At Sacred Heart Primary, Tocumwal we aim to support the parents and guardians by providing a quality education where the development of the whole child is central.

In doing this our aim will be:

- To realise and promote each individual child’s gifts and talents.
- To provide a supportive and caring environment where your child is nurtured and challenged.
- To help your child to be a confident and active member of the school and wider community.
- To instill in your child a love of learning.
Parents are the first and most powerful educative influence in the life of a child and the home and the school should be complementary forces in the child’s education. Therefore, we shall endeavour to develop a strong relationship between the school and parents.

The involvement of parents in the life of the school is to be encouraged because:

- Parental attitudes and expectations are most important in influencing a child’s performance at school,
- Children need to know that they can learn from other people besides teachers,
- Parents have much experience and expertise to offer many educational programs,
- Parents have important insights and understanding that can enhance decision making in the school. They have an important task in reminding schools of what is meaningful and relevant to their children,
- Parent participation can assist in increasing communication and good will, and in developing a sense of community within the school.

How parents can be involved in their school community:

- In class helpers
- Participate in school functions
- School Canteen
- Working Bees
- Attend school celebrations
- Fundraising Groups
- Parents & Friends Committee
- School Council
School Uniforms

The School Uniform is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GIRLS SUMMER UNIFORM</th>
<th>BOYS SUMMER UNIFORM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>◆ maroon/check dress</td>
<td>◆ grey shorts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◆ maroon Culottes/mid blue shirt with school logo</td>
<td>◆ mid blue polo shirt with school logo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◆ navy windcheater with school logo</td>
<td>◆ navy windcheater with school logo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◆ white socks</td>
<td>◆ grey socks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◆ black shoes/sandals</td>
<td>◆ black shoes/sandals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◆ navy school hat with school logo</td>
<td>◆ navy school hat with school logo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GIRLS WINTER UNIFORM</th>
<th>BOYS WINTER UNIFORM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>◆ blue and grey check tunic</td>
<td>◆ grey pants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◆ grey pants (optional)</td>
<td>◆ mid blue polo shirt with school logo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◆ mid blue Polo shirt with school logo</td>
<td>◆ navy windcheater with school logo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◆ navy windcheater with school logo</td>
<td>◆ grey socks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◆ grey tights or socks</td>
<td>◆ black shoes (leather)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◆ black shoes (leather)</td>
<td>◆ not joggers or fabric</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Girls & boys sport uniform:
- red windcheater with school logo
- Red knit shorts
- white polo shirt with school logo
- navy school hat-1st term & 4th term
- white socks
- runners

Some uniform items are available for purchase from the School. Mrs Beverley Babington our school’s Teacher’s Aide is our contact for school uniform.
Contact the school for more information.

All clothing and other items brought to school should be clearly marked with the CHILD’S NAME.
General Information

Further information may be found on our website: www.shtww.catholic.edu.au

Student and Family Information

Details about the student and their family that are required by the school administration are taken from the student enrolment form and updated during the time the child is at the school.

A student record card with this information is kept in the school office.

It is vital that the school has a home and work phone number of parents, as well as that of a friend/relative in the case of an emergency.

Parents are required to notify the school immediately of any changes to any of this information, e.g. phone numbers, address, medical, etc.

Daily Timetable

School begins ~ 8:50 am
Recess ~ 11:10am - 11:40am
Lunch ~ 1:10pm - 2.00pm
Children dismissed ~ 3:10 pm

Please make every effort to have children at school by 8:50 am.
If you are having trouble with your child/children being at school on time please notify the class teacher or Principal so they can support you in this endeavour.
Children are not permitted to be in the school grounds before 8:30 am or after 3:30 pm unless supervised by an adult and they have the permission of the Principal.

* If your child is late to school they must report to the office first and check-in with the School Secretary.

Office Hours

Therese Macdermid is our school secretary and she is available to assist you with any questions you may have. Therese’s hours are 8.30am to 1.00pm.

Accident and/or Emergency Procedure

In the case of an accident or other medical emergency every effort will be made to contact a parent, or if this is impossible, school staff will then try to phone the emergency contact number supplied by parents.

If a staff member considers it warranted, the child will be taken to the Tocumwal Hospital or have an ambulance called.
Sickness

The Principal alone grants permission for a child to be sent home from school. A parent or emergency contact is contacted when the Principal considers a child should be sent home.

* **Children who are unwell should not be sent to school.**

Children suffering with infections (cold or flu, skin infections etc.) may return to school once treatment has commenced but it is often wiser to keep your child home until fully recovered. This aids in a speedy recovery for the child and also assists in containing the infection.

* **When your child is away from school, please send a note explaining the absence to the class teacher on the child’s return.**

All children should receive a Triple Antigen Booster before starting Kindergarten class.

Medical Problems

Your child’s teacher needs to know of any allergies, medical conditions or any problem that affects your child. If your child needs to take any medication at school or on an excursion, let the teacher know, in writing, the details of the medication and its administration. Also make the teacher aware if the medical situation or the medication changes.

SunSafe Policy

A school hat is included as part of the school uniform and children are required to wear this during the summer months whenever they are outdoors. Hats are to be worn during Term 1 and Term 4. School staff also wear hats during recess and lunch or other outdoor activities. Children who do not have a hat to wear during outside activities will sit or play in the shade. Sun screen is available for all children to use. It is in each classroom.
Roadsafe Policy

If your child is catching a bus for the day and if you are changing where you want them to leave the bus, PLEASE notify the bus company with a phone message or note to the bus driver.

BICYCLES ~ Following a directive from the Diocesan Catholic Education Commission our school recommends that children in Kinder, Years One and Two do not ride bicycles, unaccompanied, to school.
All children riding bikes and scooters to school should wear a helmet and have no ear phones in.

AFTER SCHOOL PICK-UP PROCEDURE

Returning home by bus: Children assemble outside the Junior Room or undercover. Then a teacher will escort them to the church side gate to await pick up.

All remaining children: Will sit on the seats in front of Junior Room, until dismissal by teachers.

If you collect your child: Please park on the school side of Charlotte Street or walk across the road to collect your child. Please do not park in the bus zone.

Children will not be allowed to walk across the road unless accompanied by an adult. Children being collected by parents will be allowed to leave as soon as the teacher on duty sees the parent.

Children walking or riding bikes home leave once both buses have departed.

Rest Days in Term 1

The Kinder children attend 4 days a week having Wednesday as a rest day until Week 5, Term 1 2013.

Newsletter to Parents

A newsletter from the Principal is sent home every Tuesday with the eldest child in the family. The newsletters are numbered and will contain information about school happenings, coming events, community and parish news etc. We ask that you take the 5 mins to read the school newsletter as it has important up-coming dates.
Best Start

The purpose of the Best Start Kindergarten Assessment process is to provide information for Kindergarten teachers to:

- Build on each student’s current knowledge and experiences in literacy and numeracy
- Develop quality teaching and learning programs that support students in achieving Early Stage 1 syllabus outcomes
- Your child’s teacher will observe them individually completing a range of specially designed tasks to guide ongoing literacy and numeracy planning for teaching.

Aspects of Writing
Encourage name writing as a fun activity, e.g. finger painting on butcher’s paper, writing in dirt, painting with a wet paintbrush, etc

Concepts about Print
Show your child that English is read from left to right by running your finger underneath words as you read them together.

Phonics
Use a set of alphabet cards to play games such as Memory and Snap where the aim to have your child match letters that are the same.

Phonemic Awareness
Sing and recite rhymes and jingles with your child. Help him/her identify the words that rhyme.

Aspects of Speaking
Use any opportunity to have conversations with your child, e.g. in the car, whilst shopping. Encourage your child to use sentences when speaking.

Reading
At the supermarket or on outings talk about words - their look, sound and meaning. Point to and read labels on packets/products.

Comprehension
Look through a book with your child before reading and talk about the main events and characters. As you read the story to your child, pause at key events and ask him/her what might happen next?

Counting
Sing songs that include numbers.
Naming Numbers
Ask your child to point to numbers in story books and tell them the name of the number.

Counting Strategies
Count objects into a bucket with your child, saying each number out loud as you put the object into the bucket.

Patterning
Quickly show a playing card with one, two or three symbols on it to your child and then place the card face down. Ask your child to make or call out the number of symbols that he or she saw.

Active After School Communities Program
The AASC program is a free Australian Government initiative that provides primary school children with access to sport and structured physical activity programs after school.

The program, run at over 3200 schools and after-school care centres across Australia, gives children a positive first experience to start them on the sporting pathway.

The Australian Sports Commission manages the AASC program nationally through a countrywide network of regional coordinators who assist schools and after-school care centres to facilitate the program, recruit and train community coaches and, most importantly, forge links between children and clubs.
Communication

Each year in early Term 1, parents are invited to attend a Parent Information Evening that outlines expectations and programs for your child's class. Formal reports are sent home mid-year and end of year and formal interview opportunities are provided then. Parents are encouraged to keep in touch with the class teacher and quickly sort out any problems or queries that may arise save these matters becoming major issues or worries. Please do not hesitate to call the Principal if you have a school based issue rather than a class based worry. We can only respond if we know about it and early action can often nip things in the bud.

‘Our Transition Program’

If you would like your child to be involved in a no commitment orientation into formal schooling this is for you:

- Information Evening to be held Thursday, 29th November at 7pm at the school. An informal gathering where you can ask questions and have a tour of the school.
- ‘Our Transition Program’ offers four half day children sessions in our junior room. These days will be held on Thursday 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th November. These days will begin at 9.30am and provide an opportunity for your child to socialise with his/her peers and get a taste of ‘big school’.

If you have any questions regarding Sacred Heart please do not hesitate to call or visit.

Contact Details:

- Principal: Pat Boake
- Secretary: Therese Macdermid (Mon-Fri: 8.30-1.00pm)
- Phone: 03 5874 2371
- Fax: 03 5874 2934
- Website: www.shtww.catholic.edu.au
- email: info@shtww.catholic.edu.au
- Address: 37-45 Charlotte St.
  Tocumwal, NSW  2714
A Parent’s Prayer

Lift me up with hands that hold me steady
I am not strong enough to stand alone
yet one day I will walk the way you lead me
I am the fruit of seeds you have sown.

Touch my hand with hands that can be gentle
I am yet weak but strength has weakness too
for I have noticed sometimes when you’re smiling
you hide your tears that choke the way mine do.

Love me much for I am ever growing
my soul can dry up just like flowers that die
feed me with the love of man and nature
give me strength, and set my standards high.

Give me Justice, Freedom, and the Future
let my mind and heart stay pure
be my friends and helper while I’m learning
and - give me Time - for I am but a child….