

AVONVALE EDUCATION SUPPORT CENTRE

Inspiring Dreams, Celebrating Success

Hutt Street, Northam, Western Australia, 6401

(08) 9621 5250  Avonvale.ESC@education.wa.edu.au



A Message From the Principal



Dear parents, carers and community members

Term 1 is 10 weeks long, filled with learning and various activities that will keep us engaged and focused. The first few weeks of Term 1 are dedicated to assessing students and developing programs, including Individual Education Plans (IEPs) and other essential support plans such as meal plans, behaviour plans, risk plans, toileting plans, and medical emergency plans. Following these assessments, teachers will meet with parents to discuss student progress and outline future goals and pathways. The finalised IEPs and other relevant plans will be shared with parents in Week 6. Additionally, with two weeks of swimming and a public holiday, we will all be working efficiently to ensure everything is in place to support student learning and achievement.

To stay updated on what is happening, please take note of the following communication methods between home and school:

1. **Communication Books** – These are sent home daily, so please check them for school updates or specific information regarding your child. If teachers have had a particularly busy day, they may only circle relevant information and sign the book, but they will do their best to keep you informed about your child's day. Communication books are checked daily by teachers.
2. **Newsletters** – These will be sent home on Wednesdays of Weeks 2, 6 and 10. The final newsletter for the term will be sent home on Wednesday of Week 10, the last day for students is Friday 11 April.
3. **Term Planner** – Important dates for the term are included in the planner, so please keep it somewhere visible at home. Any updates will be included in newsletters or sent home in a letter.
4. **Connect** – Newsletters and relevant notes are uploaded to the school's Connect page throughout the term. If you have trouble accessing Connect, please let us know, and we will assist you.
5. **Teacher Communication** – If you need to speak with your child's teacher, please call the school and make an appointment through Michelle, Robyn or Kylie at the front desk. Teachers will return calls before or after school. When booking an appointment, please let the office staff know the reason for the meeting so the teacher can be prepared.
6. **IEP Meetings** – In Week 6, all class teachers will be holding parent-teacher IEP meetings. Each teacher will provide details about their meetings and will contact parents individually to arrange a suitable time. We kindly ask that you respond promptly to the meeting request. These meetings are an essential part of our partnership in supporting your child's education, and we appreciate your commitment to attending. If you are unable to make the suggested times, please communicate with your child's teacher to arrange an alternative. We value collaboration between home and school and look forward to working together to support your child's learning journey.
7. **Parent Handbook** – If you would like to receive an updated Parent Handbook, please contact the school, and we will send one home.
8. **Email Communication** – You can reach the school via email at avonvale.esc@education.wa.edu.au.

Student Information Update

Student update forms will be sent home in the next few weeks. Please review the information carefully, make any necessary changes, or tick the box indicating no changes are needed before returning the form. Keeping contact details updated is crucial, as this information is used in emergencies or if your child is unwell. The school requires at least two or three emergency contacts.

Please see over.....

A Message From the Principal continued



Contributions and Charges for 2025

Thank you to parents who have already made contributions for 2025.

The School Council approved the following contributions for 2025:

- **Kindy to Year 6 Voluntary Contribution:** \$60
- **Year 7 to Year 10 Voluntary Contribution:** \$235.00
- **Year 11 and Year 12 Compulsory Charges:** \$235.00

Payment Methods:

- **Direct Deposit:** BSB 066 040, Account 19900604 (please include student name)
- **Cash Payment:** Available at the Primary Campus

External Therapists for Term 1

Therapy Sessions

As students transition back to school and due to the scheduling of swimming lessons in Weeks 7 and 8, we regret that we are unable to provide allocated times for students to attend therapy sessions at the primary campus during Term 1. However, this does not affect students who attend therapy sessions at home or with their parents. We kindly ask that you inform your child's NDIS providers of this arrangement. We will send home any necessary permissions and related information at the end of the term.

Secondary Student Therapy Sessions

Secondary students will be able to commence therapy sessions after Week 5, allowing them time to transition smoothly into the new school year. If you require further information or the necessary forms, please contact Kylie Ruscoe at 9621 5250. Please note that the school will only communicate with therapists once a parent has submitted a request. Kindly review the attached information for further details.

Thank you for your understanding and support in ensuring a successful and productive Term 1!

Kind regards

Michelle O'Brien
Principal

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

Monday 3 March	Public Holiday—NO STUDENTS
Monday 10 March	IEP Meetings begin
Monday 10 March to Wednesday 19 March	Book Fair
Monday 17 March to Friday 28 March	Swimming Lessons (Primary only)
Wednesday 9 April	Easter Stall
Friday 11 April	Last day Term 1
Monday 28 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

*Vanessa, Hilary, Ronan, Dray,
Timmy M,*

To You

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.



Attendance Matters

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.



Government of Western Australia
Department of Health
WA Country Health Service

A note from the Community Health Nurse

Welcome to the new school year. My name is Georgia Falconer, 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.

A major part of our work is focused on the School Entry Health Assessment and implementing the School Based Immunisation Program.

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, height/weight, dental and general health check. Referral to the appropriate health service can be arranged if there are any concerns. If you receive a health assessment form, please sign giving your consent and return to school ASAP.

Targeted Screening

Any concerns about your child's vision, hearing, speech, movement, behaviour, development, growth or weight can be investigated, with referral to the appropriate health service if required. Please discuss these concerns with your child's teacher or myself.

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.

Health Promotion

I can provide the school community with information relating to Health, including growth and development, healthy eating, physical activity, weight management, hand washing, asthma, anaphylaxis, parenting resources or on any subject requested by the school.

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



PROTECT YOURSELF IN FIVE WAYS FROM SKIN CANCER