

## INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

# THE IMPORTANCE OF ATTENDANCE HABITS IN THE EARLY YEARS



Developing the habit of going to school every day is vitally important so your child does not miss out on important ideas, concepts, knowledge and skills they need for future learning.

Going to school every day helps children learn the important life skill of 'showing up' – at school, at work, to sport and other commitments.

### Did you know?

- In the early years of school, many concepts, such as literacy and numeracy, are taught in a sequence. This means that if your child is often away from school, it can make it difficult to catch up later.
- The Western Australian Telethon Kids Institute has found that the attendance habits set in Kindergarten and Pre-Primary are likely to continue throughout a child's school life, so it is important for them to go to school every day.
- The *School Education Act 1999* requires all enrolled students to attend every day that their school is open.

# ABC

### What can you do?

It is an exciting time for the whole family when your child starts school. You can help to make sure they have a positive first experience by providing your child with routines that help them know what to expect and feel secure in new environments. This can reduce their anxiety about going to school and help them develop independence and confidence.

For more information please contact:

Ashburton Drive Primary 94901113



### **You can help by:**

- arranging for your child to meet a friend before school so they can go in together
- volunteering and helping out at school at least once a term
- getting clothes/uniforms and lunches ready the night before
- arriving and collecting your child from school on time
- making sure your child gets nutritious meals each day and enough sleep each night
- making appointments with doctors, dentists and specialists outside school time
- making holiday plans during school holidays and not during school terms.

If your child is unwell or you are having trouble getting your child to school, please let the teacher or front office know straight away. By having information about your child's absences, we are better able to help you.

### **What will the staff at Ashburton Drive Primary do?**

- Offer developmentally, socially and culturally responsive learning opportunities.
- Monitor every student's attendance including talking with you about any absences.
- Work with you to overcome problems affecting your child's attendance.

