New Entrants Information

Stirling School

Self Belief and Courage Builds Success

Welcome to Stirling School

We are a Primary School in Stirling, South Otago just a short drive from Balclutha. Stirling Primary School is a family-orientated school with a strong focus on supporting and encouraging individual students to achieve their best.

We provide an excellent education by providing a stimulating and positive learning environment. We understand that all children begin their journey at school with their strengths and we pride ourselves on getting to know the children as individuals and building on their strengths.

Our Vision for our students is “Self Belief and Courage Builds Success”. Students are encouraged and supported to respect themselves, their community and their environment.

Meet the Teacher

Kobie Hill

Kia ora! My name is Kobie Hill and I am Stirling School's New Entrant teacher. I am passionate about providing our children with a smooth and positive transition from their early childhood education to school. My vision for our new entrant classroom at Stirling School is to create an engaging environment where children feel confident to take risks in their learning. I understand the importance of adapting my programmes to meet the needs of individual learners and I believe I can build effective relationships with my students and families. I strive to create a classroom culture where children can share their strengths with their peers and myself while feeling safe to explore new learning. I look forward to getting to know you, your child and whānau to support them as they begin their journey at Stirling School.

Enrolling at Stirling School

Meeting the Principal

Our Principal, Donna Watson, invites all parents of prospective children to meet with her before enrolment. This is a time to build connections with you and your child and build an understanding of how we can best support your child's transition.

Donna also enjoys taking parents for a tour of our school to see our classrooms and meet our friendly teaching team. You will also see our learning programmes in action and get a good feel for who we are.

Once your child has enrolled, Donna is available to meet to discuss your child's needs and education further at any point. You can make a time to meet with her by phoning 03 418 0540 or emailing principal@stirling.school.nz

Enrolment

Although there is no set time to enrol your child at Stirling School, the earlier we know about your child starting school the better. This gives us time to organise school visits, meet with your child's early childhood education teacher and plan for a smooth transition.

How to Enrol:
Once you have decided to enrol your child at Stirling School please complete our enrolment pack:

- Enrolment Form
- A copy of your child's birth certificate
- Immunisation Record
- Medical and allergy form

We need all these documents prior to your child starting school.

Our Learning Programmes

Play-based learning

Our play-based learning approach allows students to explore, create, discover, investigate,
spend time on projects, work collaboratively with others, develop oral language skills and focus on social skills/school values.

Maths

We teach maths through a balanced approach of problem-solving, explicit teaching of strategies and number knowledge and rich routines. This allows our children to be extended and supported in their maths.

Literacy

Children read and write with the teacher or teacher aide daily. We explore literacy through picture books, shared reading books and play. We explicitly teach our students spelling through a structured literacy approach.

Ready for learning

The Ready 4 Learning framework supports and underpins the “foundation skills” needed for a learner to be curriculum ready. The foundation skills fall under 6 categories, speaking, seeing, hearing, moving, concepts of print and key competencies. This is a big focus for our new entrant’s classroom.

Getting School Ready

What does my child need?

- School bag - to carry their morning tea, book bag, drink bottle and jacket or jersey.
- Morning tea and water bottle - School lunches are provided daily. If your child has any allergies please let Kobie know.
- Spare Clothes - accidents can happen so it is a good idea to pack some spare underwear and clothing for those moments.
- Sunhat - compulsory for term 1 and 4
- Appropriate shoes - we spend a lot of time outdoors playing and doing fitness so children need to be able to run in their shoes.

Please make sure all of your child's belongings are clearly named.

Tips to help support your child's transition to school

Setting up good routines for is very important for a smooth transition to school. Please:

- Arrive from 8.25am to allow your child plenty of time to unpack and settle into the classroom. This also gives you the chance to explore the classroom with your child and it can be a nice time to sit down and enjoy a story together.
- Encourage your child to carry their own bag and get them to unpack their book bag when they arrive at school. This builds your child's independence.
- Connect to our Facebook page. Kobie can support you with this.
- Ask any questions you may have at any time. We are here to help!

Transition to School Timeline

Enrolment Pack

Pick up an enrolment pack from Donna at the Stirling School office. It is great to enrol your child at least 3 months before their birthday. Return this form to Donna once completed. She can help you with any questions you may have.

Organise School Visits

Kobie, our new entrants teacher, will contact you to organise dates for school visits.

First day of School

This can create a mix of emotions for both your child and you. Kobie will meet you in the morning and settle your child in for their first day of school.

Four Year Old Check

Four year old checks are done at 24 Clyde Street, Balclutha. This information can be passed onto the child's teacher with your permission. Lisa Sell completes these checks and will get in contact with you.

Meet Mrs Watson

Our principal Donna Watson would love to meet with all children and families. This is a chance for you to meet Donna and hear more about our school.

School Visits

School Visits begin 3 weeks prior to your child's start date. More can be organised if beneficial for your child's transition to school.

- 2x visit - 9am - 11.30am
- 2x visit 9am - 1.40pm
- 2x visit full day at school

Contact Information

(03) 418 0540

www.stirling.school.nz

principal@stirling.school.nz

2 Boyd Street, Stirling, 9231