outside supervised playtime
11:30am	Eating outside in the Muster Area (P-Yr2) or Adventure Land (Yr3-Yr6)
11:45am	Session 2
1:15pm	Second Break Eating outside in the Muster Area (P-Yr2) or Adventure Land (Yr3-Yr6)
1:25pm	Outside supervised playtime
1:55pm	Session 3
3:00pm	End of Day - Home time

Organised supervision is provided during each eating break and in the morning from 8:30am in the Muster Area of the school (between the stage and the tuckshop).

Pick Up and Drop Off

During Term 1 a parent/guardian or family member (older sibling) must bring your child to the classroom at the beginning of the day and collect them from outside the classroom at the end of the day. Children must not be left unattended outside the door at the beginning or end of each day. Please ensure that your child is collected promptly at 3pm.

The classrooms will open at 8:45am each morning. Please ensure that your child has a drink and goes to the toilet before coming into the classroom each morning.

If arriving after 8:50am students and parents must report to the office to collect a late slip to hand to the classroom teacher.

If you need to collect your child early from school, please ensure that your class teacher is aware and that your child has been signed out from the office **before** you collect them from the classroom. A departure slip will be issued and is to be given to the classroom teacher.

During Term 2 you are welcome to wait with your child/ren in the Muster Area before school from 8:30am.



PCYC Before and After School Care

All children can attend the *Bardon PCYC Before and After School Care* subject to vacancies. Parents are responsible for making these arrangements. Outside School Care staff can be contacted on 0428 311 019 before 9:00am and after 3:00pm. Prep children will be escorted to and from their classroom to the outside hours care room by a PCYC staff member.

Food

Prep children have three meal breaks each day:

- **Brainfood** (10:00am)
A small fruit or veggie snack eaten during Session 1.
Please pack this snack in a separate container or small bag.
- **First Break** (11:30am)
A supervised 10 minute eating time after outside play.
Students are encouraged to eat their main lunch food (sandwich, wrap, etc) during this break.
- **Second Break** (1:15pm)
A supervised 10 minute eating time before a play outside.



As independence is encouraged in all aspects of your child's day, please pack their lunch in containers and packets that they can open themselves. All lunch boxes and food containers are kept outside the classroom so please ensure that you use ice packs and/or pack food that will not spoil (especially in Summer). Children are encouraged to eat healthy food during the school day. To support this please do not include lollies or chocolate in their lunches.

At first and second break, children are given time to eat with their class. Please only send the amount of food that you know your child will eat in this time. Children can get very discouraged if they have too much food and too much choice. As children grow throughout the year, this amount of food may vary. We are always looking for building our students understanding of sustainable practices and looking after our environment. To this end, one of the ways you can support is by packing a **wrapper free lunch**, i.e. a lunch without any single use packaging.

If your child has any special dietary requirements please discuss this with their teacher.



Tuckshop

The Tuckshop is open on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday for both first and second breaks. Ordering is completed online using *Flexischools*. Parents need to sign up and create an account linked to Bardon State School. Tuckshop orders must be placed **before** 8:30am. The menu is available at the beginning of each school term in our school newsletter and can be found on the *Flexischools* and Bardon State School website.

<https://bardonss.eq.edu.au/>

<https://www.flexischools.com.au/>



Birthdays and Celebrations

We love celebrations! If you wish to celebrate your child's birthday or any other significant cultural event please come and discuss this with your child's teacher prior.



Food Allergies and Intolerances

We are a nut "aware" school so please be aware of this when sending food from home for lunch and celebrations, etc.

Please advise administration and your teacher if your child suffers from food allergies or intolerances.

Daily Requirements

Each day, your child will need to bring:

- a clearly named school hat
- food for Brainfood, First Break and Second Break
- spare uniform set or clothes, blue if possible (please include underwear). All of these items are to be clearly marked and to remain in your child's bag
- named water bottle
- A large bag or backpack is important so children can pack their bags independently and so that a foolscap-size home folder can fit in it. The Bardon State School backpack is the perfect size.

Please feel free to apply sunscreen to your child before school each morning. There is sunscreen available in every classroom for student use (to be applied by parents).



Booklist

As the Prep classroom approach is centred on collaboration and inquiry, each Prep class shares their stationery and books across the year. This is organised in a bulk stationery purchase. Parents receive an invoice to cover these costs. Previously, parents would have paid for an individual booklist. All supplies will go straight to the classroom so they are ready for the start of the school year.

Student Resource Scheme

The *Student Resource Scheme* (SRS) will be invoiced at the start of the school year once parents have received and returned the *Participation Acceptance Form*.

The SRS covers the following: BSS library bag, BSS Homework Satchel, Science, Art, photocopying, administration fees and class activities. If parents do not wish to be part of the SRS, then they will need to supply the students with these items for activities. Parents are invoiced separately for other items such as: Application subscriptions, excursions, incursions, swimming, etc. Payment for all activities must be made by the due date or students will not be able to attend. We do not want any student to miss out on these additional opportunities due to financial hardship. If you have any concerns, please speak to our Business Manager who will be happy to work with you to set up a payment plan.

Uniform

At Bardon State School we are proud of our school and our uniform. We have a *Uniform Policy*. Children are expected to wear the School Prep uniform, including a green school bucket hat everyday. We are a Sun Safe School.



Please remember that our school has a NO HAT, NO PLAY policy.

Uniforms are available from the Uniform shop (located at the Tuckshop), which is open on Friday mornings from 8am – 9am.



Special Opening Hours for 2025 Prep students

- Thursday 14th of November 8:00am to 10:00am
- Monday 2nd of December 2:30pm to 4:00pm

Keep an eye on the school website for updated uniform shop hours.

Please choose shoes that your child can manage independently, e.g. Velcro fasteners. Do not send your child in lace up shoes until they are proficient in tying laces. Shoes should be predominantly black with black laces or white with white laces.

Communication

Teachers are always happy to answer any questions or concerns that you may have. Directly before and after school are very busy and noisy times of the day so please make an appointment with the teacher to ensure that your enquiry is answered in full. Appointments can be made via email or through contact with the office. Teachers will generally respond within 2 business days. Anything urgent, please call administration.

Stay up to date with what is going on through:

- The **School Newsletter: The Grapevine** - emailed fortnightly
<https://epublisher.net.au/public/campaignarchive/>
- The **Bardon SS Facebook** page - updated regularly
- **School website** - <https://bardonss.eq.edu.au/>

QParent App



QParents App

Our school has the *QParents App* for parents to easily access key information including:

- Academic Report Cards
- Viewing unpaid/paid invoices
- Making payments online
- Personal details with the ability to update through the app
- Enrolment details
- Notify of absences
- Complete consent forms

Illness and Attendance

Absences and Early/Late Arrivals

At Bardon State School we align with the Department of Education's 'Same Day Notification' policy with absences. When your child is absent from school it is essential that the office is notified prior to 9am on the day or before, if possible. The school absence line is **(07) 3511 4560**. Leave a message with your child's name, class, reason for absence, name of the



person calling and when your child is expected to return to school. You can also notify an absence and reason through the QParents App.

This ensures the safety of your child and the correct use of an absence code on your child's class roll. An SMS notification system is in place to assist with ensuring that all student absences are accounted for each day.

We ask for parents' co-operation in arranging any appointments, e.g. medical, dental, etc. out of school hours and arrange holidays for the set holiday periods. At times, we recognise that this is unavoidable. On these rare occasions please ensure that your child is signed in or out at the office. This is an essential measure in our Work Place Health and Safety policy for Fire and Evacuation.

When necessary, parents will be notified of their child's treatment with First Aid during the school day. Parents will be contacted via phone if required to collect child/ren due to illness or injury.





Dates correct at the time of printing.
For more information please visit
www.bardonss.eq.edu.au