



Bakewell Primary Independent Public School **Parent Handbook 2025**

*Positive Relationships and
High Expectations*



Principal's Welcome to Bakewell Primary School

Welcome to our 'Independent Public School, dedicated to 'Delivering Excellence in Education'.

Located in the vibrant community of Palmerston, Northern Territory, our large, innovative school provides education for over 700 students ranging from Preschool to Year 6.

Our school's enrolment zone primarily serves children living in Bakewell and Gunn, fostering a strong sense of community and belonging. We are committed to building positive relationships, setting high expectations and being a 'school of choice' for our community through providing a safe, inclusive and supportive environment.

Our Mission: Bakewell School is committed to delivering excellence in education through innovation and integrity. With a focus on positive relationships and high expectations we promote a community that is respectful, professional, inclusive and safe.

Our RECiPe for success is Respect, Excellence, Courage and Pride. Bakewell School has a positive organisational and school culture with a strong focus on wellbeing.

The Bakewell Code of Conduct forms an integral part of our school culture. All students are explicitly taught to: Be Respectful, Be Responsible and Be Part of the Solution.

Bakewell offers a diverse range of programs designed to meet the individual needs of all students. With a strong focus on Mathematics and English, we aim to provide a solid foundation in these core subjects. Our school also offers specialist programs in Science, Technology, and Physical Education, allowing students to explore and excel in range of areas. Our Year 3-6 students participate in the 1:1 iPad Learning Program. The school is an Apple Distinguished School for 2021-2024. Through these programs, students experience relevant and curriculum-informed learning that is highly engaging and hands-on. Our goal is to foster a love for learning and provide students with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in an ever-changing world.

Key initiatives at Bakewell Primary School include Explicit Instruction, Meaningful Maths, Chinese Language and Information Communication Learning Technologies. Bakewell Primary is an approved Charles Darwin University Teaching School. Staff at Bakewell reflect on teaching practices and engage in coaching and mentoring within a supportive team environment.

At our school, we take pride in our outstanding resources and facilities. From spacious grassed areas to well-maintained playgrounds, our school grounds provide a safe and enjoyable environment for students to learn and socialise. We strive to create a nurturing and supportive atmosphere where every child can thrive academically and personally.

Bakewell School values the contribution of all students, families and staff. We have a positive and committed School Board inclusive of parent members who work to inform and support the strategic direction of the school. It is our firm belief that optimal learning and outcomes for our students are achieved when school and community work in partnership.

We look forward to partnering with you in your child's educational journey and are excited to have you as part of our school community. If we can be of any further assistance please speak with our friendly staff. We would appreciate the opportunity to share more of our school and learn how we can best meet the needs of your child.

Danielle Hall

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1:1 iPad Learning Program - YEARS 3 - 6 STUDENTS

At Bakewell we value learning that motivates and inspires our students. Our teachers design innovative learning experiences where students can create, communicate and collaborate. They are taught to think critically and globally whilst being ethically responsible. Students engage in the Australian Curriculum through a technology rich environment that provides opportunities for personalised learning, fostering curiosity and individualisation.

All students in Years 3-6 will participate in the 1:1 iPad Learning Program.

1:1 iPad Learning Program
Years 3 – 6
Students will be provided with a new device with relevant educational apps at the commencement of the Learning Program in Year 3.
Students will keep the same device for the course of the Learning Program. Students have the opportunity to use educational apps for a range of different subject areas that combine text, video and audio. They will learn how to engage with the world around them, connect, collaborate, access information and acquire digital skills appropriately to participate in life and work.

AGE OF ENTRY TO SCHOOL

For Transition there is a single intake. Children who turn 5 on or by the 30 June 2025 commence Transition at the beginning of Term 1, 2025.

For Preschool, children turning 4 on or by the 30 June 2025 may commence Bakewell Preschool at the beginning of Term 1, 2025. Children turning 4 after 30 June and before the last day of Term 3 may commence Preschool at the beginning of Term 3 if vacancies are available. This means the child will spend 18 months in Preschool.

ASSEMBLIES

School assemblies are held every Friday at 8.30am. These alternate between the Primary and Early Childhood teams. Each term one assembly will be nominated as a whole school assembly. Dates for these will be advertised through the Bakewell Bulletin. Each assembly features a class item, the presentation of Student Awards and general information. Parents are very welcome to join us for school assemblies.

ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL

Regular attendance at school is expected and highly valued. Our school embraces the NT Department of Education Policy of – Every Child Every Day.

Absences:

Parents/Carers must notify the school when your child is absent. This may be done by an email to the Front Office (admin.bakewell@education.nt.gov.au) or Classroom Teacher, a phone call to the Front Office or a note to the class teacher when your child returns to school. Parents will be contacted for all un-notified absences. For safety and administration purposes the school is required to have accurate information about student attendance.

BICYCLES/SCOOTERS SECURITY

Children riding bicycles or scooters are required to supply and use a chain and locking device so that bicycles/scooters can be secured to the schools bike racks. Whilst every effort is made to ensure the security of the bicycles/scooters they are 'parked' in the school grounds at the owner's risk. The wearing of bicycle helmets is compulsory (and the law) for children in the Northern Territory.

COMMUNICATION

Bakewell Bulletin

The Bakewell Bulletin is emailed home fortnightly on Wednesdays. Every effort is made to keep parents informed of school and class happenings, coming events, sporting notices etc.

Messages to Students

Message bags are collected by classes at 2.10pm each afternoon. If it is necessary to phone the school with a message for a student, please try to do so before 1.45pm.

Parents/Carers Details

Keep the school up-to-date with current contact telephone numbers for both parents and/or carer. Please inform the school immediately when there is a change of address, phone number, emergency contacts etc. The school must have up-to-date contact details for families at all times.

Parent Information Handbook and Folder

This is issued to all families at the time of enrolment and should be kept available at home as a reference about a whole range of things associated with your child's attendance at Bakewell Primary School.

Class Welcome Letters

These are sent home at the commencement of each Semester and help to keep parents up to date with class programs, timetables, routines and expectations.

Teacher Contact

Teachers will contact parents if they have any concerns/matters about a student they would like to discuss. This may be via a note, over the phone, email or through an organised face to face meeting.

Parent Contact

Parents are encouraged to write to, phone, or email the school to raise any points of concern or matters to do with their child's education or wellbeing. Teachers welcome this contact and are very happy to make appointments to meet with parents at a mutually convenient time.

Parent Email Address

Please notify the school of your email address. This is an effective way to communicate with us and share information about your child/ren and school matters in general.

Website

Bakewell Primary School has its own website www.bakewellprimary.com.au.

Facebook

Bakewell Primary School has a Facebook page which is regularly updated with school events, news and updates. Visit www.facebook.com/bakewellprimary

DENTAL SERVICE

The Children's Dental Service is available to Bakewell Primary School students. If you have any queries about your child's dental health or treatment please call in or phone the clinic on 8922 6466. Parents are required to attend dental appointments with their child/ren.

EARLY LEARNING AREA

The Early Learning Area focuses on the education and development of our students in Preschool and Transition. The students will be given the opportunity to develop appropriate social skills, independence and pre-Literacy and Numeracy skills. The purpose of the Early Learning Area is to ensure:

- a smooth pathway for students coming from Preschool into a full time Transition program
- the students are well prepared for formal learning by the end of the Transition year.

EFTPOS

EFTPOS facilities are available in the front office for payment of all expenses e.g. School Supplies, Uniforms, Excursions, Camps, OSHC Fees, etc. We also accept Credit Card payments over the phone.

EMERGENCY CONTACT

The school must have accurate, up to date information on parents' whereabouts as well as emergency contact details. Please notify the school immediately if there is any change of employment, address, telephone number etc.

EXCURSIONS

Classes may go on a number of educational excursions throughout the year. Some classes may also organise a camping excursion. These are regarded as an integral part of the learning process and are considered a fundamental part of the children's education. They provide experiences that stimulate curiosity and create springboards for further learning. Fees/costs for excursions must be paid in advance. Teachers are required to give parents sufficient prior notice to allow time for payment. Parents are asked to pay the exact amount for excursions, as change is not readily available.

FACILITIES

Our premises include Bakewell Primary School, Preschool and Dental Clinic. The Multi Purpose Hall Area, Basketball Courts and Oval are available for community use after hours. The school comprises 11 areas of operation.

Preschool Block	Preschool Classrooms
Block A	Early Childhood and Technology
Block B	Early Childhood
Block C	Primary
Block D	Primary and The Hive
Block E	Early Childhood, Science & Technology
Block F	Primary, Science & Chinese
F 11	OSHC 2
Library Block	Library and Teaching and Learning Hub
Administration Block	Administration, Dental Clinic
Multi Purpose Hall Area	Undercover Area
Outdoor Stage Area	
Stage and Undercover Area	

The fenced area that encloses the School Buildings, Basketball Courts and Primary Play Equipment is out of bounds after school and on weekends. Supervised groups have after-hours access to the Basketball Courts and Undercover areas. The Oval is available for student and family access at all times.

FIRST AID

In the event of an accident the school administers appropriate First Aid and, if serious, notifies a parent or the emergency contact. If this is not possible the school will arrange transportation to a doctor/hospital if required. Outside school injuries or sores should be treated at home.

FUNDRAISING

Monies raised through fundraising initiatives assist the school in providing quality educational programs and resources for students. Where possible families are encouraged to support the school's fundraising initiatives throughout the year.

HEAD LICE

Bakewell Primary School follows the Northern Territory Department of Education and Training's Policy on Head Lice Infestation (Pediculosis). Children found with head lice infestations must be treated before being sent back to school the following day. Checking and treatment of children's hair is a parental responsibility. If head lice are found in a child's hair parents will be notified and before the child is sent back to school the next day appropriate treatment must be carried out. Information about the treatment of head lice is available from the Front Office on request. Please contact the school if you have any concerns about head lice.

HOMEWORK

Rationale

Homework at Bakewell Primary School complements and reinforces classroom learning while developing:

- Sound study habits
- Time management skills
- Independent learning and organisational skills
- Parental understanding and links to class/school learning
- Opportunities for parents to share their child's education strengthening communication between home and school.

Homework Guidelines

The completion and return of Homework is the responsibility of the student. Teachers outline the class homework routines and activities weekly.

Transition and Year 1	15 mins per night
Years 2 & 3	20 mins per night
Years 4 – 6	30 mins per night

Students are required to complete tasks comprising of:

- Reading
- Spelling
- Maths skills component or learning timetables

HYDRATION

It is very important, whether it be the Dry Season or the Wet Season that children drink plenty of water. It is a school procedure that children should have a personal drink bottle available to them at all times. Drink bottles must be clearly labelled and children are encouraged to take them home regularly for thorough cleaning. Water only is to be used in classroom drink bottles.

LEARNING SUPPORT

The school's Learning Support Program supports students with identified special needs. Students who require significant adjustments to accessing and/or participating in the classroom and/or learning environment are identified and assessed. Provision of assistance is relative to their level of need. In all cases our aim is to maximise the success of each individual in our school community through a collaborative, inclusive approach.

LIBRARY

The aim of the Library is to provide a pleasant place with a happy relaxed atmosphere for all children to enjoy. Children are encouraged to use the library and its resources. Many visit at lunchtimes when games and activities are available. Parents are welcome to come in and browse at any time and borrow resources. Parent borrowing is encouraged.

The Library supports and reinforces the educational goals of the school and children have the opportunity to:

- develop an enjoyment of literature
- be introduced and exposed to a wide variety of literature
- learn to locate and select resources appropriate to their needs
- learn to critically evaluate information and sources of information
- appreciate and learn that learning is a lifelong experience and as such they must learn to locate, use and evaluate information appropriately

Classes are timetabled for regular book exchanges and/or literature sessions. The use of library bags is required for loans to protect our valuable resources. A Bakewell Primary Library bag may be purchased from the Front Office at a cost of \$12.00. This is very hardwearing and should last for quite a while.

LIBRARY LOANS

Borrowing

Preschool to Year 3 - 1 book at a time Years 4 to 6- 2 books at a time

If more are required for research purposes further loans may be negotiated.

ALL loans are made for 1 week but children may exchange each day or negotiate longer loan periods if required. Unfortunately it is necessary to disallow further loans if children have outstanding loans that are overdue. Once books have been returned normal borrowing rights will resume.

In the case of lost or badly damaged books/resources it is expected replacement costs will be met by the student/student's family.

LOST PROPERTY

Lost property is kept at the Front Office until the end of each term.

LUNCH ORDERS

The School Canteen, which follows the NT Nutrition and Healthy Eating Policy, operates daily at recess and lunch breaks. A price list is distributed regularly. Our canteen has online ordering for lunch orders. Visit www.QuickCliq.com.au and register. Online orders must be placed by 9am. Students can order their lunches in paper lunch bags supplied by parents through the classroom. Orders need to be placed by 8.30am daily.

MEDICATION

We request that you do not give children's medication to the class teacher. If your child needs medication at school you must sign a permission form for staff to administer it at the Front Office. Written permission and advice from your doctor may also be required. Medication is to be sent to school in a clearly marked container and must be stored at the Front Office. It is strongly recommended, however, that medication be administered at home if possible. Ear and eye drops will not be administered by staff.

MIDDLE YEARS OF SCHOOLING

Bakewell Primary School provides Year 6 students with opportunities to begin their introduction into the Middle Years of Schooling and to support the transition process from Primary School to Middle School. This includes a visit for our Year 6 students to Palmerston College.

MOBILE PHONES – STUDENT PROCEDURES

This policy applies to mobile phones, smart watches and all other devices that allow electronically based distractions. Smart watches will need to be switched to flight mode while students are in school.

- Students are not permitted to have mobile phones in their possession during the school day. Smart watches must be placed on flight mode so phone calls and messages cannot be sent or received during the school day.
- Students are encouraged not to bring a mobile phone to school. Please note that Bakewell Primary School does not have accident insurance for accidental property damage or theft of personal items. Students and their parents are encouraged to obtain appropriate insurance for their personal items.
- Mobile phones must be switched off and placed in the classroom message bags at the beginning of the school day. These bags will then be taken to the administration office for storage. Message bags will be collected at the end of the school day and mobile phone will be returned to students.
- Students who use their mobile phones inappropriately at Bakewell Primary School may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's Student wellbeing and behaviour policy and Code of Conduct.

Mobile phones are brought to school at their owner's risk. No liability will be accepted by Bakewell Primary School in the event of loss, theft or damage of any device unless it can be established that the loss, theft or damage resulted from the school's negligence.

OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE (OSHC)

Refer to OSHC information in the Parent Information Pack.

PARENT PARTICIPATION/VOLUNTEERS

Parents can participate in many ways at Bakewell Primary School. These include being part of the School Board, committees, helping with fundraising, sports coaching, library, class activities, excursions, being an audience at assemblies and performances and much more.

Please speak to your child's teacher about ways you can participate in class and school activities. If you are a working parent the teacher can suggest ways to be involved after hours too.

PERSONAL TOILETRIES AND TREATMENTS

Bakewell Primary School encourages low scented, hypoallergenic products (including natural scented products) for use by students and staff while at school. Inhalation of highly scented vapours, particularly in an air-conditioned environment can cause breathing difficulties, rashes, asthma attacks etc.

Parents have the responsibility to inform the school if their child is highly sensitive to strong scented vapours/products.

In addition, for Health and Safety reasons aerosol spray cans are not to be brought to school.

REPORTING TO PARENTS

Written Reports are issued at the end of Term 2 and Term 4. Student Led Conferences are conducted in Term 1. All parents are encouraged to make a time to attend. In addition, parents and teachers may have frequent contact through phone calls, emails and in an informal way. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher if you have any concerns about your child's progress at school.

ROAD SAFETY TIPS

- Our students are encouraged and reminded to wear a helmet when riding a bike/scooter.
- Our students are encouraged to dismount their bike/scooter and walk across the crossings.
- The 40km school zone speed limit applies from 7.00am to 5.00pm on school days.
- When the flags are up at School Crossings drivers must stop for pedestrians.
- Set a good example and use School Crossings to cross the road with your child/ren and teach your child/ren to do this correctly so it will be automatic for them if you are not there.
- Remember to stagger your afternoon pick up time to avoid the most congested time from 2.25pm to 2.40pm, particularly in the front carpark where the students are supervised until 2.45pm each afternoon.

- Use the Kiss and Go lanes correctly, whenever possible drive forward to allow vehicles to drive in safely from behind-just like a taxi rank. Parking is not permitted in the Kiss and Go lanes.
- Park your vehicle in a designated parking space if you have to leave your vehicle to come into the school.
- Please remember to always set a good example for your child/ren and choose safety over convenience every time.

SCHOOL BOARD

The Independent Public School Board meetings are held regularly. The School Board consists of parents and teachers who are interested in the strategic direction of Bakewell Primary School. The Principal is an ongoing member. The Board Chairperson can be contacted through the Front Office.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

For students from Transition to Year 6 the wearing of full school uniform is compulsory. The Year 6 Polo shirt may be worn on Wednesdays only. If a Year 6 excursion falls on a Wednesday students must wear the regular Bakewell Polo shirt.

Bakewell Primary School colours are burgundy and black. The full school uniform consists of:

- Bakewell Primary School polo shirt
- Bakewell Primary School black bottoms (eg shorts, long pants or skorts)
- Black or white ankle socks
- Closed in shoes
- Bakewell Primary School bucket hat.

SCHOOL UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

- Students are required to wear Bakewell Primary full school uniform to school each day (unless otherwise notified).
- Sun Visors and baseball caps do not fit with the school's SunSmart Sun Protection Policy and are not permitted.
- Students without appropriate hats or footwear are required to be in the Library during recess and lunch times.
- To participate in Physical Education lessons and sporting activities students must wear a SunSmart hat and appropriate footwear.
- Stud earrings and sleepers worn in the ears, plus watches are the only acceptable jewellery.
- Extreme hair colours and/or extreme hairstyles and face makeup are not considered appropriate for school.
- Please refer to the Bakewell Primary School Compulsory School Uniform Policy for more details.

SICK CHILDREN

Sick children are sent to the office by class teachers. If they are too ill to participate in class, parents will be contacted and asked to take their children home.

Children should be kept home from school if they contract notifiable diseases such as measles or others of a highly infectious nature.

SMOKING

Smoking is not permitted on school property (NT Government Policy).

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Bakewell has several student leadership opportunities for students in Year 5 and 6.

Student Leadership Council

The Student Leadership Council (SLC) consists of ten Year 6 students including the school captains and vice captains. Students nominate to become SLC reps, present a speech to their peers and are elected based on student votes. An interview process is then conducted to appoint the school captains and vice-captains. All students in SLC are also a part of another student leadership group - The Northern Territory Learning Commission.

Northern Territory Learning Commission

The Northern Territory Learning Commission (NTLC) student leaders are made up of fifteen students (ten Year 6 and five Year 5 students). Students involved in the NTLC are given the opportunity to grow their agency through analysing their school's data to identify patterns, networking with other schools, researching and surveying staff and students to find areas of improvement in the school and taking action to make change for students and their learning.

House Teams

On enrolment, each child is allocated a house team. Each house has a girl and boy House Captain and Vice-Captain that leads the team. These students are nominated by their peers at the start of each school year. The team names represent different species of geese and aligns with the 'goose philosophy' of teamwork, support, encouragement and cooperation, and is closely linked with our school mission and values.

House Name	Colour	Represents
Woodies	Yellow	The Australian Mauve Wood Duck
Capes	Blue	The Cape Barren Goose
Pygmy	Green	The Pygmy Goose
Magpie	Purple	The Magpie Goose

STUDENT SUPPLIES

The Student Supplies for Transition to Year 6 students costs \$100.00. The supplies include such items as pens, pencils, crayons, rulers, textas, Art and Craft materials, ICLT resources, Home Reading materials. Student Supplies are organised through the Front Office at the commencement of each year or on enrolment.

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TOYS, ELECTRONIC GAMES, VALUABLE ITEMS

Toys, electronic games and valuable items should be left at home for safe keeping. Playing with toys/games etc in the classroom can be very distracting for students and this interferes with their learning, being on task and completing class work. It is very upsetting for the student (and family) when items are damaged, lost or possibly stolen. Parents are asked to support with this matter and ensure such items are left at home.

WET WEATHER

We ask parents to make arrangements with their children now about what they are to do if it is raining at home time – e.g. wait on verandah, go to a friend or relative, leave bike at school. Students will not be automatically dismissed at home time (2.30pm) if there is a heavy downpour or an electrical storm. Parents must collect their children directly from the classrooms in such an event. Older siblings from within the school should not be sent to collect younger siblings. Children will be dismissed when it is judged safe for them to make their way home. If there is an impending storm parents may come earlier to collect their child/ren from the classroom.

Do not ring the school just before home time and ask for messages to be passed on. There are a number of reasons we stress this. Phones frequently drop out in thunderstorms, children cannot hear the loud speaker above the rain, the switchboard jams and power failures are common. If you make these arrangements now, children will know what to do and staff will not be faced with requests they cannot meet. Please read the “Wet Weather Procedures” in your Parent Information Pack.

SCHOOL HOURS

Playground supervision commences at 7.45am.

Time	Bell/Music	
8.00	Music	Students Line Up
8.05	Bell	Commencement Session 1
RECESS 10.20 – 10.50		
10.20	Bell	Play
10:48	Music	Signals End of Recess
10.50	Bell	Eating Time
LUNCH 12.50 – 1.20		
12.50	Bell	Signals Lunch Play
1.18	Music	Signals End of Lunch Play
1.20	Bell	Eating Time
2.30	Bell	Signals Home Time

Supervision is provided until 2.45pm.

2025

TERM DATES

Semester 1, Term 1	Wednesday 29 January – Friday 4 April
Mid-Semester Break	Monday 7 April – Friday 11 April
Semester 1, Term 2	Tuesday 15 April - Friday 20 June
Semester Break	Monday 23 June - Friday 11 July
Semester 2, Term 3	Tuesday 15 July - Friday 19 September
Mid-Semester Break	Monday 22 September - Friday 3 October
Semester 2, Term 4	Tuesday 7 October - Thursday 11 December

Bakewell Primary School

An Independent Public School Delivering
Excellence in Education

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Email: admin.bakewell@education.nt.gov.au

<https://bakewellprimary.com.au>

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