

School Community Health Nurse



A note from the Community Health Nurse

Welcome to the new school year! My name is Georgia and I am the Community Health Nurse who visits your school. Community Health Nurses work in schools to promote healthy development and wellbeing, so students can reach their full potential.

We cover a large area across the Avon and Central Wheatbelt so you will not see us in the schools every day, however we can also be contacted by phone.

Medical conditions

The school should be aware of any medical conditions, allergies, medication needs or changes in your child's health status. Your current address and telephone details are essential, so the school can care for your child appropriately and contact you should the need arise. If your child requires medication or treatment, including an **Epipen**, you must notify the school/classroom teacher, so that a health care or action plan can be put in place. This should be updated annually and signed by your **Doctor**. The beginning of each term is a good opportunity to ensure that your child's school emergency medication (asthma reliever or **Epipen**) has not expired.

Kindy Screening

All children in Western Australia are offered a School Entry Health Assessment (SEHA) during their first year of primary school. We can also offer the SEHA to pre-primary and year 1 students who have not been assessed previously.

The SEHA includes a **vision**, hearing, growth, dental and general health check. If you receive a health assessment form, please sign giving your consent and return it to school.

Targeted Screening for children of any age

Any concerns about your child's health such as vision, hearing, speech, movement, behaviour, development or growth can be referred to the Community Health Nurse. Please discuss these concerns with your child's teacher or contact me directly.

Immunisation

Current immunisation status is a requirement for school entry. If your child has not had their immunisations, please make an appointment with your GP or Child Health Service. Any child that is not fully immunised can be excluded from school for a period of up to 2 weeks during a disease outbreak. To get an updated AIR IMMUNISATION History statement either log into Medicare via (my.gov.au) or ring 1800653809.

Please feel free to contact me at any time regarding your child's health needs.

Georgia Falconer
Community Health Nurse

Avon Population Health, Northam. Ph. 9690 1320 / 0474 014 450

AVONVALE EDUCATION
SUPPORT CENTRE

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A Message From the Principal



Dear parents, carers and community members

Welcome back to Avonvale Education Support Centre (AESC) and a very warm welcome to all of our students, families and staff as we begin the 2026 school year. I hope the holiday break provided an opportunity for everyone to rest, recharge and spend time with family and friends. It has been wonderful to see students return to school settled, smiling and ready to begin a new year of learning.

The start of a new school year always brings a sense of excitement and possibility. Our staff have worked hard in preparation for Term 1 to ensure classrooms, programs and supports are in place so that every student can begin the year feeling safe, supported and ready to learn. At AESC, we continue to focus on creating inclusive learning environments where students are encouraged to develop independence, build confidence and celebrate their individual achievements.

We look forward to working in partnership with our families throughout the year. Strong communication between home and school plays an important role in supporting student success, and we appreciate the ongoing support and collaboration from our community.

2026 promises to be another busy and rewarding year at AESC, and we look forward to sharing many learning milestones, achievements and celebrations together across the year ahead.

We are very pleased to welcome a new teacher, **Amrit Singh**, who has joined us at the Secondary Campus. Amrit brings a calm and thoughtful approach to his teaching and has already begun building positive relationships with both students and staff. His commitment to supporting students to develop independence, confidence and meaningful learning pathways aligns strongly with the values we hold at AESC.

We also welcome **Nina Caputo**, who has joined our Primary Campus teaching team. Nina is working with us short term as we continue recruitment processes. Nina has quickly become a valued member of the school community, demonstrating warmth, flexibility and a strong focus on creating engaging and inclusive learning environments for our younger students. Her enthusiasm and care for students have been evident from her very first days with us.

We are fortunate to have both Amrit and Nina joining our school, and I know our community will join me in making them feel welcome as they settle into their roles. Strong staff relationships and collaboration are key to the success of our students, and we look forward to the contributions they will make throughout the year.

Term 1 Dates

Term 1 is a nine-week term, and as always it promises to be a busy and productive start to the year. Please refer to the Term 1 planner for all upcoming events and important dates. We encourage families to keep an eye on notes sent home and communication through the school to ensure you do not miss any key activities throughout the term. Wednesdays remain our main day for newsletters and notes being sent home.

Individual Education Plan (IEP) meetings will take place during Week 5. Further information regarding meeting times will be sent home closer to the date.

Please see over.....

External Providers in Schools

Information regarding external providers attending school will be sent home with this newsletter. Therapy visits will be starting in Week 4, on the provision that all Department of Education requirements have been met.

We ask families to please take the time to read the information provided regarding NDIS providers in schools, as this outlines the processes and responsibilities involved.

Please note that requests for external providers to attend school must come directly from parents or carers. The school will then work with families to ensure appropriate processes are followed in line with Department guidelines.

Due to the swimming lessons program and the significant primary timetable adjustments required during this period, there will be no therapy visits during Weeks 6 and 7. This allows staff to maintain consistent routines and ensure student safety and supervision during swimming sessions.

We look forward to a positive term ahead and thank our families for their ongoing support.

Kind Regards

Michelle O'Brien



Bring your pre-schoolers, and those who have just started school to the Library on the 3rd Saturday of each month for our Special Saturday Story Time! As a group, we sing some songs, listen to a story or two, and have fun afterwards with a dinosaur-related activity.

The Secondary Assistance Scheme (SAS) is to assist low-income families with secondary schooling costs for students in Years 7 to 12.

The Secondary Assistance Scheme is intended to provide assistance to secondary students in meeting the costs of books and uniforms and includes eligible home-educated students. To be eligible for the allowance the parent/guardian must hold a Centrelink Family Health Care Card, a Centrelink Pensioner Concession Card or a Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Concession card that represents a statement of income for the family.

The allowance consists of two components:

- \$300 Clothing Allowance paid directly to the parent/guardian or school.
- \$235 Educational Program Allowance paid directly to the school.



Application is made by the parent or guardian for student/s registered for study in the secondary years. Application forms are available from Avonvale Education Support Centre offices. Applications must be received by the Schools on or before April 11th 2025.

School Diary

Thursday 19 February	Cricket incursion
Monday 2 March	Public Holiday—NO STUDENTS
Monday 10 March to Wednesday 19 March	Book Fair
Monday 9 March to Friday 20 March	Swimming Lessons (Primary only)
Wednesday 25 March	Easter Stall
Thursday 2 April	Last day Term 1
Monday 20 April	Term 2 begins

*For further enquiries contact the school
Avonvale Education Support Centre
Cnr Perina and Mudalla Way, Northam,
Ph: 96215250*

Student Birthdays

January and February Birthdays

*Hilary, Ronan, Dray, Timmy M,
Musa and Ceej*

No hat No play

We are a sun smart school and as such, the Centre has a "no hat no play policy". Students need to wear a hat during recess and lunchtime as well as any additional outside activities including swimming.



Did you know:

Being half an hour late to school each day from Year 1 to Year 10 is equivalent to missing one year and one-and-a-half terms of schooling.