



FAQs: 2023 Enrolments

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS - AUGUST 2022
DUTTON PARK STATE SCHOOL

Catchment Rules

**We live in catchment.
Is our place guaranteed?**

Yes, your place is guaranteed. You will have to show some residence evidence. The sooner you enrol, the better we can plan for 2023. School numbers affect our budget and ability to provide quality programs and security for our educators.

What about siblings?

Siblings of current students are guaranteed enrolment. Please enrol your siblings as soon as you can to help us plan and budget.

"The school is multicultural and includes a wide demographic of students and families, bringing diversity, which is so important."

- DPSS Parent

Does going to Dutton Park guarantee a place in Grade 7 at Brisbane State High or BSSSC?

No. These schools have their own catchment rules. Our school has strong relationships with these schools and our students share classroom experiences and other educational activities provided by BSSSC and State High.

**We live out of catchment.
Will we get a place?**

If you hurry, yes! Currently for 2023, we have some capacity in all years except Year 6. You won't get a place in Year 6 if you are out of catchment.

You need to put in an Expression of Interest (use our website or the QR code). We may accept out of catchment enrolments if we have sufficient spare capacity and plan for in catchment. This is a decision for the Principal. It depends on timing and in-catchment enrolments.

I work near the school. Can my kids enrol?

Yes. Your application will be treated under the out-of-catchment rules.

Sign me up!

QR Code and hyperlinks to take you to our forms:

To enrol, fill in a [student enrolment form](#).

To get some help through the process or to get your out-of-catchment process started, fill in an [Expression of Interest](#).



Enrolment Timing

I need certainty. What date can you tell me if my out of catchment enrolment is accepted?

For 2023, if you lodge an out of catchment EOI:

- Prep, we will tell you in 1 to 2 weeks if you are accepted, or if we need to put you on a waitlist.
- Years 1 to 5, within 1 to 2 weeks.
- Year 6, we will need to put you on a waitlist.

"It's a small, supportive school with a family-like community."

– DPSS Parent

Why Dutton Park?

What can my child expect from Dutton Park?

Our school has three expectations: Be Safe, Be Respectful and Be a Learner.

Our vision is to empower students to acquire, demonstrate, articulate and value knowledge and skills that will support them as life-long learners. Students will grow to participate in and contribute to the global world, and practise the core values of the school, respect, kindness and resilience.



When is my application due?

As soon as possible. Out-of-catchment applications are considered in the order we receive them.

Early in-catchment applications allow us to plan our resourcing for 2023. School numbers affect our budget and our ability to provide quality programs and job security for our educators.

I put in my application and haven't heard anything yet...

We are currently considering applications as they come in.

Call us if you do not hear anything within 2 weeks, or 1 week if you are anxious. We are here to help and to make you feel welcome to our family!



Does size matter?

Our families think so. Our ideal size is 2 classes per grade. The maximum size of our school is set at 380 students by our Enrolment Management Plan.

We think this is small enough to care about each child individually, and big enough to deliver a quality education and environment that encourages children to challenge themselves and to thrive.

Our Principal knows every child; our families know and look out for each other. Our parents, carers and grandparents are actively involved through volunteering in the classroom and through our P&C.

How do I know Dutton Park will be right for my child?

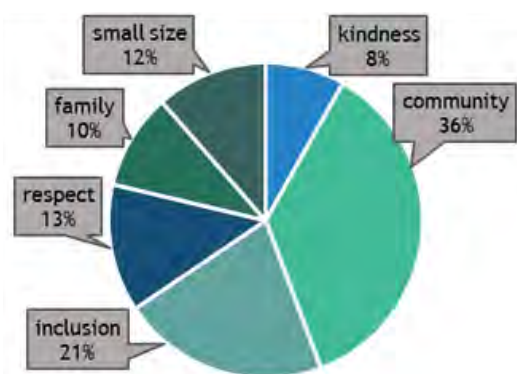
If you are joining in Prep, our interview and orientation process will give you a lot of opportunities to meet teachers and other families.

When enrolling in other grades, you will have the opportunity to talk to the Principal in the process.

If you feel you need more, ask to talk to someone. We can line up teachers or other families to help you feel welcome and make your decision.

Does Dutton Park share my values?

What's important to you? We are guided by our families in setting our values and delivering a quality education to your children. Here's what they said in our 2020 Vision and Values Survey:



Will my Preppie feel welcome?

Yes! Interviews and orientation will help your child feel comfortable with their teacher and classroom. Orientation mornings in November include information sessions for parents/carers. Play dates get organised, and uniform purchases can help get children excited about their transition.

The P&C will coordinate a prep parent WhatsApp group to keep you in the loop. We will get this underway in 2022 to ease your transition. Details will be circulated during the 2022 Prep events.

All Preps wear a white ribbon on their hat to help teachers and older grades look out for them. Our grade 6 leaders run a buddy program. Each Prep has a buddy or two of their own and our grade 6s enjoy the responsibility of mentoring their charges.

"We have been included in decision – making and have felt heard and understood. The experience we and our children have had with the school has been kind, caring and professional."

– DPSS Parent

What should I know about the curriculum?

All Queensland schools have some common requirements in their curriculum.

At Dutton Park, Philosophy is key to our students becoming lifelong learners who are successful academically and socially. Our students have weekly philosophy lessons as part of the curriculum.

3 mornings a week our whole school starts the day together on the oval with 15 minutes of movement activities or a "magic mile" run by our Grade 6s. We say hi, feel part of the school community, and get our bodies moving, ready to learn.

Music, art, PE, library and digital technology are an important part of the children's weekly activities. Children in all grades have weekly art/digital technology, music and PE lessons. French is taught from grade 3.

Our curriculum is also supplemented with activities, some of which are funded through our P&C. For example, swimming lessons, "Make and Meld" workshops (a combination of arts, design technology, science), NAIDOC, Book Week and environmental presenters.



"Our philosophy program teaches vital life skills such as critical thinking, reasoning, empathy and respect for others' ideas."

– DPSS Teacher

What about the other stuff?

Do you have before and after school care?

Yes. We have an external provider, Jabiru which provides before and after school care and vacation care on school grounds. You can organise permanent or last minute bookings depending on your needs: jabiru.org.au

Do you have a tuck shop?

No. We encourage our kids to bring a healthy lunch. Our P&C regularly organises food orders for special events which the kids love eg French Day, Under 8s Day, for sports carnivals etc.

What sort of extra-curricular activities do you offer?

We offer a variety of programs before and after school that children can sign up to such as chess club, choir, ukulele ensemble, band and "Budgie Cup" (a sporting competition between 4 local primary schools across 3 different team sports).

Some activities are organised by external providers on a fee-paying basis and others are organised by the P&C or teachers. Examples include: touch football, Make and Meld workshops (craft/ science based workshops), tennis lessons, Auskick; dancing, Tangalooma Ecomarines.

How can I learn more?

Call the office and ask to talk to someone: (07) 3010 8333



We'd be happy to answer your questions or put you in contact with some parents/carers through our P&C: www.duttonparksspandc.org.au

Follow Dutton Park State School and our Dutton Park School P&C Community Facebook pages:

www.facebook.com/duttonparkstateschool

www.facebook.com/duttonparkschoolcommunity

Can I get involved?

Yes. We would love to have you involved. You can volunteer to help in your child's classroom and/or on an ad hoc basis for events like sports days, excursions, swimming lessons. You are welcome to attend our weekly assembly and teachers will often give parents/carers notice if their child will be recognised.

We have an active P&C which supports the school, and we are always looking for interested volunteers to help occasionally or on a systematic basis.

I have lots of responsibilities. I can't get involved.

That's fine too. Involvement is not expected, just appreciated. Your role is to support your child and the school in providing an education in the way that is right for your family.

How do I track my child's progress and get information from the school?

Each teacher has an email address so you can email your child's teacher directly. The school uses a combination of email, electronic newsletters and physical forms which we send home with children. Payments for ad hoc expenses (like special food days, incursions and excursions) are organised electronically.

The P&C organises "class parent reps" who will help with the information flow and liaising with your teacher on matters that concern all parents/carers.

The P&C also manages secure WhatsApp groups for parents/carers of each year level which you are free to join. The P&C will get the Prep 2023 group underway through the 2022 enrolment process to ease the transition. No system is perfect, and each means operates as back up for the others.

