

VISION

“At Gordon Primary School our vision is to be a safe, caring and inclusive community who empowers all students to embrace learning, achieve their personal best and build their emotional, social and physical well-being.”

OUR PURPOSE

To develop academic excellence.

To develop fundamental values, social and emotional skills. To promote physical well-being for a healthy lifestyle.

To foster individual creative expression.

VALUES

We have three values that underpin our school.

- Respect
- Responsibility
- Resilience

Students demonstrate these values in classrooms, play areas, on excursions and in the community. Our students are highly respected and well known for their outstanding behaviour and manners.

STEM

We have a strong STEM program at Gordon PS.

- Beachy's Shed (woodwork)
- Stephanie Alexander Kitchen and Garden Program
- Coding
- Robotics

Our STEM teachers will take children through the design process in an engaging and purposeful manner. This is a highlight for many students.



**OUR
FUTURE
STARTS
HERE**



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SCHOOL PROFILE

Gordon Primary School, established in 1882, is located in the township of Gordon, which is a 20min drive east of the Ballarat Post Office. The school has unique grounds and a long, rich history that has been reflected in the architecture of the main building and its surrounds.

We offer a curriculum that engages all students by offering pathways that meet a diverse range of learning needs. We offer a wide range of programs that provide our students with multiple opportunities for success and engagement.

At each year level, we undertake extensive assessment of reading, spelling, writing and numeracy to enable us to teach your children from their individual point of need. This is a genuine focus for us because we understand the importance of knowing and understanding your children and their learning needs and providing them with plans and opportunities that meet their individual needs.

We are a positive, stimulating, supportive, motivating, well resourced and engaging environment where the school community is productive in their pursuit of knowledge, skills and understandings as lifelong learners. If you would like to join our community, please contact us today.

FACILITIES

Our School Council is committed to providing our students with fantastic facilities. In 2021 we introduced a new Ninja Course and completed a toilet refurbishment. Both of these were in response to student and parent feedback.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

There is a strong focus on Literacy and Numeracy. The school has developed core curricula in these areas which outlines what is to be explicitly taught. Teachers work in Professional Learning Communities to continually focus on students needs. The school has produced outstanding results in the national testing program.

Inquiry Learning

Students and teachers use the Inquiry Learning Model to encourage thinking skills and problem solving strategies as a regular part of their normal learning.

Spelling Mastery

Spelling Mastery can help teach your student the strategies they need to become successful, life-long spellers. Using a combined approach of phonemic, morphemic and whole-word strategies, Spelling Mastery helps students to understand the relationship between sounds, word parts and spelling patterns.

Numeracy

We were fortunate to receive a grant over \$250,000 in 2019 in order to develop a strong evidenced based numeracy program across the school. Using a combination of hands on engaging lessons and explicit teaching our teachers cater to the individual needs of all students in their room. Students love maths and more importantly, they feel like they are successful.

Writing

Our writing program comprises of a range of teaching practices such as modelled writing, shared writing, interactive writing and independent writing where varying levels of support can be provided at different points of need. We provide an engaging writing program that produces excellent writers. Our teachers assist students to conceive, plan, compose, edit and publish a range of texts using the following steps:

Step 1: Plan for Success

Step 2: Sizzling Starts

Step 3: Tightening Tension

Step 4: Dynamic Dialogue

Step 5: Show, Don't Tell

Step 6: Ban the Boring

Step 7: Exciting Endings/Ending with Impact

Our students love their VCOP (Vocab, Connectives, Openers and Punctuation) and "Big Write" sessions to improve their writing in a sequential and scaffolded way.

Get Reading Right

We run a synthetic phonics program to ensure that our students have the best possible start to their reading journey. This is an engaging, evidenced based practice that produces outstanding readers. Our reading journey continues all the way through to the end of grade six. Our students develop a love of reading that will set them up for success in secondary school using Literacy Pro, Fountas and Pinnell, Synthetic Phonics, Multi Lit and outstanding teaching to encourage this.

Physical Education

We have a comprehensive Physical Education and Sports Program which is undertaken by all students and offers them the opportunity to not only improve personal health and fitness, but to take part in local and inter-school sporting competitions. In conjunction with this we have a Swimming Program for all students, conducted in partnership with the local swim school and our Physical Education Teaching and Support staff.

Performing Arts

Gordon Primary School runs a performing arts program for all year levels. In addition to this program, students have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument on a private basis. The School runs school productions and showcases biannually.

