Transition to Prep
Cannonvale State School

Be a Learner  Be Safe
Be Respectful  Be Friendly

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Welcome!

Welcome to Prep at Cannonvale State School. It is a big decision to join a new school community but we know you have made an excellent choice. Cannonvale State School provides an education that prepares our students for life.

We believe in engaging children in positive learning experiences that build their independence, creativity and world connectedness needed for our global future.
Oh the places you’ll go, 
Today is your day! 
Your mountain is waiting. 
So ...get on your way!
- Dr Seuss

Ready families + Ready Health Services 
+ Ready ECEC Services 
+ Ready Communities + Ready Schools 
= Ready Children

Kagan & Rigby’s (2003) Ready Equation is the basis for ensuring children effectively transition to school.
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Theoretical Approach

Our Prep staff are committed to making school a productive and happy experience for your children. Children come first at Cannonvale State School. We believe that children and staff bring different gifts to the school. Everyone is special and contributes in a unique way to the development and experience of all. When children come to our school, we do not expect they will learn and understand everything when they first experience it.

Learning is a complex activity and each child needs to learn at his or her own level and pace. The staff at Cannonvale State School Prep will always endeavor to teach the children at their level of success, adapting instruction so that all children are challenged. We believe in respectful relationships, partnerships with families, high expectations and equity, respect for diversity and reflective practice.

Effective early childhood education is informed by sound, researched, and diverse theoretical perspectives, that support improved learning outcomes for all children. Through our school pedagogical leaders and teacher coaching we support a lively culture of professional inquiry at Cannonvale State School.

Our Prep staff examine the theoretical perspectives embedded in or informing current practice to enrich and update teaching and learning. Our teachers are professionally active and keep abreast of current research and thinking through professional reading, courses of study, seminars, networking and dialogue.

Cannonvale State School Prep philosophy is influenced by a number of theorists including:

- Malaguzzi: Reggio Emilia, children as rich and competent, co-constructors of knowledge, one hundred languages to express oneself.
- Gardner: multiple intelligences, children express themselves in many ways.
- Vygotsky: social constructivism.
- Piaget: ages and stages.
- Montessori: life skills, learning in stages, building on prior knowledge.
- Edward de Bono: parallel thinking, 6 thinking hats.
- Bloom’s Taxonomy: learning domains, the cognitive domain.
The Prep Program

Cannonvale State School is an explicit instruction school. Our Prep Curriculum is guided by the Australian Curriculum and our students are engaged in quality educational experiences in each of the core subjects of English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, Technology, The Arts and Health and Physical Education.

The Early Years Learning Framework is embedded into the Australian Curriculum. This Framework describes the principals, practice and outcomes essential to support and enhance young children’s learning from birth to five years of age, as well as their transition to school.

In all of our activities we aim to promote independent learning by the children. By providing a caring and nurturing structure, where progress is measured according to each child’s ability, the staff believe the children will be provided with positive self-esteem, confidence in their abilities and important learning foundations. A culture of feedback is highly evident in our teaching and learning practices to gain insight to children’s learning styles, effect size of teaching and to promote student driven learning through our Faces on the Data approach.
A typical day in Prep

The Prep Program at Cannonvale State School runs from 8:45am - 2:55pm.

Children should be brought to the classroom by an adult every day and picked up from the classroom each afternoon.

Students catching the bus or using ‘Kiss and Go’ will be walked to a supervised duty area with a staff member.

Classrooms will be open from 8:30am.

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Routine</th>
<th>Daily Activity Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30am</td>
<td>Classrooms open</td>
<td>Classrooms open, Prep children unpack bags and commence morning reading, fine motor activities or playground.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:45am</td>
<td>School Starts</td>
<td>Roll call</td>
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<td>8:45—11:00am</td>
<td>Morning Session</td>
<td>Prep English block</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Fruit Snack</td>
<td>Brain Break/perceptual motor program</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00am</td>
<td>1st Lunch/Play</td>
<td>Play</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:45am—1:15pm</td>
<td>Middle Session</td>
<td>Reading, Prep Maths block</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:15pm—1:45pm</td>
<td>2nd Lunch/Play</td>
<td>Play</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:45pm—2:55pm</td>
<td>Afternoon session</td>
<td>Investigations, Science, History, Geography, Art, Health, Social Skills etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:55pm</td>
<td>End of School day</td>
<td>Children dismissed for the day.</td>
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## Teaching and Learning Program

### The first 3 weeks

The first three weeks of Prep are a time when your child is adjusting to new routines at school, home and the journey between home and school each day. This is also an important time for your child to make friends with his or her peers, build relationships of trust with their teacher and grow independence. Teachers create inviting learning spaces and activities to engage your child.

During these first few weeks in particular, teachers are assessing the developmental needs of your child through school based summative and formative testing which will assist teachers to plan lessons with each individual child’s needs at the forefront. The early years of schooling a significant time for your child as they develop the foundational literacy and numeracy skills for success in future learning and later in life.

The first 3 weeks of Prep establish learning routines, children’s preferred learning styles and assessment of learning needs. Due to the rate of learning and development that occurs over each school year, schools continually monitor your child’s literacy and numeracy progress to meet their individual needs.

The prep support teacher will administer screener activities one-to-one with students, in small groups and as a whole class depending on the task at hand. This information will be used to assist with their curriculum planning for your child’s learning needs.

By administering early learning screeners, your child’s teacher will get a clear picture of what your child knows and understands. They will use this information to make decisions about teaching and learning, and to monitor progress over time so that your child’s needs are met. The primary purpose of literacy and numeracy data gathering materials, is to enable your child’s teachers to target instruction and scaffold learning to inform the next steps in teaching and learning for your child. These processes generate data to inform curriculum planning and support teachers to more effectively make decisions about teaching and learning in Prep to Year 2.
Health and Physical Education

Students at Cannonvale State School have opportunities to participate in daily physical activities and to develop skills and knowledge about personal health and well-being.

Our students are actively encouraged to make decisions to promote their own healthy lifestyle. These decisions are promoted through our school wide ‘Nude Food’, Positive Behaviour System and FRIENDS program.

Students participate in activities which develop individual and team sporting skills. Activities aim to increase and enhance the fitness levels of all students. Prep students participate in a range of sports through HPE lessons with our specialist sports teacher. Prep students participate in a Perceptual Motor Program daily through the Prep program.

Throughout the year Prep children participate in carnivals or events where they represent their sports house. The carnival is held for Athletics for all students from Prep to Year 6.

Swimming

Swimming is offered to our Prep students in Term 1 and Term 4 at our school pool facility. All swimming activities require students to be sun safe including wearing swimmers, rashie, hat and sun cream.
The Arts - Music, Dance, Drama, Media Arts and Visual Arts

The Arts comprises five subject areas: Music, Dance, Drama, Media Arts and Visual Arts.

Prep students engage in Arts lessons every week.

Drama, Visual Arts and Media Arts

Drama, Visual Arts, and Media Arts are specifically planned and taught by 'The Arts' specialist teacher throughout the year. This is done on a rotational basis with students participating in a one hour lesson per week.

In prep, as well as specialist lessons, Arts based activities are integrated through all curriculum components and incorporated into daily play and learning activities. We value the Arts at Cannonvale State School. We acknowledge the importance of growing children’s creativity through many arts experiences.

Prep students also have the opportunity to participate in extra curricula Arts events and activities as offered through the year including School Musical, NAIDOC celebrations, Under 8’s day, fun Friday and annual school celebrations including Easter, Mother’s Day, Fathers Day, school fete and Christmas.

Music

Prep have one music lesson a week conducted by a Specialist Music teacher. Music lessons in Prep use Kodaly music methodology incorporated with Orff technology.

The Kodaly concept was inspired by the philosophies of the Hungarian composer and educator, Zoltan Kodaly (1882 – 1967) who believed that every person has musical aptitude. Kodaly believed that singing should be the foundation of all music education and that musical instruction should reflect the way that children learn naturally.

The ‘Orff Schulwerk’ was founded by Carl Orff, a German composer and music educator (1895 -1982) and colleague Gunild Keetman (1904 - 1991). It is a general artistic education rather than a method of music instruction. It is “Music for Children”, designed for ALL children, a unique approach to learning music. Each child is encouraged to contribute according to his or her ability and every child is believed to be innately musical.

The approach is centered on teaching the elements of music through integrating the various media used in music including speech, singing, and movement and playing instruments. Through singing games, fun and play the children discover the musical elements as they are presented sequentially and are given the opportunity to enter the world of music through the creative development of the ear and the eye.
Library

Cannonvale State School has an air-conditioned library which caters for all students from Prep to Year 6.

Prep are scheduled to visit the library for a 30 minute lesson each week with their teacher. During this visit the students are encouraged to borrow one appropriate book for reading and enjoyment at home.

The school library is open for borrowing with the accompaniment of a parent before school in the morning. Children should transport borrowed books home inside a library bag to keep protected.

Book Buddies

Book Buddies is available each morning at 8:15am for all school students in the school library.

The session is supervised by a school staff member and is another great way to promote the love of reading.

Prep students attending Book Buddies will be assisted back to the Prep area by a staff member for the beginning of the morning session.

Assembly

Prep children may present an assembly item in the school hall during the year. Your child's teacher will inform you when this is occurring.

Assemblies are held on Wednesday afternoon at 2:20pm in the school hall. Prep students will walk to and from the hall with their class teacher. Student of the week awards are handed out on assembly each week.

Parents are invited to attend Assembly on the day their child receives an award. Your child's teacher will inform you so you have the opportunity to be present. Special events and presentations occurring over the year and celebrated at an assembly are notified through our school newsletter and school website. We welcome parents and community members to our assembly each week.
Excursions

Prep will participate in one planned curriculum based excursion each year which is targeted specifically for the Prep cohort and stems from their learning of curriculum content knowledge at school. Costs and permission are required for excursions off school grounds. Parents will be notified of excursion timeframes with consideration of time for payments to be made.

This is an opportunity to enhance the learning experience for students and explore places and topics in their local community or environment. Parents and caregivers are welcome to attend our school excursions as class helpers. Throughout the year, other excursions and events may be offered. These usually include an Arts experience such as live theatre or performance, and participation in our end of term rewards day.

FRIENDS and SWPBS

As part of our School Wide Positive Behaviour System (SWPBS) our Prep students participate in weekly lessons using The Fun FRIENDS Program. This program helps guide the social and emotional development of children aged 4 to 7 by using fun, play-based group activities. Fun Friends teaches skills that will nurture a child’s development during these crucial early years, giving them the ability to excel and smoothly transition into school life. Our FRIENDS acronym helps students to remember the FRIENDS concepts:

Feelings Relax I can try! Encourage Nurture Don’t forget – be brave! Stay happy.

(http://www.pathwayshrc.com.au/fun-friends-4-7-years/)
Classroom Routines

These will be outlined by each individual teacher at the Parent Information Night in Term 1.

Arrival

The classroom will always have the door open from 8:30am. If you arrive before the classrooms are open you are required to wait under the MPCA. All children are required to sit in this area and wait until 8:30am when the classroom doors will open.

If you are staying for the session, or part of, you must sign the visitors register located in the office.

Encourage your child to unpack their school bag and complete their morning tasks. Lunchboxes and drink bottles are to be placed in the refrigerator. The Prep playground is not supervised in the mornings, children are not to be playing on the playground before school.

Inform the class teacher about how your child will be going home in the afternoon.

Departure

To help children stay focused on the teacher until the end of the last lesson, the door will be closed when you arrive. Please wait under the MPCA for your child’s classroom to be opened. We do ask that parents avoid waiting outside of classrooms as this does cause distractions.

The doors will open at 3pm, for safety reasons children will be asked to stay on the carpet until you arrive. Please come right up to the door area to collect your child. A teacher aide or teacher will collect all students catching a bus or using ‘Kiss and Go’ from the classrooms and escort them to the correct area. Students in prep who are being collected by after school care agencies will remain in the classroom, until collected by Centre staff.

Breakfast

Please ensure your child has eaten breakfast prior to commencing each day at school.

Fruit Snack

Your child will have the opportunity to recharge and refocus during our morning brain break which includes a healthy fruit or vegetable snack. Please ensure you pack an extra piece of fruit or vegetable, preferably cut into portions in a separate container which can be placed into the classroom fruit basket on arrival in the morning.

Lunch times

Cannonvale State School encourages children to eat healthy food. Foods high in fat and sugars are discouraged. Suitable foods could include:

- Sandwiches, rice cakes, crackers with meat or salad fillings
- Fruit
- Cheese sticks, yoghurt

A water bottle is essential each day. We encourage ‘Nude Food’ - food with no packaging.

Each day your child needs a small healthy fruit or vegetable snack, lunch, afternoon tea and a water bottle. As there are some children in the school with nut allergies, we respectfully ask that you are mindful of this when packing your child’s lunches. Please note that we are unable to heat ANY food (as per WPH&S regulations). Please do not send food in tin cans as children may injure themselves when opening the ring-top lid.
Parents and Caregivers at Prep

Parents, caregivers and relatives play an important and valued role in the education of their children. We welcome your involvement. Ways in which you can support and assist include:

- Visiting the classroom and joining in activities.
- Reading with children each morning in the classroom or at Book Buddies in the library.
- Reading the notice boards and newsletters.
- Changing children’s home readers each day.
- Collecting materials for use in collages and art work.
- Offering to share any hobbies, interests or expertise you may have.
- Supporting excursions and special events.
- Supporting us at home by talking about your child’s day.
- Reading and talking to your child daily.
- Supporting our school rules and consequences involved.
- Informing us of any problems or ideas that you have.
- Joining the various school committees such as tuckshop and P&C.
Prep Social Events

During the year, Prep families get together socially for many occasions. This is a fantastic opportunity to meet and get to know other Prep families who are sharing the learning journey with you and your child. Some of these include:

- Information nights and open mornings
- Under 8’s Day and excursions
- School Fete
- School Disco
- Athletics Carnival and sports days
- Cannonvale’s Got Talent and end of term reward day activities

ECEC

ECEC is Early Childhood Education and Care. We have a school ECEC services team linked to Education Queensland Regional Support personnel who collaborate, plan and review our school ECEC processes.

Our school Master Teacher currently oversees ECEC transition to school processes and prep enrolments. Appointments can be made for further information or enquiries by contacting the office.

Cannonvale State School Early Childhood Education and Care values the importance of a quality transition to school process and quality prep program.

We acknowledge and support our local Early Years providers, participate in collaborative practices to strengthen family and community relationships and incorporate elements of the Early Years into our prep environment.

Support Services

A number of support services are available to help children develop towards their potential. Children who are identified, by their teacher, as requiring one or more of these services will be referred to the Student Services Committee for further investigation. Support services that may be recommended for an individual include:

- Guidance Officer
- Speech Therapist
- Special Education Teachers
- Learning Support Teacher
- Gifted Education Mentors
- School Chaplain
- School Health Nurse
General Information

Parking
There is car parking located adjacent to the front school grounds on Coral Esplanade and outside the old prep buildings. A school crossing is available to use when crossing the road.

Playground
The Prep playground facility is out of bounds outside of school hours. The Prep playground is supervised during lunch times.

Facilities
Each prep class room has access to toilets, bubblers, a refrigerator to store lunchboxes and a covered outdoor space. Prep classrooms have a smart board and a bank of iPads and computers to support student learning. Our Prep playground offers a fort, sandpit, climbing equipment, large grassed spaces and covered shade areas for outdoor play. Students in Prep keep their school bag on a bag rack located outside each classroom.

Tuckshop
School tuckshop is available on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Orders on brown paper bags may be placed in the class tuckshop box or handed directly to the tuckshop at 8.30am.

Toys and Treasures
Please do not bring toys and treasures to school. On special occasions or for oral language activities in the classroom, you will receive ample notice as to what items are appropriate to bring to school.

Birthdays
We celebrate each child’s birthday at Prep. Please feel free to send along a cake or cupcakes on your child’s birthday, or the closest day to it. Please check with your child’s teacher the number of children in the class to ensure we have enough for everyone to celebrate.

Class Newsletters
At the beginning of each term a prep class newsletter will be sent home to communicate key learning dates to remember and upcoming events for the term.
You may also like to sign up for the school eNewsletter to receive weekly updates for current events occurring in the school. Prep teachers will inform you of upcoming events via notes and the parent information boards located outside each Prep room.

School Uniforms
School uniform requirements are outlined in our School Parent Handbook. Uniform is to be worn by students to and from school and at school activities unless otherwise stated. Students must wear white socks and enclosed black shoes at school. White sports shoes may be worn on school sports days. Children must wear a royal blue hat with a brim (7cm) which protects the face and neck, or a royal blue legionnaire style hat when engaging in outdoor activities. We have a ‘no hat, no play’ policy.

After School Care
There are a number of Outside School Care organisations that visit the school and arrange to collect the children whose parents have requested them to attend. If you would like more information about how to access an OSC program, refer to the School Handbook.
Preparing for School

Expectations for the start of Prep

Please be sure your child is…

- Well rested, well nourished and well prepared.
- Able to toilet themselves.
- Practiced at eating lunch from a lunch box so they can independently open containers etc.

Please help your child to...

- Talk positively about school.
- Discuss new routines.
- Encourage independence to complete tasks.
- Be responsible for regular household tasks such as setting the table, folding clothes, tidying their toys away.

Teacher Aides at Prep

Each Prep classroom has a teacher aide to support students, teaching and learning. Our teacher aides are an integral part of our team and are experienced at working with children and families. Teacher aids work closely with all members of our Cannonvale State School team.
The First Day of Prep

The First day of Prep can be daunting for you and your child. Please be ready with all your child’s belongings on the first day of school—school bag, hat, water bottle, packed lunch box. Please ensure all items are marked with your child’s name and class so they can be returned to your child easily if they are misplaced.

Your child’s teacher will greet you and show you where to put things. If possible, help your child to find a friend they know. If your child doesn’t know anyone in the class, please let the teacher know and they will assist to introduce your child to another in the class.

Some children become a little anxious when it is time for parents to leave. Be reassured that once you have left the classroom children may be upset for a short time but they eventually settle into our school routine and have a great first day. You are always welcome to phone the school to have a brief chat with the teacher about how your child’s day is progressing. In any situation which is too uncomfortable for students, teachers will call you.

We aim to make the first day at prep a happy one for you and your child. We will be working hard to make sure that everything goes as smoothly as possible. There will be lots of smiles, fun and laughter. The routine will be simple and consistent, allowing the children to feel confident and happy in their new classroom. Please do not hesitate to discuss any concerns or worries that you may have regarding your child’s education with your child’s teacher.

A few hints for a smooth first day!

- The school day starts at 8:45. Classrooms are open at 8:30am. Please be on time and allow time to settle your child on the carpet.
- Be positive. Talk about new things in a happy way.
- Familiarise children with staff names.
- Don’t ‘sneak’ away. Always tell your child when you are leaving and that you will be back at the end of the day.
- Once you have said ‘goodbye’ and are leaving, please go quickly as possible—the few upset children invariably settle down after that initial departure from mum or dad.
You will need

Prep requirement list

Cannonvale State School operates a Student Resource Scheme. Parents are invited to pay an annual fee which covers the cost of all consumables required by their child for that year. Further information is outlined in our School Parent Handbook.

Families that do not wish to participate in the scheme will be issued with a booklist from the school office and will need to purchase all items and replacements throughout the year.

Resource scheme invoices are sent out to families early in the beginning of each school year.

Families who are opting to use the Student Resource Scheme will only need to send their child to school with the following:

- School Uniform—please dress your child in the Cannonvale State School uniform.
- School bag large enough for your child to place all their belongings in and easily manage.
- A packed lunch box containing healthy lunch and afternoon tea.
- A healthy fruit or vegetable snack for our Brain Break.
- Water bottle.
- School hat.
- Library bag—large enough to hold big picture books.
- Apron or old t-shirt for art experiences.
- A spare set of clothes (an accident pack comes in handy).

Please ensure to apply sun cream to your child’s skin as part of their regular morning routine for school.

The resource scheme does not cover the cost of activities such as excursions, performances and swimming. These activities will be notified to families in advance of time to the event.
Hygiene

Viruses and bacteria spread very quickly and easily amongst children in close contact. To minimise cross infection:

- Children will wash hands before eating and after toileting.
- Children will be sent home if they appear unwell.

Sickness

Even though the child may want to come, school is not the place to be when your child is sick. Excessive runny noses, temperatures, cold sores, open sores or discharge from ears or eyes are all indicators of possible infectious conditions. Children with infectious diseases must be excluded from the school for specified times, outlined in the School Parent Handbook. Please phone the school office if your child is unable to attend school any day. If your child should become sick at school, the staff will notify you first. If this fails, we will notify a nominated emergency contact person to collect the child. Only office staff will administer any medication required during school hours. Prescribed and labeled medication needs to be given to the school office and a record will be created for dosage details.

Injury or Accident

A member of staff may give first aid if it is deemed necessary. Ambulance or medical treatment will also be sought if the injury appears to be serious. The school will notify you of an injury or accident. Our school has decided to contact the parents/carers of any child who has received an injury to the face or head, however minor. A parent called to pick up a sick child must sign a “Collection of Student” form from the school office.

Accident Pack

In Prep it is handy to pack an “Accident pack” in your child’s school bag, in the event that your child may have a toilet accident. This is a change of clothes including underwear and socks packed inside a labelled plastic bag. It is quite common for toilet accidents to occur in Prep, even with a toilet trained child.

Asthma, Anaphylaxis and Diabetes

Please refer to our School Parent Handbook for specific details.

Sun Safety

We are a Sun Smart school and have a ‘No Hat, No Play’ policy. Please support sun safety by applying sunscreen on your child as part of your morning routine.

Health Service Providers

Please talk to your child’s teacher or our school administration team if you have any further queries regarding local Health Service Providers. A list of community providers can be obtained from our School Office.
Transition to School—The Ready Equation

What is a ready school? Ready schools are schools that use families’ understanding of their children to support shared decision making about each child’s learning and development at the commencement of school. They create a welcoming and culturally inclusive environment where all families are encouraged to participate in and contribute to children’s learning and development experiences prior to and when school starts.

Cannonvale State School actively engages families and children in acknowledging and planning for the significance of transitions within and across early childhood services and schools. We ensure that children understand the process and have an active role in preparing for these transitions.

We develop learning programs that are responsive to each child. We build on their culture, strengths, interests and knowledge to take their learning and development forward. We build on children’s prior learning and experiences to establish continuity for learning and development from birth to eight years of age.

Each child is different and time spent to help a child settle will vary greatly. We certainly encourage parents to be a key part in ensuring the transition process for your child is smooth. Please discuss your child’s needs with our teachers and administration. Together we can develop a transition process that will support your child's happy move in to the Prep environment.

Orientation to School

Cannonvale State School provides a variety of orientation programs throughout each school year to help parents and students to become familiar with the school setting. They include tours of the school as well as meeting key people (Principal/Deputy Principals/Head of Curriculum/Master Teacher/Office staff/Class teacher/Teacher Aides), and spending time in the school environment.

Orientation programs we offer at Cannonvale State School include special events and celebrations, Prep Open Day, Information Sessions and local visits to and from Kindergarten and Early Child Care Centres.

Principal’s Preschool

Our very popular Principal’s Preschool runs each week on a Friday morning, beginning at 9am. This is a great way to meet other families in the community, spend some quality time with your children and to help transition your child to our school community.

Principal's Preschool is a free activity available to anyone in the community. With children aged birth to five.

Each weekly session offers a playgroup setting in the previous prep building providing opportunities for educators, children and parents to get to know each other.

Parents can find out how they can become more involved in supporting their child’s learning. The play based learning experiences target development of oral language and motor skills. Preschool is hosted by our School Principal, Ms. Angela Kelly.
The transition to Prep

Head Start

At Cannonvale State School we offer a transition to school program “Head Start.” Head Start is targeted for students enrolling into Prep the following year to ease the transition to school process for children.

Head Start runs once a week for 8 weeks during term 4, 9am—11am. There is no cost for families. Parents or carers must be present with their children during Head Start activities.

Parents can find out about how they can become more involved in supporting their child's learning while teachers can observe their new students and gather information on their social and cognitive skills in a more relaxed setting.

Health Checks

Be sure to have your child see your General Practitioner or local Community Health Centre to obtain a school ready 'Health Check' prior to commencing school.

The School Ready Health Check is available from when children turn 4 years of age in QLD. A health check is an assessment of your child's physical health and general wellbeing. It includes height, weight, hearing and sight. It ensures your child is healthy, fit and ready to learn when they start school.
Early Years Connections

Cannonvale State School strives to establish strong relationships and understandings of processes and routines offered by our local Early Learning Centers. In doing so we believe we can develop smooth transition processes, engage with the community, and offer an effective, high quality educational experience with positive outcomes for children. This is part of our school planning for your child’s needs. Of course alongside this we continually provide our Prep staff with professional development opportunities, coaching, and knowledge of leading worldwide and national research in Early Childhood development practice and pedagogy.

When you enrol at Cannonvale State School Prep, you will need to participate in an enrolment interview as part of the process. This is a face to face opportunity for us to discuss your child's needs and get to know both you and your child more. We encourage families with children enrolled at an approved Kindergarten to share their child's transition statements with our school.

Transition Statements

A transition statement is a summary of each child's learning and development during the Kindergarten Year. Transition statements are created towards the end of the kindergarten year by kindergarten teachers in collaboration with the children, their parents/carers, and support personnel. A transition statement belongs to the family and child. Teachers in kindergarten centres do not provide transition statements directly to schools or individual teachers.

Parents and schools can use information in the transition statement to support children as they move into early schooling.
**AEDC**

Every three years since 2009, the Australian Government has undertaken a census of all children in their first year of full-time schooling. This information is used to identify communities where families and children may require extra support and to help shape the future and wellbeing of Australian children. Each census year teachers use an Early Development Instrument, which is a series of specific questions, using their knowledge and observations of the children in their class. Children do not lose any class time and parents are not required to provide any additional information to the school.

For the AEDC, your child’s data will be combined with data about the other children living within the same community. AEDC results for individual children are not reported and the AEDC is not used as an individual diagnostic tool. This means that an individual child report is not produced. The next AEDC collection will commence in 2018. If your child is part of an AEDC census, the information provided by their teacher will make an important contribution to our understanding of the development of Australian children during their early years. Children not included in a census year still benefit from the insights gained by analysis of the AEDC and application of these learnings by early childhood educators and teachers. ([http://www.aedc.gov.au/parents](http://www.aedc.gov.au/parents))

**ECDP**

The department provides early childhood development programs (ECDPs) and services to support children aged 0-5 years with significant educational support needs arising from a diagnosed or suspected disability in the categories of intellectual disability, autism spectrum disorder (ASD), physical impairment, vision impairment, hearing impairment and speech-language impairment. Children who meet this criteria are eligible to attend our local ECDP the year prior to starting Prep. Please contact our school administration for further information.
The Journey of a Prep Child

Over the coming school year your child will grow, develop and mature in many ways. The change from the first day of Prep in Term 1 to the last day of Prep in Term 4 is tremendous.

Children of this age actively build on their knowledge. Your child’s memory and powers of observation increase and their ability to learn is better now than it will ever be. Students are growing neurons in their brains every day and making connections as they deepen their understanding of concepts. Students explore, investigate, problem solve and predict as they engage in their learning. Your child will make many friends and learn to be tolerant and get along with others. Your child will try many new things and take risks in their learning. They will learn to be confident, resilient, persistent and organised. Your child will set their own learning goals and celebrate their achievements.

Prep Work Samples

Term 1
![Prep Work Sample Term 1](image1)

Term 2
![Prep Work Sample Term 2](image2)
Important Information

Enrolment Procedures

Our Prep Open Day offers an orientation to school. This is an opportunity to meet our staff, find out information about Cannonvale State School, take a school tour of our facilities and school grounds and observe our Prep classrooms and students work in Prep. Information and enrolment packs can be collected from the school office. Enrolments may be handed in at our school open day or to our school office. Enrolment forms and further information are available on our school website (http://cannonvass.eq.edu.au/). You may also contact our school office and express your interest to enrol your child in the coming Prep year. A Prep enrolment interview will be offered in Term 3 to interested families. Please bring completed enrolment paperwork and your child’s birth certificate, along with any relevant health records or transition statements.

**To enrol in Prep 2018, children must be aged five by 30 June in the year of proposed attendance.**

Children who are younger than the prescribed age for Prep may be enrolled in Prep if:

- they turn 5 years by 31 July in the year of proposed attendance; and
- the Principal is satisfied the child is ready for education in Prep, having regard to their attributes (including ability, aptitude, social and emotional competence, physical development, and level of knowledge and understanding).

2018 School Dates

| Term 1 | Monday 22 January — Thursday 29 March |
| Term 2 | Monday 16 April — Friday 29 June |
| Term 3 | Monday 16 July — Friday 21 September |
| Term 4 | Tuesday 8 October — Friday 14 December |

School Contact Details

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