



Welcome to 2020

McDowall State School
An Independent Public School since 2013

Achieving better outcomes for all students

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Pathways Through Curriculum



The **McDowall State School** delivers excellence in quality preparatory and primary education services. McDowall State School does not deliver child care.

The **purpose** of McDowall State School is to: (i) Implement the Australian preparatory and primary curriculum; (ii) Deliver effective professional teaching

services within a supportive school learning environment; and (iii) Facilitate achievement of personal excellence.

Our **vision** is for all students to: (a) Experience success; (b) Assume increasing levels of self-responsibility; (c) Achieve pre-determined learning outcomes; and (d) Experience a supportive learning context strengthened by partnerships.

A **Class Pathways Through Curriculum** model was established in 2017 as an overview of how McDowall State School delivers educational excellence. A copy is attached. It may be clearly seen that all students experience the Australian Curriculum through (1) Demonstration (2) Performance; and (3) Expression. Our priorities of Literacy and Numeracy are immersed within student pathways of:

- Contexts and Concepts;
- Movement, Physical Activity and Sports;
- Human Movement & Dance;
- Music; and
- Japanese Language.

These pathways are well supported by contemporary neuroscience and educational research. All McDowall State School teachers are engaged within annual **Action Research** initiatives designed to both heighten student learning outcomes and increase teacher mastery resulting in student learning. Learning both from achievement and from strategies that didn't result in desired outcomes, staff continue to explore productive opportunities that better prepare students for secondary education.

In 2020, McDowall State School will continue to evolve as a **School of Excellence**. Never satisfied, if better is possible, good is not enough!

- ❖ Mrs Helen Moore has been engaged in support of Years 1-2 teachers for three days weekly. This time will permit teachers to better know their students and target educational strategies in support of learning needs.
- ❖ Mrs Rowan Alick has been engaged to teach Strings, enabling an additional Year 3 class to learn a musical instrument. She also delivers a second Music lesson weekly to all Year 2 students, better preparing them for entry within the Instrumental Music Immersion Programme of Excellence, should they elect to do so.

At McDowall State School, we continue to:

1. Focus on the child.
2. Deliver quality curriculum.
3. Deliver effective teaching that results in student learning.
4. Support and engage within partnerships – Staff, students and parents.
5. Continually strive for the best outcomes for all our students.

- ❖ Research clearly records the scientific advantages inherently delivered by a student learning a musical instrument. Not all students want to learn a musical instrument. Research also records how these same advantages may be afforded to our students through other pathways within curriculum. Ms Kath Wedmaier has been engaged to collaborate with Years 3-6 class teachers, using action research, to ensure that all McDowall State School students achieve best possible learning outcomes.
- ❖ Ms Kath Wedmaier also delivers a second PE lesson to all Year 3 students, better preparing them for engagement within formal sports programming and North District competition from Year 4.
- ❖ Mrs Kathy Birmingham, our Guidance Officer, has been engaged for four days weekly.
- ❖ Our Teacher Librarian role is highly valued so School Library operations have been reviewed to ensure that services deliver best possible literacy investment within student learning. Still responsible for the management of the Library and Curriculum Centre resources, the Teacher Librarian position has been upgraded to a Leading Literacy Coach. Joining with class teachers as equal partners in co-operative planning, developing, teaching and evaluating resource based programmes, effectiveness, like for teachers, is measured within Action Research initiatives designed to both improve student learning outcomes and increase teacher mastery resulting in heightened standards of student learning.
- ❖ Teachers Aide role realignment to new Role Descriptions outlined within their recent EB Agreement, began last year. Teachers Aides, working increasingly in teams, will increasingly assume heightened professional responsibility and student engagement this year. This valued, skilled workforce will work in close partnership with teachers, committed to achieving student-centred targets as established annually by the Principal and School Council.

The Principal leads a staff who passionately seek to deliver formal educational opportunities to students, challenging and extending them toward learning and skill mastery, as an extension of their parents. We aspire to achieve the very best learning outcomes for all enrolled students.

School Leadership Team



Mr Bruce Fogarty



Ms Leanda Gejas



Mrs Catherine Pike



Mr David Pedwell



Ms Rebecca Fleming



Ms Vanessa Crowhurst



Mrs Devanai Naidoo

Principal	Mr Bruce Fogarty	Location: School Administration
Deputy Principal P-1	Ms Leanda Gejas	Location: PA Building. Follow pathway behind building
Deputy Principal 2-4	Mrs Catherine Pike	Location: School Administration
Deputy Principal 5-6	Mr David Pedwell	Location: School Administration
Head of Curriculum	Ms Vanessa Crowhurst	Location: Curriculum Centre – H Block
Head of Special Education	Mrs Devanai Naidoo	Location: Child Needs Building – H Block & I Block
Leading Literacy Coach	Mrs Arlene Smethurst	Location: School Library
Business Manager	Miss Rebecca Fleming	Location: School Administration

School Teaching Staff 2020

Class Teachers

PA1	Mrs Sonia Gruhler	3F1	Mrs Debbie Sexton & Mrs Kathy Oldham
PA2	Mrs Kylie Farrawell	3F2	Mrs Judith Frederick
PB1	Mrs Anna Harding	3F3	Mrs Lisa Dolan & Mrs Wendy Pedwell
PB2	Mrs Katherine Paskin	3F4	Ms Kirsten Iszlaub
PC1	Mrs Sandra Burn	3E1	Mrs Clara Jeffrey
PC2	Mrs Amanda Tully	4E2	Ms Tanya Cullen
1J1	Mrs Ann Reading & Mrs Jasmine Malmberg-Moore	4E3	Ms Jody Johnston
1J2	Mrs Megan Walker	4E4	Ms Katherine McGovern
1J3	Mrs Jenny Doyle-Brown & Mrs Justine Mowatt	4G1	Mrs Gaynor Kyle
1J4	Mrs Paula Jaques	4G2	Ms Sarah Hodgson
1J5	Ms Leisa Kingston	5G3	Mrs Ann Russell
1J6	Mrs Kathryn Taylor	5G4	Mrs Vicki Cottam
2J7	Ms Deborah Grimshaw	5D1	Mr Heath McDonald
2J8	Mrs Kris Quigg	5D2	Mrs Sally Lodder
2O1	Mrs Michelle Holland	5I2	Mrs Alison Thomas
2O2	Ms Raelee Milne	6D3	Mrs Ashleigh Jarrett
2Q1	Mrs Karen Rohdmann	6D4	Ms Kayleen Morgan
2Q2	Ms Alice Hall	6C1	Mrs Tania Williamson
3N1	Mrs Marina Nicklin	6C2	Ms Gail Blackwell
3N2	Mrs Laurel Franklin	6C3	Mr Ashley Proud
1-2	Mrs Helen Moore	6C4	Ms Lisa Henderson

Specialist Teachers

Years 3-6 Pathways	Ms Kath Wedmaier	Strings & Music	Mrs Rowan Alick
Physical Education	Mr Paul Henderson	Japanese	Mr Gavin Turner-Moorcroft
Human Movement & Dance	Ms Ashlee Murphy	Japanese	Mrs Lesley Bauer
Music	Ms Alaine Woodruff	Child Needs & EALD	Mrs Naomi Thistlethwaite
Wind, Brass, Percussion	Mrs Erin Gyte	Child Needs / Special Ed	To be advised
Wind, Brass, Percussion	Mrs Christine Jabs	Special Education	Ms Rebecca Robinson
Wind, Brass, Percussion	Ms Sue Berti	Speech Language	Ms Sue Collecutt
Strings	Mrs Kathryn Payne	Guidance Officer	Mrs Kathy Bermingham

School Assemblies

Prep - Year 2: WEDNESDAY
8.30am-9.00am - School Hall.

Years 3-6: MONDAY
9.00am-9.30am - School Hall.

Parents are welcome to attend, using seats to the rear of the School Hall.

School Uniform

Students are expected to wear their school uniform each school day. Should only one uniform be purchased, it must be the 'Tartan Uniform'. School Uniform variations apply for Sporting Houses, Sports, Instrumental Music, Preparatory Year and Year 6. Please click here for the [Student Dress Code \(PDF 0.6MB\)](#), which is also available on our website.

Student Information Update

Have you changed address or perhaps your phone number? Do you need to change the Emergency Contact information held at School Administration because someone is no longer available? Has your child's medical information changed? Have you updated your child's medication records? (Required annually) Please provide any 'legal' documents pertaining to child custody. Please advise School Administration as soon as possible.



Planned Student Absence

Class teachers are required to complete Class Rolls, stating reasons for student absence. Please leave a recorded message for School Administration on **Tel: 3872 5366 by 10am** or send a note addressed to the class teacher advising them of both the anticipated absence and the reason for absence.

School Watch

Tel: 13 1788



See a strange presence or activity within the school grounds out-of-hours? There are people who do not value the efforts and endeavours of parent volunteers and the out-of-hours work of staff, in making **Our Great State School** the place that it is for student learning.

Our students deserve the best that we can provide them. Trespassing vandals deserve prosecution and financial penalty. **Phone 13 1788** for police attendance.

Parent Involvement at School

A sincere thank you to our P&C Association volunteers who provided a wonderful Day 1, Welcome Morning Tea in K Block for parents. A sincere thank you to all parents for preparing your children for a successful start to the school year. A hearty welcome is extended to all new parents and their families. Your children have settled well and have made many new friends. We are confident that other parents will befriend you and extend the hand of friendship, just as classmates are doing to your child.

There are many ways that parents, grandparents and carers may become involved within the school experience. It is simply a matter of letting the class teacher, School Administration or the particular activity co-ordinator know of your availability. Interested? Please let us know.

Classroom Helpers

It is early days yet, but class teachers will establish programmes that should be supported by parent volunteers. Eg. Hearing children read, checking home reader books, working with small groups of children, preparing materials and resources, etc.



Teachers will let you know when and how this may occur. Our daily school timetable is highly regulated, so unfortunately, time flexibility may not be possible. It is also expected that should you wish to assist within the class programme that your commitment is long-term and you are able to advise in advance of any inability to attend.

Library Volunteers

The School Library is always seeking an extra pair of hands, to shelve books and prepare new resources for use within the school. Book Club is offered to students regularly during the school year. Speak with Mrs Arlene Smethurst or the Teachers Aide on duty within the School Library.

Tuckerbox

The Tartan Tuckerbox, (Ask for Annette at the Tartan Tuckerbox) or School Uniform Shop (Ask for Karen) would both enthusiastically welcome parents who could assist in any way. This is a fantastic way of meeting other parents and families.

School Banking

School Banking is conducted each Wednesday. If you can assist, please speak with Mrs Zeffy Brown through School Administration.

Performing Arts Programme

Should you wish to assist or work behind the scenes in support of music, choirs, band ensembles or dance, please let Ms Crowhurst (Head of Curriculum) know in H Block.

P&C Association

The Parents' and Citizens' Association is both the parents' forum and business arm of the school. Staff and government resources deliver a core and highly regulated educational service delivery (eg. Australian Curriculum). The additional services and experiences that we have all come to expect and enjoy within our school, are managed and delivered by the P&C Association. A strong, well supported P&C Association is crucial if parents continue to expect school development in facilities, programmes, equipment and experiences. The P&C Association is a collective of parent volunteers. The P&C Association operates the Tartan Tuckerbox, Uniform Shop and Out-of-School Hours Care. Membership forms are available from the school website and can be lodged either through School Administration or with a P&C Association Officer.

P&C Association Annual General Meeting

The McDowall State School P&C Association Annual General Meeting will be held in K Block (OSHC) on Monday 24th February, 2020 from 7pm.

School Date Claimers

Date Claimers are still being finalised. They will be published and issued to parents as a separate document within the next fortnight. Date Claimers are issued to assist parents in working around existing commitments. The most current Date Claimers will always be found on page 1 of the Tartan Times.

McDowall Magic & Flying Gang Cards

Staff are on the look-out to "catch" students behaving well and 'doing the right thing'. Staff present students with a McDowall Magic Card, telling them why they are being thanked. The student places their name and class details onto the card and places it into a Year Level box. On Friday, three student names are drawn from the box for special mention at assembly. With a minimum of three cards required, a student with the most number of cards placed within their Year Level box, is sent to the Principal for a special prize acknowledgement.

Staff are also on the look-out to "thank" parents for volunteering within their Year Level class programmes. Staff present parents with a McDowall Flying Gang Card. The parent places their name and class details onto the card and places it into a Year Level box. On Friday, three parent names are drawn from the box for special mention at assembly. Please note: All parent volunteers are required to sign in and out through School Administration or PA Block.

Student Leadership Badge Presentation

Monday 24th February, 2020 from 8.55am. School Hall.
Parents are welcome to attend. A morning tea will follow.

Remembrance Square Opening

Monday 24th February, 2020 from 9.40am. A Time Capsule will be buried. It will be retrieved in 2035. Parents are welcome to attend. A morning tea will follow.

Coronavirus Information Statement

Please find attached both a Letter to Parents (originally forwarded on 28th January, 2020) and an Information Statement from the Queensland Government. Should you require further information, please access the contacts listed.

Transition Statements

Each November, Early Childhood Services prepare a Transition Statement for each child. These Transition Statements are an invaluable source of information for Preparatory Year teachers, allowing them to better adjust academic expectations to child readiness. The Preparatory Year is an extension of formal, structured education. The Preparatory Year is very different to Kindy or Child Care. Transition Statements provide a snapshot of a child's knowledge, skills and dispositions across the five learning development areas of the Queensland Kindergarten Learning Guide.

Parents are requested to ensure that their child's Transition Statement is received at McDowall State School Administration, to Mrs Leanda Gejas DP P-1 or is sent to: transitions@mcdowallss.eq.edu.au

Parent Teacher Meetings

Monday 10th February, 2020

4.30pm – 5.25pm ... Year 2 & Year 3.
5.30pm – 6.25pm ... Preparatory Year.
6.30pm – 7.25pm ... Year 1.

Thursday 13th February, 2020

4.30pm – 5.25pm ... Year 4 & Year 5.
5.30pm – 6.25pm ... Year 6.

Student Enrolments 2021

Student Applications for Enrolment for 2021 are now being received at McDowall State School Administration. McDowall State School is currently operating close to capacity meaning that out-of-catchment enrolments are increasingly restricted, especially across P-3. Out-of-catchment enrolments will only be considered should vacancies occur. Due to student transience, vacancies are likely to occur across Years 4-6 and should out-of-catchment enrolments be considered, priority is afforded to students meeting the threshold requirements for entry into the McDowall State School Instrumental Music Immersion Programme of Excellence. All out-of-catchment Applications for Enrolment are date and time stamped when received at School Administration.

Before School

Preparatory Year students are becoming familiar with the formal school setting for the first time. It is understandable that many parents want to attend, ensuring that their child is settled within the school day and that these same children are safely collected after 2.30pm.

Years 1-6 students are already familiar with the school and are developmentally capable of independently entering the school and preparing for the school day. Years 1-6 are capable of meeting parents at the school gate, at a set location near to the school or at a bus stop.

Students residing within the immediate area around the school should walk or ride their bike to / from school. Walking to / from school may become a healthy family routine.

- ▶ P-2 classes begin instruction within class from **8.20am**.
- ▶ The electronic bell sounds at **8.15am**.
- ▶ It is strongly recommended that P-2 students arrive at school at **8.10am**.

Preparatory Year students assemble under either large covered area and await teacher collection.



The two Preparatory Covered Areas

Year 1-2 students assemble, seated in class lines (no handball, no games) beneath the large 'animal mural' covered area. A Teachers Aide monitors this area from 8am so parents may promptly depart the school. Class teachers attend to collect their classes by 8.15am.

- ▶ Years 3 to 6 classes begin instruction within class at **8.50am**.
- ▶ The electronic beeper sounds at **8.45am**.
- ▶ It is strongly recommended that Yrs 3-6 students arrive at school after **8.15am**.

Year 3 students assemble seated in allocated class lines (no handball, no games) beneath the large 'animal mural' covered area. A Teachers Aide monitors this area from 8am so parents may promptly depart the school. Class teachers attend to collect their classes by 8.45am.



'Animal Mural' Covered Area for Years 1-2 and 3

Years 4-6 students assemble seated in allocated class lines or designated areas (no handball, no games) beneath the large 'school emblem' covered area. A Teachers Aide monitors this area from 8am so parents may promptly depart the school. Class teachers attend to collect their classes by 8.45am.

- ▶ Students are not permitted to wander around the school nor to wait outside classrooms.
- ▶ **From 8.30am**, Year 6 students may be dismissed to relocate between C & D Blocks, under informal Year 6 teacher supervision. Class teachers attend to collect their classes from 8.30am.
- ▶ Parents and visitors are to walk the circumference of the covered areas, not through seated students please.
- ▶ All students are expected to be seated until 8.45am, whether or not, their parent is present.



'School Emblem' Covered Area for Years 4 to 6.

After School

Upon dismissal from class (P-2 @ 2.30pm or Yrs 3-6 @ 3pm) students are expected to punctually progress to Out-of-School Hours Care, to the Kiss-and-Ride Facility assembly point, to the BCC Bus assembly point, to where their parent is waiting for them or home. Please depart the school grounds as soon as possible, thus making Years 3-6 parent access easier from 2.50pm. If unsure what to do, all students are instructed to attend School Administration.

Class teachers do not keep students in. Students are not to be found playing under covered areas.

Between 2.30pm-3pm, Years 3-6 (Senior School) students are still under instruction. Parents and young children may **quietly sit** and **wait** under the 'animal mural covered area' and the 'school emblem covered area'. Noise must be kept to a minimum. These are not a play areas.

Children must remain under parent supervision, not playing near classrooms. Noise and movement distracts Years 3-6 students from their studies. Teachers may use covered areas between E/F Blocks and C/D Blocks as part of their programme. Parents and young children are welcome to wait under oval covered areas where small games may be played (Not in the Kiss-and-Ride Facility Waiting Area).

P-1 Play Equipment Area is not a public park. It was constructed and provided to meet the physical developmental learning needs of P-1 students during recess periods. If waiting the dismissal of Years 3-6 siblings, P-1 children may use the P-1 play equipment but only under direct supervision of their parent/s.

A decline in student numbers using BCC buses has been noted over recent years. These students are supervised until bus departure. Please peruse School Bus Routes in your residential area. Please use an available service if at all possible.

Parking

Parking is extremely limited around the McDowall State School. Parents and other drivers of vehicles are expected to abide by road rules, law and road signage. During peak traffic times, drivers must be patient, alert to child movement and considerate to local residents. School staff will not direct, attempt to regulate or manage vehicles using public roads and infrastructure. Instead, matters are referred to the Brisbane City Council and Police Service for enforcement and the issuing of fines.



Parents need to pre-plan how their child/ren will safely access the school and instruct them how to do this. It is wise to inspect street signage and road markings on a week-end to support such family planning. Please ensure grandparents and extended family know of parking restrictions. It is wise to find a suitable parking area perhaps a block or two away from the school and walk the final distance. (Park-and-stride).

- ▶ There is no parent parking available within the school grounds. Only staff may park within the school grounds.
- ▶ Parking is not permitted within the Kiss-and-Ride (Set down & Pick-up) Lane. The driver must remain within the vehicle and should the child be delayed, relocate the vehicle.

- ▶ Parking is not permitted along the Rode Road school frontage from 7am-9am and 2pm-4pm. The driver must remain within and move the vehicle within the queue.
- ▶ Being in a hurry or for 'personal convenience' is not an excuse for blocking a driveway nor putting other road users or pedestrian safety at risk. Parents are asked to consider the lifestyle and be courteous to local residents by not blocking driveways or parking on private property.
- ▶ A Bus Service arrives at the McDowall State School Bus Stop at approximately 3.05pm. Kiss-and-Ride Facility vehicles in queue must not block bus access and departure from the bus stop.
- ▶ It is inconsiderate to use the Foambark Street traffic lights as a means to 'jump the queue' in accessing the Kiss-and-Ride Facility between 3.05pm – 3.15pm. Students are supervised until 3.30pm so please manage your arrival time accordingly.

Solutions

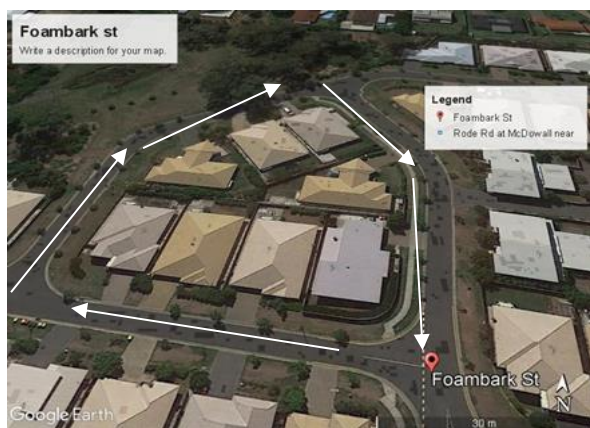
- ▶ Please expect to park a number of residential blocks away and walk the distance between your car and the school. Parking is extremely restricted and regulated around the school. Please take time to familiarise yourself with traffic and parking signage.
- ▶ Students should be expected to walk to the school gate, attend Out-of-School Age Care or walk to the Kiss-and-Ride Facility supervised area, in preference to parents parking on local area streets and entering the school for student pick up.
- ▶ Contact Translink and consider accessing local bus services (teacher-aide supervised until 3.30pm).
- ▶ Car pool with neighbours.
- ▶ Park-and-Stride (from a few blocks away from the school).



Two Clock-Wise Street Circuits

During peak morning and afternoon (7am-9am / 2pm-4pm) periods, Brisbane City Council and McDowall SS Community promote one way traffic flow within both Foambark Street and Metro Street circuits.

Foambark Street Circuit *Clockwise Flow*



Metro Street Circuit *Clockwise Flow*



- Please park on the left side of the one way street circuit to maximise traffic flow and safety.
- Do not park on the yellow line, even briefly to let your child out of the vehicle.
- Do not use either Foambark Street or Metro Street to conduct a U-turn.
- Please demonstrate courtesy toward other road users and local residents. Carefully consider the implications of how you drive, where you walk and park; and what you model to children.

Kiss-and-Ride Set Down & Pick Up

Brisbane City Council provides a School Car Park / Kiss-and-Ride Lane beside the school oval for McDowall State School student set-down and pick-up. Signage specifies the parking time limit. The car park is located beside Rode Road. Parents and drivers are expected to accompany their child/ren to and from any vehicle located within the car park. Staff are not permitted to do so.

The Kiss-and-Ride Lane is a one way curb side child set-down and pick-up lane located beside the school fence line. Neither parking nor extended stopping is permitted in this lane. If a child is delayed, the vehicle must be driven to a car park location. The Kiss-and-Ride Lane is for through-traffic.

- ▶ **Only vehicles collecting P-2 students are to enter the Kiss-and-Ride Facility from 2.15pm-2.55pm.**
- ▶ **All other vehicles collecting Yrs 3-6 students are to enter the Kiss-and-Ride Facility after 2.55pm.**

- ▶ P-2 students will not arrive at the Kiss-and-Ride Facility before 2.40pm.
- ▶ Yrs 3-6 students will not arrive at the Kiss-and-Ride Facility before 3.05pm.
- ▶ Staff provide supervision of students waiting at the Kiss-and-Ride Facility from 2.40pm-3pm and again from 3pm-3.30pm.
- ▶ **It is neither considerate nor appropriate to arrive early, blocking the Kiss-and-Ride Lane, for an extended period of time, preventing other vehicular access.**

Between 2.30pm and 3.15pm, the Kiss-and-Ride Facility is heavily used. This results in a long queue along Rode Road beside the school.

- ▶ Parking is not permitted in these bays. The driver is not permitted to leave their vehicle. This is a vehicle queue and vehicles must move in line.
- ▶ Bus access to the bus stop must not be blocked.
- ▶ No vehicle is permitted to stop on the regulated crossing (part of the traffic lights) in front of the school.
- ▶ Police will fine vehicles entering the regulated intersection (marked between the chevrons) and stopping.
- ▶ Yes, it is convenient to access the Kiss-and-Ride Lane (because the driver doesn't need to exit the vehicle to collect their child) but it seems silly to extend a long queue of traffic along Rode Road, while car parks are remaining vacant within the Kiss-and-Ride Facility. If car parks are vacant, please pull out of the Kiss-and-Ride Lane queue and access the vacant car parks.

- ▶ **Watch for children.**
- ▶ **Comply with Road Rules.**
- ▶ **Be patient.**
- ▶ **Plan your arrival time.**
- ▶ **Be considerate of local residents (don't block driveways)**
- ▶ **Use Out of School Hours Care.**
- ▶ **Tell your child where to safely wait.**
- ▶ **Tell your child to attend School Administration if you are ever late.**

Traffic Lights



McDowall State School students are instructed to press the button and wait back from the curb, until the green person glows, should they want to cross Rode Road. They are instructed to walk on the bitumen, watching the surrounding vehicles, being able to safely get out of the way, should a driver "run a red light".

The green person will change to a red flashing person before a pedestrian can cross Rode Road. The red flashing person means that no further pedestrians are to step onto the bitumen but it is safe for pedestrians on the crossing to continue to the next curb.

P&C Association AGM 2020

The McDowall State School Parents' and Citizens' Association Executive will meet on Monday 17th February, 2020 from 6pm at School Administration.

The McDowall State School Parents' and Citizens' Association will hold its **Annual General Meeting** on Monday 24th February, 2020 from 7pm in K Block. All Committee and Sub-Committee endorsed/audited Reports are due at School Administration by Thursday 20th February for compilation and publishing. Annual Reports and audited financial statements will be presented during the AGM. Following the endorsement of reports, all P&C Association Executive positions are declared vacant and nominations are called for 2020. A General Meeting will follow the AGM at approximately 8pm.

An earnest and sincere thank you is expressed to the McDowall State School P&C Association Executive and membership for a very productive and successful partnership in furthering the development of our **Great State School**. To parents considering an active role within the P&C Association in 2020, please refer to the information on the P&C Qld website. www.pandcsqld.com.au Please discuss your interest with a standing P&C Association member or attend School Administration. We'll pass your contact details on. All P&C Association memberships lapse at the AGM. Parents need to annually re-apply for membership.

School Construction 2020

Japanese Classroom Construction

From 2020, all schools are expected to **fully** implement the Australian Curriculum. This means that a language other than English is to be taught P-6. McDowall State School began teaching Japanese P-6 from 2019. Two Japanese teachers are engaged but due to school enrolment demand, neither have a classroom resource base. Tenders were issued during January, 2020 for the construction (completion) of the Japanese classroom and School Groundsman's Shed. It is anticipated that these projects will be completed by Easter, 2020.

Classroom Air Conditioning

The Queensland Government have plans to complete the installation of air conditioning in all remaining classrooms. As this project is being externally managed, firm time frames are yet to be advised. The McDowall State School P&C Association needs to be acknowledged for their significant annual investment achieving not only existing air conditioning installation but assisting with equipment repair and replacement. Your P&C Association has been diligently working on behalf of all parents, to ensure that all classrooms are air conditioned.

PA Building Eave Repair - Thursday

During a routine school safety inspection, the Principal noticed a small depression in the eave panel outside PA Building on Thursday. This area is suspected to contain asbestos material. As is policy, the area was immediately isolated until inspected by a qualified (QBuild endorsed) contractor. A formal (generic) letter was forwarded in the interests of transparency to all parents. The eave indentation was patched and the area certified as being safe. The entire area was then returned into full use by staff, students and parents.

In visiting our Great State School, and you notice something that may be broken or damaged, please report this to School Administration as soon as possible. Asbestos is being systematically removed from school facilities over time but in the meantime, its management is taken very seriously!