FERNVALE STATE SCHOOL

Making A Difference

We Are One

FERNVALE STATE SCHOOL

Ph: (07) 5427 1333
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Email: the_principal@fernvale.qld.edu.au
School Mission Statement

To maximise the potential of all members of the school community within a happy, safe, secure and stimulating environment so that they may fulfil a positive role in society.

The individual child is the focal point of our concern.

We are glad that you chose our school.

Our Beliefs

At Fernvale State School we pride ourselves on being a supportive environment where:

- Each member of the school community has individual abilities and values.
- "Desire for Success" is a prerequisite for maximum achievement - "to do, one must want to".
- Fairness and consistency are desirable attributes.
- Children enjoy learning in a happy, caring, stimulating and attractive environment.
- We take pride in our appearance, our work, our school, our community and ourselves.
- Primary schooling is a preparation for later school life.
- A sound basic knowledge in literacy, numeracy and other curriculum areas is desirable.
- Children develop thinking, learning, problem solving, research and other skills for the real world.

* The school shares with the community in the moral, social and cultural development of the child.
* Productive teacher-child-parent relationships depend on mutual trust, respect, honesty, support.

"Learning takes place more quickly and effectively when home and school are in harmony."

Furthermore under our umbrella of our School Motto – ATTITUDE, ACTION AND ACHIEVEMENT lie our following beliefs:

HONESTY
- Be fair
- Tell the truth
- Own it
- Do the right thing
- Report

ACCEPTANCE
- we are all unique
- Accept differences
- Together we achieve
- I belong
RESPECT
- Values the feelings, needs, thoughts, ideas and wishes of others
- Care for yourself
- Care for your environment - understanding, cooperation and genuine interest.
  - Cooperation and competition are both important factors in achieving one’s potential.
  - Children, teachers and parents display high morale, self-esteem and self-discipline in a successful community school.
- Care for other’s property

RESPONSIBILITY
- for your actions, safety and belongings
- make good choices
- care for others
- do your job well

COURAGE
- be yourself
- be confident
- have faith in yourself
- have a go
- perseverance
- to take risks

These values and beliefs also have been integrated into our Social Skilling program and students within our school community will be addressing each as a concept to be investigated and discussed.
School Background and Profile

School Community and Location

Fernvale is a small township situated on the Brisbane Valley Highway 28 kilometres northwest of Ipswich and five kilometres from the Wivenhoe Dam. The school is set on spacious grounds and has a variety of buildings including older styles, demountable and lowset.

Fernvale School was established in 1874 and a Centenary celebration booklet is available for your perusal. The school was a typical small country school until 1977 when work began on the construction of Wivenhoe Dam. The school population swelled to around 280 with a staff of 11 teachers. As the dam neared completion in 1986, families in the construction gangs began to leave the district and the school population fell to approximately 150. Around this time real estate development began in earnest and the population of the district has been steadily rising since then.

It is expected that the school will continue to grow with the continuation of development particularly in the town area. Fernvale has lost its rural base and is peopled mostly by rural-suburban residents. Apart from the few primary producers still in the area, there is no major industry locally. The town of Lowood (10 kilometres away) has a small industrial estate. Most workers commute to either Ipswich or Brisbane.

A small Parents and Citizens Association supports the school financially, physically and in spirit. Members are becoming more active in the school planning and budgeting processes. The school is the venue for a wide variety of community activities both inside and outside school hours, and close community ties and a cooperative spirit are very evident. We are very fortunate in having the Fernvale Country Markets held in the school grounds. These markets provide a constant source of income for the Parents and Citizens Association and fund-raising is therefore kept to a minimum. There are no school fees or levies for children attending Fernvale School. Specific fund-raising is undertaken once each term to subsidise the costs of school camps and excursions.

Fernvale School is active in sporting and academic pursuits. We regularly win the Track and Field, Ballgames and Relay shields for Lowood District schools, and send representatives to Zone and State titles. In the past our students have achieved excellent results in the various University of New South Wales competitions (Science, Computer Studies, English, Writing and Mathematics) as well as achieving in the Maths Teams Challenge. We also participate in the Maths Olympiad. Our Chess teams usually gain a place at tournaments, most recently qualifying to compete for the State Primary School championship. We have also sent a student to the final of the Harvey Norman CziSpell competition. We are justifiably proud of all our students' achievements.

Cricket, softball and t-ball are our summer sports with children in Year 5 upwards participating at representative level. Soccer and netball are our winter fixture games. Fernvale School does not have a swimming pool but children are taken by bus to the Lowood Pool in the swimming season. Year 1-6 levels participate in a basic learn-to-swim (or at least to be safe in the water) level.

Students

There are 569 students enrolled (Oct 2015) from Prep to Year 6.

Staff

The school has a full complement of staff to meet current needs. The principal is supported by a Deputy Principal, Business Service Manager and 23 classroom teachers and a range of itinerant specialist teachers including a teacher-librarian, physical education teacher, L.O.T.E. (Language Other Than English) teacher, music teacher, instrumental music teacher, Guidance Officer, STLaN (Support Teacher), Speech Therapist, Special Needs Teacher and Advisory Visiting Teachers. In addition, one full-time Administration Officer and one part-time Administration Officer assist with management of the school. Permanent part-time and casual teacher aides provide classroom support. Eight cleaners and a schools officer are also employed.

Resources

Within the classrooms there is a high ratio of computers to students. The school has internal access via Education Queensland's Connect-Ed project. Students and parents are required to sign an Internal Agreement before access is permitted. Network cabling is installed to every classroom block throughout the school. Every classroom has an Interactive Whiteboard.

We have a well-equipped Resource Centre and a Teacher-librarian, Music Centre (2014) and Administration Block (2014).
A multi-court was constructed in 1998 to complement the existing tennis court. The new oval is used for soccer, cricket and athletics with additional grounds facilities for soccer, softball, cross country etc. available in the adjoining markets grounds.

A modern canteen was completed in 1998. The canteen provides food services and uniform sales five days a week at present.

Curriculum Programs and Delivery

Classes offer quality curriculum programs across the eight Key Learning Areas. The Australian Curriculum is implemented in all year levels.

Some of the extra-curricula activities offered include:

Participation in the University of New South Wales competitions (Science, Computer Studies, English, Writing and Mathematics).

Years 3 - 6 undertake formal Chess lessons.

A Chess Club operates once a week after school and is available to all year levels. Members participate in competitions involving many other state and private primary school students.

Participation in the Ipswich Children’s Literature Festival by submission of story books and presentation of a play adapted from popular children’s fiction books.

Tennis coaching once a week before school by qualified coaches (one of whom is the Queensland Tennis Coach of the Year). This is a private arrangement and tuition must be paid for. (Presently $13 per session.)
Enrolment Details

Admissions

Fernvale State School is currently under a School Enrolment Management Plan. Fernvale State School caters for students from Prep to Year 6. In Prep you must turn 5 by the 30 June to enrol. Prep is not compulsory. Enrolment of new students may be done at the school office, located in the Administration Block. An enrolment meeting must be organised with the Principal or Deputy Principal prior to the start date. A Birth Certificate or other documentary evidence of date of birth and proof of residency is required for enrolment.

Attendance

Children are required to attend school regularly. Each day is important and children should not be absent on any day without a valid reason.

In the event of absence a written explanation should be sent to school. This note should give the reason for absence, the date of absence and be signed by the parent or guardian. The note should be brought on the day the child returns to school. A telephone call or a personal explanation to the teacher concerning a child's absence would be quite acceptable if this is preferred.

When an absence from school is for an extended period and the child is capable of doing work at home, please contact the school for work that the child may complete at home.

Personal Details Change

It is the responsibility of the parent/caregiver to keep all family information including contact telephone numbers and addresses current. Changes can be notified by note or phone call to the school office.

Request for Transfer

When a parent wishes to transfer a child to another school, it is important to inform the office. Children should return any outstanding library books before departure.

Interstate Enrolments

Appointments with the Principal should be made prior to enrolling the child to discuss the best placement for the child.
General Information

Arrival/Departure

Children should not arrive at school before 8.15 a.m. and should depart as quickly as possible after the completion of school. Pupils arriving before 8.15 a.m. are to wait quietly under A Block until after 8.15 a.m. No responsibility will be taken for children at school who have deviated from this direction.

School Hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prep – Year 6</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:45</td>
<td>Start – First Bell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>Morning Tea / Play</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30</td>
<td>Return to class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:15</td>
<td>Big Lunch / Play</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:55</td>
<td>Return to Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00</td>
<td>School Finishes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bicycles

On arrival at school, students are to walk their bicycles into the school grounds and park them in the racks provided. All children riding a bike to school MUST wear an approved helmet.

Bus Service

Minden Bus Service (5426 8102) provides transport for Fernvale students. Students travelling by bus go straight to the bus assembly area (in front of the Music Block) when they are dismissed from class. Bus groups then move to the gate under supervision. All students must abide by the Code of Conduct for bus travel as set out by Queensland Transport.

Conveyance Allowance

Parents of children who must be conveyed by private motor vehicles more than 3.2 kilometres to a School Transport Service to their nearest school are eligible for payment of a Conveyance Allowance. Applications for this allowance should be made directly to the School Transport Officer at the Department of Transport.

Classrooms and Wet Weather Policy

Children are not permitted in classrooms during play time or eating times unless a teacher is present. On wet weather days, students will be kept inside the classrooms during playtime to ensure their safety.

Fernvale Country Markets

This operation is the major fund raising tool for the school. The markets have become not only a feature of this district but also a major benefit to the Somerset Shire. A great deal of hard work is required to maintain these “Friendly Country Markets”. As these markets assist to financially support our school and its students, parent involvement is very necessary. Assistance at the markets on a four to eight week roster is required. Please contact the school office to register.

Remember all proceeds from the markets go towards alleviating student costs which are otherwise borne by the parent/guardian. There are no school fees or levies at Fernvale School and we would like to keep it that way.

Interviews and Conferences

Parents wishing to interview the principal or teacher concerning a child’s progress should contact the school to arrange a suitable time. We welcome parents who are interested in their children’s progress and welcome genuine discussion with parents. The individual child is the focus of our concern.
Lost, Damaged or Stolen Property

Whilst every reasonable care is taken to prevent damage to or theft of a child’s property no responsibility can be accepted. Items are brought into the school grounds at the owner’s risk.

All items of clothing and sporting material should have the child’s name. This ensures prompt return to the owner if they are mislaid or lost. Items should be checked regularly to ensure that the name has not faded. The lost property bin is under A Block. After a reasonable time, unclaimed articles are disposed of to a charity.

Mobile Phone Policy

School Philosophy-
Our core business is teaching and learning in a safe environment.

Concerns:

Mobile phones are coming to school and interfering in our core business through:
- Inappropriate or unwanted text messages
- Ringing or messaging in class time
- Use of mobile phone cameras

During school hours parents are welcome to phone the office and messages from parents will be passed on to the students.

School Policy:

- Students are encouraged to leave mobile phones at home.
- Loss or theft of mobile phones, like any valuable item, remains the responsibility of the owner, not the school.
- If students wish to bring a mobile phone to school it must be clearly named and left at the office to be picked up after school.
- If a student has a mobile phone at school, in class or in the playground, the teacher will have the student immediately deliver it to the office. There it will be kept in the secure area until after school. It is the student’s responsibility to collect the phone and it will only be returned after 3:00pm

Newsletters

A school newsletter is sent home via the oldest child in the family each Monday. Parents are urged to read newsletters thoroughly as they contain many important messages. Newsletters are available on the school website at www.femvaless.cq.edu.au

Parents and Citizens Association

A small but strong and active Parents and Citizens Association works extremely hard to support the students of Femvale School. Student access to learning experiences has been significantly enhanced by very generous financial support from the P. & C.

This assistance has included:
- Subsidised bus travel;
- Computer networking of the school;
- Insulation of all classroom buildings;
- Provision of grounds improvements and shade areas;
- Purchase of required school equipment;
- Assistance for student academic, sporting and cultural pursuits;
- Subsidy of Arts Council, Life Education Van etc. visits.

Parent involvement is required to maintain the great P. & C. support that is evident at this school. The Parents and Citizens Association meets at the school on the third Monday night of each month at 7.30pm. All parents and citizens interested in the welfare of the school are welcome to attend these meetings.
School Banking

The Commonwealth Bank provides a school banking service. Banking is conducted every Thursday and deposit books are to be handed to the child’s teacher before class begins. These are sent to the office. Mrs Raine is the school co-ordinator.

School Photographs

Class photographs taken by a professional photographer are taken every year at a cost to the parent per photo.

School Telephone and Fax

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Telephone:</td>
<td>071 5427 1333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facsimile:</td>
<td>071 5427 1300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Messages for teachers may be given to the office and these will be passed on at a convenient time. Teachers cannot be interrupted during teaching periods unless the matter is urgent.

School Website and Email

The school’s website address is: www.fermvaless.eq.edu.au

Emails can be sent to the school via the following addresses:

- Principal: the.principal@fermvaless.eq.edu.au
- Administration: admin@fermvaless.eq.edu.au
Behaviour Management Policy

Code of Behaviour

All teachers should have a copy of the Code of Behaviour which is the basis of discussion for classroom rules formulated with children at the commencement of each year and visited frequently thereafter. It is also the basis for behaviour out of the classroom.

At Fernvale School we: Respect the rights and property of others;

Take pride in ourselves, our school, our belongings and our achievements;
Act and play safely and sensibly;
Think before we do and before we speak;
Use good manners;
Are kind, honest, helpful and considerate;
Strive to improve;
Smile and enjoy each day.

Levels of Behaviour

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Consequences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>Gold Pass plus four Gold Stars</td>
<td>Follows the Code of Conduct</td>
<td>Eligible for Student Council and Leader positions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GS</td>
<td>Gold Pass plus three Gold Stars</td>
<td>Mostly follows the Code of Conduct</td>
<td>Eligible for school teams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G2</td>
<td>Gold Pass plus two Gold Stars</td>
<td>Usually follows the Code of Conduct</td>
<td>Eligible for school excursions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G1</td>
<td>Gold Pass plus one Gold Star</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>Gold Pass</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>Silver Pass</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Bronze Pass</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BM1</td>
<td>Behaviour Management Level 1</td>
<td>Consistent and/or major breaches of the Code of Conduct</td>
<td>Ineligible for Student Council, school teams or excursions. Parent interview.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BM2</td>
<td>Behaviour Management Level 2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Possible internal/external suspension.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BM3</td>
<td>Behaviour Management Level 3</td>
<td></td>
<td>Exclusion.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GOLD PASS LEVEL MUST BE MAINTAINED FOR A WHOLE SCHOOL YEAR FOR STUDENT TO BE AWARDED A GOLD STAR BADGE

A Behaviour Management Report is sent home each term to keep parents and caregivers informed of the student's current status.

Rules

Manners
Listen when others speak.
Use language that is not considered offensive.
Be courteous at all times.

Safety

Keep hands and feet to ourselves.
Use sporting and recreational equipment only under adult supervision.
Do not bring items that could inflict harm to school.
Wear shoes.
Remove jewellery for subjects such as physical education where safety is a concern.

**Learning**

Be punctual and prepared for class at appropriate times.
Be considerate of other classes.

**Movement**

Walk on concrete and bitumen areas and around buildings.
Play in designated play areas.
Seek permission to leave the school grounds.

**Property**

Leave valuable items (e.g. toys) at home.
Be responsible for the care of your own belongings.

**Dress Code**

Comply with the expectation that all students wear school uniform and tuck their shirts in.
Comply with the expectation that acceptable standards of jewellery are: a watch, a signet ring, stud or sleeper earrings, a necklace of religious or personal significance, a medical bracelet.
Body jewellery is not acceptable nor encouraged due to Health and Safety concerns.

**Playground Rules**

**First Break**
Eating only area is clearly defined. Bell at 11.00-11.15am signals morning tea time. Students may go to play (when released by a teacher on duty) at 11.15 – 11.25am.

**Second Break**
Play time is 1.30pm to 1.55pm, eating time is 1.15pm to 1.30pm.

**Rights and Responsibilities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESPONSIBILITIES</th>
<th>RIGHTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Children</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To learn to the best of their ability</td>
<td>To learn freely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To follow the code of behaviour and rules</td>
<td>To an appropriate education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To attend school</td>
<td>To be safe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To participate in school activities</td>
<td>To be respected and treated fairly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Staff</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To model the code of behaviour</td>
<td>To teach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To prepare, plan and teach in accordance with Departmental Guidelines</td>
<td>To be treated as professionals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To keep parents informed of their child’s progress</td>
<td>To manage students in their care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Parents</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To follow school procedures</td>
<td>To be treated fairly and with respect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To reinforce the code of behaviour</td>
<td>To work in a pleasant, healthy and safe environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To meet children’s personal needs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To encourage children’s learning relationships with teachers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To be informed of children’s progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To be involved in school activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To expect quality education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To expect a professional and courteous relationship with teachers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Acceptable and Unacceptable Behaviour

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acceptable Behaviour</th>
<th>Unacceptable Behaviour</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cooperates and works well within the school environment</td>
<td>Behaviour and/or attitude that indicates a non-acceptance of the Code of Behaviour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Displays common sense and honesty</td>
<td>Continues disruptive behaviour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behaves in a positive manner</td>
<td>Disobedience, insolence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Follows the Code of Behaviour</td>
<td>Fighting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develops self discipline and motivation</td>
<td>Possession of weapons or harmful items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attempts all tasks to the best of their ability</td>
<td>Limited participation in school activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participates willingly in all school activities</td>
<td>Ignoring rights of others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Harassment of students or staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leads to</td>
<td>Leads to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Praise</td>
<td>Classroom consequence (Cool Conduct Board)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rewards</td>
<td>Exclusion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Privileges - monitors</td>
<td>- in class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selection for sports teams</td>
<td>- out of room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selection for special activities</td>
<td>- from class excursions camps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognition</td>
<td>- from sporting/representative teams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive work reports</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Parent/Principal contacted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Principal records names and time out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Exclusion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Suspension</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Policy Context

The management of our student’s behaviour in a supportive school environment is intrinsically linked to the following legislation and other Departmental documents:

Legislation and related policies

The general implication of these policies and legislation is that school communities must model and practise fair, equitable, non-discriminatory language and behaviour, and use safe and legal procedures in compliance with the following Queensland Legislation:

*Public Service Management and Employment Act 1988*
*Education (General Provisions) Act 1989*
*Workplace Health and Safety Act 1989*
*Anti-Discrimination Act 1991*
*Judicial Review Act 1991*
*Equal Opportunity in Public Employment Act 1992*
*Freedom of Information Act 1992*

Implementation of this policy is in conjunction with a range of Departmental policies including:

Departmental Standard for Inclusive Curriculum (in progress)
Guidelines for Suspensions and Exclusions
Sexual Harassment Policy and Grievance Procedures (HR-03/2 Sexual Harassment - Grievance and Appeal)
Anti-Racism Policy and Grievance Procedures (in progress)
Gender Equity Policy (CS-01 Gender Equity in Education)
Suspected Child Abuse - Information/Policy Statement and Guidelines (HS-05 Suspected Child Abuse)
Educational Provision for Students with Disabilities: Policy Statement
Management Plan (CS-05 Educational Provision for Students with Disability)

Our management plan is also guided by:

i) The Strategic Plan of Education Queensland.
ii) Social justice for all school community members.
iii) Effective schooling for all student members.
iv) Participative decision-making with a cross-section of all school community members.
Uniform and Dress Code

It is a school community expectation that all students follow the school’s uniform and dress code.

Dress and Grooming

Students are strongly expected to wear their full school uniform each day. Extremes in dress and/or grooming that will cause undue comment are to be avoided. Basically, grooming reflects the dignity and worth of the individual. Children should use the following guide:
- Nail polish, inappropriate hair dying and/or eye make-up is not permitted.
- Wrist watches may be worn.
- One only of the following may be worn under clothing: religious pendant, medical bracelet or personally significant necklace.
- Earrings are not permitted, however sleepers or studs may be worn if ears are pierced.
- Body jewellery/piercing is not acceptable nor encouraged due to Health and Safety concerns.
- Students are encouraged to keep shoes (laced up) on whilst at school unless otherwise instructed by the teacher.
- Shirts are to be worn, tucked in.

Hats

A school hat is available from the tuckshop to suit both boys and girls.
**ALL CHILDREN MUST WEAR HATS AT ALL TIMES WHEN THEY ARE OUTDOORS.**
**THE SCHOOL HAS A POLICY OF "NO SUNSAFE HAT - NO PLAY"**
Students without an appropriate Sun Safe hat will be expected to spend their recess times under shaded areas to protect them from the sun and they will not be permitted to play in the playground.

Uniforms

Fernvale State School’s colours are Emerald Green and Gold.
Because emerald green has become difficult to purchase (NOTE: It is not the bottle green so commonly sold as “uniform green”) an “every day” uniform has been developed. It consists of a unisex grey polo shirt with the school emblem printed on the pocket. Boys wear grey rugger (or whatever style is preferred) shorts purchased from outside the school, and girls wear a grey/green/yellow check skirt or skirt with their shirt. The grey check has been made up into pleated skirts (a longer netball skirt style) or can be purchased by the metre to be made into shorts or dresses. A gold polo shirt with the school emblem on the pocket can be worn with the grey shorts or checked material also. However when sports uniform is specified, the Emerald Green and Gold is what is being referred to unless otherwise indicated. Boys have green shorts with a gold stripe that complements the girls’ green skirts. There is also a “cultural activities” uniform which is a polo shirt (with the school badge) in a variety of bright colours and worn with black rugby shorts (boys and girls). This uniform is not available for purchase but is supplied to the students when required and return to school after the event.
The Instrumental Band have a Uniform shirt supplied for performances. This is worn with black long pants.

It is an expectation that students wear their uniform daily and with pride. Students representing the school are required to wear uniforms - green and gold, “every day” or cultural, depending on the occasion.
Teaching and Learning Program

Fernvale State School is absolutely committed to improving student learning experiences and outcomes for each and every child. Academic results achieved across the school in state-wide testing are generally above that of the state mean.

Key Learning Areas

The school has a strong focus on the teaching of Literacy and Numeracy and the integration of Technology in all its classes.

Much work has and will continue to be done on the integration of the Australian Curriculum for the benefit of all students. Subject areas that all students will be exposed to include Literacy, Numeracy, Geography, History, Science, German (Years 5 and 6 only), the Arts, Music, Religious Education, Health and Physical Education and Technology.

Computers and Technology

For its size, the school has an impressive ratio of students to computers (5:1). Significant work has been done over the past few years to build and develop our technology infrastructure. All classes are connected to the internet. A major focus of the school is to integrate computers and learning technology into everyday teaching and learning experiences. Specific computer classes occur in the upper school years and students are able to extend their skills in areas such as Animation, PowerPoint and Web Design. All classrooms have an Interactive Whiteboard.

Homework

Students are expected to complete homework each afternoon. Generally homework is not set for weekends. An exception may be when research for a project or something similar needs to be completed. As a guide students should spend the following amounts of time on homework:

- Year 1   Minimal (as suggested by teachers – mainly home readers and sight word recognition)
- Years 2 and 3  10 to 20 minutes
- Years 4 and 5  15 to 30 minutes
- Years 6       30 to 40 minutes

All students are encouraged to read every night.

Support Staff

Head of Curriculum
The school employs an experienced Head of Curriculum (0.5) to support the Teaching and Learning of all staff.

Guidance Services
A Guidance Officer visits Fernvale School regularly. Children with special needs are referred by the Class Teacher to the STLaN. This information is presented at the Intervention Group Meeting for action. Parents are advised of intending testing/counselling and permission is sought.

Music Specialists
A Music Teacher provides tuition for all students. An Instrumental Music Teacher visits the school once a week and gives lessons to children in the middle-upper years who meet certain criteria.

Learning Support
A Support Teacher (STLaN), is based at our school. This teacher assists children with learning difficulties and supports the teachers to provide the best possible program. The STLaN also has extensive programs for gifted students.

Speech Language Pathologist
A Speech Language Therapist visits the school on a fortnightly basis, or as required. The school office can provide details.

Teacher-Librarian
The Teacher-Librarian provides an extensive teaching program and also supports the teaching staff to maximise use of resources.

Advisory Teachers
A range of A.V.T.s (Advisory Visiting Teachers) can be called upon to meet specific needs.
Class Book Lists

Book lists are available from the office at any time. It is an expectation that all students have the necessary equipment to assist in the teaching and learning process.

Assessment and Reporting

Reports are distributed at the end of each semester. Parents are to peruse these reports carefully, sign them and return them to school. Parent/Teacher interviews are held a minimum of two times per year.

Parent Involvement

We actively encourage parents to assist in the classroom as your support in areas such as reading is greatly appreciated. Parent information sessions are held regularly to inform of the planned class outcomes for the year. Parents are urged to take advantage of every opportunity to talk to the class teacher about their child’s progress. It is by working together that we improve the learning that takes place.
Sport and Physical Education

Program

Sport is usually held once a week. All children are expected to participate in sport and physical education and will not be exempt unless a satisfactory reason is forwarded to the school.

Teams compete in inter-school competitions in cricket, soccer, tennis, swimming, track and field, and ballgames.

Houses

Interhouse sports carnivals are held prior to the inter-school District and Zone carnivals. The students are divided into one of three houses:

- Oxley (green)
- Cunningham (Blue)
- Logan (red)

It is school policy to place children in the same family in different houses.

Physical education and sport play a major role within the school’s curriculum framework. The annual interhouse athletics carnival is attended by hundreds of parents and children each year.

Swimming

Swimming is compulsory for all students. If for any reason your child cannot attend swimming classes, a signed note must be forwarded to the class teacher. The swimming season is from the beginning of the year to the end of April, and again from October to the end of the year. The Year 1-3 students attend in Term 1 and have a Fun Swimming Carnival. Year 4-6 students attend in Term 4 followed by the School Swimming Carnival. The cost of transport and entry to the swimming pool is partially borne by the student the remainder being paid by the Parents and Citizens Association. Each child should have suitable swimming attire, towel and sunscreen on swimming days. Jewellery – including earrings – must be removed before entering the pool.

Tennis Coaching

Tennis coaching is provided as a private arrangement by qualified coaches from the Tall Gums Tennis Centre, Walloon. (Telephone 5464 5599)
Cultural and Extended Development Programs

At Fernvale School we endeavour to provide as many opportunities as possible to extend the learning experience of all students. Some of these activities include:

Chess
Taught across the school. Our chess teams have been awarded many prizes in competitions with other primary schools in Brisbane and South East Queensland. We also host the annual Fernvale Teams Chess Tournament.

Drama
Invited presentations and performances at various festivals

Writing Festival

Instrumental Music and District Band

Choir
Junior and Senior

Presentation Night Concert

Student Health

Accidents

Despite care and supervision, accidents do happen at school. No treatment is permitted in the school except First Aid which is an immediate temporary measure given by a First Aid qualified teacher or teacher aide. If necessary, an Ambulance is called. Every effort is made to contact the parent first in these circumstances. The school will not accept any responsibility for expenses incurred in seeking medical attention for sick or injured children. It is extremely important for emergency contact details to be kept up to date.

Please help us to take the best possible care of your child by advising us promptly if your child suffers from any illnesses, allergies or physical disabilities. All information supplied is treated as confidential.

Education Queensland does not cover any costs associated with any accidents. Parents and /or carers are highly encouraged to take out their own private Accidental Cover or insurances if you wish to do so.

Dental

The Dental Drover (School Dental Van) visits once a year. Children are treated only if parental consent has been given. You will be contacted prior to the Drover’s visit.

Medication

Please advise the class teacher and administration in writing of full particulars of the condition and the steps to be taken if your child requires any of the following whilst in our care:

- Required to take prescribed medicines, tablets or drugs of any kind.
- Dressings to be changed.
- Child must wear hearing aid, glasses or braces.
- Ears required to be plugged for swimming.
- Prescribed medication must be kept close at hand in case of sudden attack of illness.

We cannot be expected to take the necessary action unless we are fully aware of the child’s condition and the treatment required. Under no circumstances are children to leave medicines, tablets etc. in the school bags or in their desks. Parents should bring these substances to school personally, explain how and when they are to be administered and deliver them to the school administration. The parent/carer must complete a School Medication Form before office staff can administer any medications.

An exception to this procedure is the case of an asthma puffer. Children are permitted to keep these under their personal care provided that:

a) The child is able to reliably self-diagnose when the medication is needed.

b) The child is capable of self-administration of the correct dose of the puffer.

c) The child understands that the aerosol puffer is NOT to be misused (eg sprayed at other children etc.).

A note from the parent verifying the above is to be lodged at the school office.
### Contagious Diseases

A copy of an extract from the Exclusion Table of Infectious Diseases approved by Education Queensland is available from the school office.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diseases</th>
<th>Period of Exclusion for Sufferers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chicken Pox</td>
<td>Should be excluded for at least 7 days after the beginning of illness and until the lesion (scabby, weepy sore) has healed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measles</td>
<td>Should be excluded for a least 7 days from the appearance of the rash, or until a medical certificate of recovery is produced.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mumps</td>
<td>Should be excluded for at least 14 days after the onset of symptoms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rubella (German Measles)</td>
<td>Should be excluded for at least 7 days from the appearance of the rash or until a medical certificate of recovery is produced.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impetigo (School Sores)</td>
<td>Impetigo is contagious. Lesions on any part of the body – except the face – must be covered; otherwise the child is to be excluded. On the face, the lesions must be under treatment and a layer of ointment or paint is accepted as “cover” in this situation only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ringworm</td>
<td>Ringworm is contagious (It is not a worm, but a fungal infection.) Lesions must be covered otherwise the child is to be excluded. Except in ringworm of the scalp, a lesions under treatment with a paint is accepted as being covered. If an ointment is being used, a dressing must be applied (Except on the face as is the case with impetigo.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Lice</td>
<td>If your child has head lice please keep them at home and treat their hair.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Student Safety

Leaving School Grounds

Children are not permitted to leave school grounds during school hours unless written authority or a telephone call is received from a parent/guardian. It is stressed that this ruling also applies in cases of appointments with doctors or dentists etc.

In the interest of safety, if you wish a person who is not known to school staff to collect your child, please inform the school of this otherwise the child may not be released.

All students should be collected from the School Administration upon your arrival and signed out by an adult or responsible family member.

School Crossing

School Crossing Supervisors officially appointed by the Department of Transport operate morning and afternoon of each school day.

Times of Operation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Morning</td>
<td>8.00 a.m. to 9.00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afternoon</td>
<td>3.00 p.m. to 3.45 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All drivers must stop their vehicles clear of the crossing when the supervisor holds up the STOP sign and VEHICLES MUST REMAIN STATIONARY UNTIL THE SUPERVISOR RETURNS TO THE KERB. Failure to do so is regarded as a breach of Regulation 39 of the Traffic Regulations. Cyclists are also required to stop when faced with a STOP sign.

Please assist the supervisors to protect your children by setting a good example and using the marked crossing.

In the interests of student safety, children entering the grounds from the main entrance are required to use the school crossing.

Crossing Procedure

The supervisor will ask all pedestrians to wait on the footpath. When a suitable gap appears in the traffic from both directions, the supervisor will extend the STOP sign to face the traffic and then blow TWO blasts of the whistle to indicate that pedestrians may then cross. Pedestrians should walk smartly across. ONE whistle means it is not safe to cross and all pedestrians must then wait on the footpath.

Drop Off Zone

Parents dropping off or picking up children and using the marked Drop Off Zone are required to stay no longer than two minutes and to remain in the vehicle.

Double parking is not permitted at any place or at any time.

Children on Bicycles

All cyclists will walk bicycles over the crossing. Cyclists are required to wear approved helmets when riding their bikes.

No Standing Areas and Bus Zones

It is important that these areas are kept free of vehicles, as per signage. The crossing supervisor will record the registration number and details of offending vehicles so that drivers may be prosecuted.

Vehicles in School Grounds

Because of the danger to children, no vehicles are allowed in the school grounds except those on official business. Neither the school nor Education Queensland will accept responsibility for any damage to vehicles parked in the school grounds.

Road Safety Education

As well as classroom education, the Road Safety Van and Helmet Display Van make regular visits to our school. Support is also enlisted through our Adopt-a-Cop (Queensland Police).
Emergency Services Support

The school actively enlists support from its local emergency services. Students partake in yearly Fire Safety Van and Fire Service visits. We also regularly involve Adopt-a-Cop and Adopt-an-Ambo in our school operations.