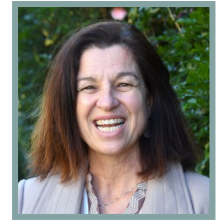


10 FEBRUARY 2025

**Term 1 Week 3**

- 18 Feb—Parent Information Evening (5.30—7pm)
- 18 Feb—Open Night at Cromehurst Cottage (7–8pm)

# Cromehurst News



## Principal’s Message

Welcome to Term 1 Week 3.

It has been lovely to see all of our students settling back in at Cromehurst for another school year.

I would like to make a special welcome to the following children and their families who are starting at Cromehurst for the first time this term:

- Noel in Aqua class
- Jonathan in Yellow class
- Hin Hin in White class.

You will see photos of our new students further in the newsletter. It is lovely to see how they have settled into their new school. I hope that all of our families had a nice Christmas and an enjoyable break.

Congratulations to all White class students, as well as Riley, DeAngelo, and Harry, on their successful transition to the senior playground and their participation in senior group activities. A big thank you to the staff for preparing the students with social stories to ensure a smooth transition for everyone.

**Welcome to our new staff**—I would like to welcome our new staff to Cromehurst school:

- Emily in Rainbow class
- Rhiannon and Li-Wu in Purple class
- Kiara in White class
- Alex in Orange class on Wednesdays.

**New School Year 2025**—Our new students, along with our returning students, have all settled in well to their new classes and are happily engaged in all learning activities. A friendly reminder to all parents to please label lunchboxes, drink bottles, jumpers, and hats to ensure that lost items can be returned to the correct child.

**Parent Information Evening, Tuesday 18 February**—Please keep the date free for our special Parent/Carer Information Evening on Tuesday, 18 February, from 5:00–7:00pm. This meeting will outline the focus and programs for your child this year and provide an opportunity for parents to connect with other families. Please mark the date in your diary. We look forward to seeing you there!

**Inside this issue:**

<i>Principal’s Message</i>	1-4
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## Principal Message (continued)

**Communication**—Every Monday we will send home via email our school’s newsletter – the Cromehurst News. Please take the time to read the school newsletter to keep you informed of the exciting activities and learning occurring at Cromehurst and to remind you of the important events coming up during the term.

We use [School Bytes](#) (who now also have an app) for correspondence, attendance, online payments and forms. If you need help setting up your School Bytes parent portal or app, please contact the office who can send through instructions and help you get started. It is a very important way for the school to communicate with parents.

If you need to share something related to your child’s school day, please communicate directly with the office, as teachers may not be able to check emails during class. The office will pass the message on. You can contact the office between 8:30am and 3:30pm via email at [cromehurst-s.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:cromehurst-s.school@det.nsw.edu.au), by phone at 9416 9293, or through School Bytes

**P&C**— Our school has a lovely parent body (the P&C). It is a very small group and they will be looking for more parents to join them this year. They meet just once a term, and it is an opportunity for parents to connect socially and to contribute to discussions about our school. Please contact the school if you would like to be involved in the P&C and we will pass your details onto our President.

**Attendance**—Classes at Cromehurst School start at 9am and finish at 2.45pm. Please make sure you arrive between 8.45am and 9am so that students are ready to start class on time. It is less disruptive for your child, and helps your child settle in well to their school routine if they can arrive before the bell. It is also less disruptive to your child’s class. If you are collecting your child from school, they need to be collected each day between 2.45pm and 3pm. Please do not arrive after 3pm as your child can get very upset when they are the only one left at school. If you would like permission for your child to attend therapy during school hours, please send an email to school requesting a change in school times.

Finally, if your child is sick, please use your School Bytes parent portal or app to complete an absentee notification. Alternatively, you can email or call the school to advise the reason that your child will be absent from school that day. All unexplained absences will be followed up by the office if we have not heard from you as to why your child is not at school.

Attendance matters! Attendance is compulsory at all public schools and we hope to see your children at school every day, unless they are sick.

### Upcoming Events

- General permission notes and school fees will be sent home this week, please fill in these forms and return to school as soon as possible. Thank you.
- Parent IEP and ITP meetings will be arranged with your class teacher - dates will be sent home early in the term to attend these meetings.

### External providers/therapists:

If you would like a therapist to come in for weekly school visits with your child, please fill out a Parent Therapy Request Form (which can be found on School Bytes). Later in this newsletter there is a flowchart that we follow for all visiting external providers. Once the request form is submitted, our Learning Support Team will review/approve the request, the therapist will be screened, then the teacher will contact the therapist to discuss the service provided and organise a time for the therapy to occur at school. Please note that it is the parent’s responsibility to let the therapist know if your child is sick and will not be at school on that day, if your child goes home sick from school/picked up early or if therapy is unable to occur due to a school event/excursion.

## Principal Message (continued)

**Literacy/Curriculum** —This year, Dawn has stepped into the role of our new literacy teacher. She is excited to be working with the teachers and students across the school on the new English syllabus and on embedding the Passport for Learning assessment into class programs to enhance our students learning. We will provide more information on Dawn's exciting new teaching role at the information night and at the first P&C meeting.

**School Behaviour Support and Management Plan**—The School Behaviour Support and Management Plan outlines how we encourage positive behaviour and address inappropriate behaviour at our school. Here are the main points:

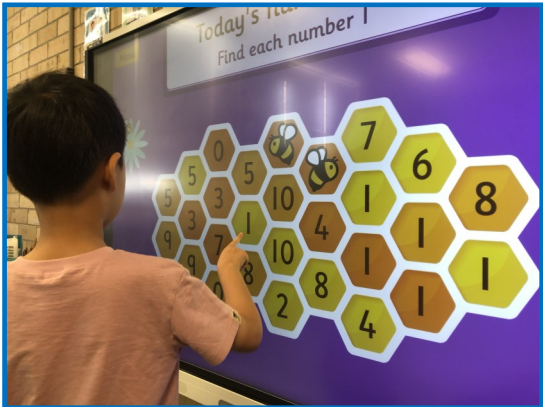
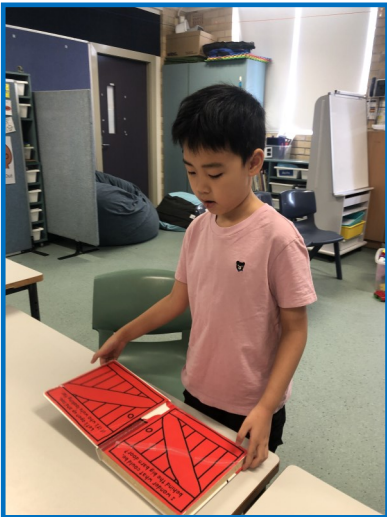
- **Behaviour Expectations:** Clear guidelines on acceptable and unacceptable behaviours.
- **Support Strategies:** Approaches to encourage good behaviour, including rewards for positive actions.
- **Intervention Procedures:** Steps to take when students don't meet expectations, including consequences and support.
- **Roles and Responsibilities:** The roles of teachers, staff, students, and parents in fostering a positive school environment and addressing behaviour concerns.
- **Communication:** How the plan will be shared and feedback collected from all involved.
- **Monitoring and Review:** How we will track the plan's effectiveness and make necessary adjustments.

The plan is available on the school website so that all parents and carers can easily access it. This allows you to see our approach and stay informed on how we support their child's behaviour and development.

Melinda

# Principal Message (continued)

## Our new Cromehurst School students





# Orange Class

Welcome to a fantastic new school year in Orange Class! We've had a wonderful start, with everyone settling in and eagerly getting back into our classroom routine. Last week, we focused on becoming familiar with our daily schedule, starting our desk work tasks, and making new friends.

This term, our theme is **"Summertime Fun."** We'll be exploring the season of summer, learning about different summer activities, what to wear, and how to stay safe in the sun and heat.

In **PDHPE**, we are exploring the topic **"Hello World"**. Students will explore our school's PBEL expectations by practising greetings, identifying facial features unique to them, and recognising different facial expressions that show feelings like "good" and "bad."

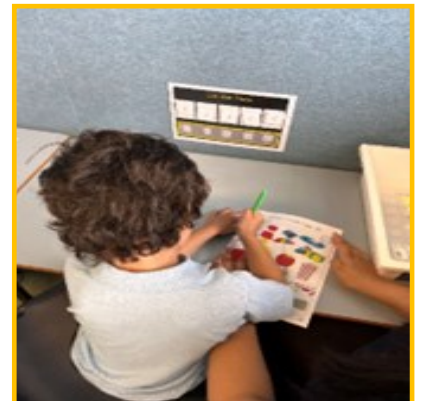
On Wednesdays, **Alex and Allison** will be reading the much-loved story *Room on the Broom*, bringing exciting storytelling sessions to our week with fun activities to follow.

We're also looking forward to our **swim school program** which begins soon—a great opportunity for students to build water confidence and safety skills.

In **Maths**, we'll be focusing on **number, position, and the concepts of "same" and "different"**.

It's shaping up to be an exciting and engaging term, and we can't wait for all the learning and fun ahead!

Melanie, Alex, and Allison



# General News

## Return & Earn

We would love for you to join us in recycling! Simply take a screenshot of this barcode and scan it at any Return and Earn Collection point to recycle your eligible bottles and cans.

Location of Return and Earn Collection points can be found on this website:  
<https://returnandearn.org.au/map/>

Thank you for supporting our school and the environment!



# Cottage News



## **The Cromehurst Cottage**

The Cromehurst Foundation is a registered charity providing essential facilities, resources and programs for children and adults with an intellectual disability who attend or have previously attended Cromehurst School.

One of the essential facilities is an independent living skills program conducted in The Cromehurst Cottage in Tryon Road, Lindfield (next to the school). Past and present students of Cromehurst School live in during the week and learn many of the skills essential for daily living, such as cooking, cleaning, shopping and personal care as a complement to their school programs. This program provides a much-needed resource for children and adults with intellectual disabilities.

Eligible students are able to go to the Cottage straight from school, have an afternoon tea or dinner and can also stay overnight. When staying overnight, the Cottage Co-ordinator will walk the student to school the next morning. The Cottage allows our students to practise social skills and life skills. You are welcome to visit the Cottage on our Open Evening being held on 18 February from 7pm-8.30pm (just after the Parent Information Evening concludes). Please see the invitation on page 8.

Sadly our current Cottage Co-ordinator, Kylie, will be leaving the Cottage to take up a new role. It would be lovely if you could attend our Open Evening to farewell Kylie and welcome our new Cottage Co-ordinator, India.



## Cottage News (continued)



### INVITATION

**Farewell to Kylie and  
welcome to India (our new  
Educator) at the Cromehurst  
Cottage.**

**Come and enjoy pizzas**

**TUESDAY, 18<sup>TH</sup> FEB**

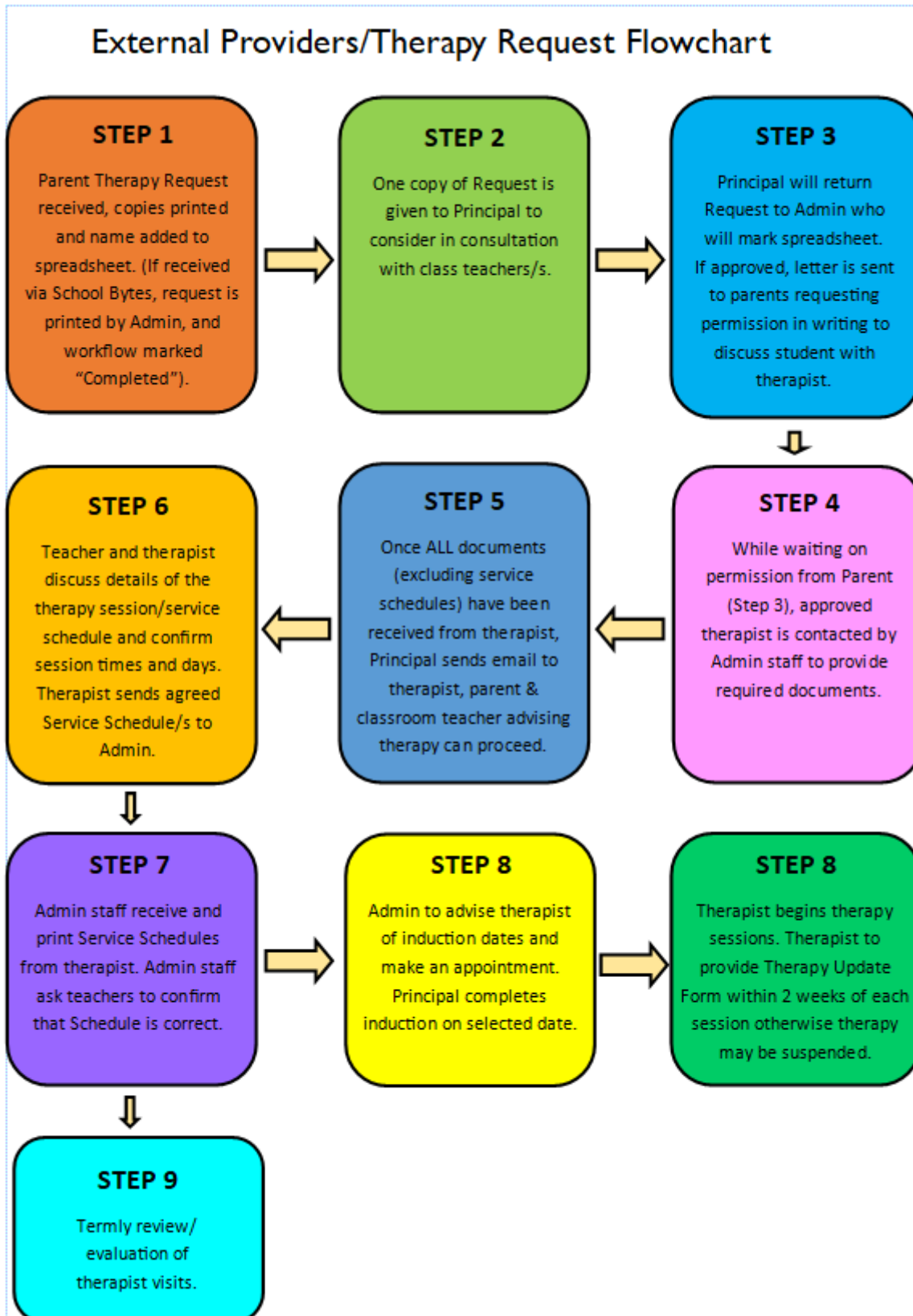
**26 Tryon Rd, Lindfield  
7pm to 8.30pm**

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**RSVP TO: Merren Carter by 16<sup>th</sup> Feb  
[jcarter@bigpond.net.au](mailto:jcarter@bigpond.net.au)**



# Notes





## Compulsory school attendance

### | Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

### What are my Legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age of 17 years. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the NSW Education and Standards Authority for home schooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

### The Importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

### What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

# Notes (continued)

## NSW Department of Education

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

### Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.

### My child won't go to school what should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

### What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- **Compulsory Schooling Conferences**

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- **Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order**

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department may apply to the Children's Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- **Prosecution in the Local Court**

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

### What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

### Working in Partnership

The NSW Department of Education recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.



# Notes (continued)

NSW Department of Education

## Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...



### More information

Further Information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

#### Policy, information and brochures:

Please visit the Department of Education's Policy Library AND The Department's Attendance Matters Website

#### The school leaving age:

Please visit the Department of Education's Wellbeing and Learning website

#### Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on **131 450**. You will not be charged for this service.



## Notes (continued)

NSW Department of Education



# Calendar 2025

## Eastern division

### January

M	T	W	T	F	Sa	Su
			1	2	3	4 5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	.....	

### February

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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

### March

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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

### April

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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

### May

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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

### June

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						1
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

### July

M	T	W	T	F	Sa	Su
			1	2	3	4
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

### August

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					1	2
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

### September

M	T	W	T	F	Sa	Su
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

### October

M	T	W	T	F	Sa	Su
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

### November

M	T	W	T	F	Sa	Su
					1	2
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

### December

M	T	W	T	F	Sa	Su
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## Key dates

Check with your school as starting and finishing dates may change.



### First to last days for all students:

Term 1: 6 February to 11 April  
 Term 2: 30 April to 4 July  
 Term 3: 22 July to 26 September  
 Term 4: 14 October to 19 December



### School development days:

Term 1: 31 January to 5 February

Term 2: 28 April and 29 April  
 Term 3: 21 July  
 Term 4: 13 October



### School holidays:

Summer 2024-25: 22 December 2024 to 30 January 2025  
 Autumn: 14 April to 24 April  
 Winter: 7 July to 18 July

Spring: 29 September to 10 October  
 Summer 2025-26: 22 December 2025 to 26 January 2026



### Public holidays



### School development days

The dates are determined by the department. Always check with your local school as dates may change. Parents and carers should not send their children to school on school development days.

[education.nsw.gov.au/school-development-days](https://education.nsw.gov.au/school-development-days)

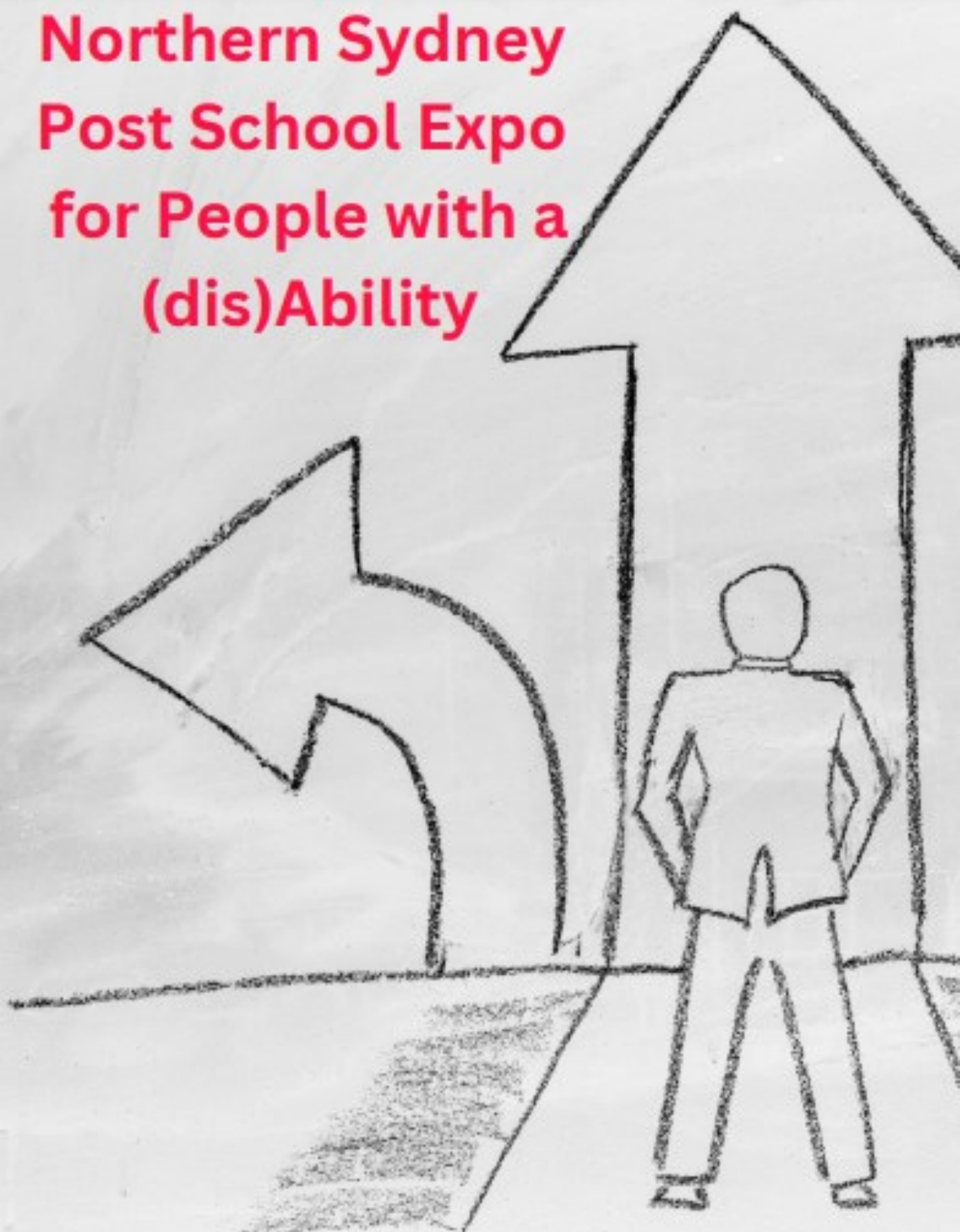


### Scan me for key dates

[education.nsw.gov.au/calendars](https://education.nsw.gov.au/calendars)

What's On

**Northern Sydney  
Post School Expo  
for People with a  
(dis)Ability**



**Wednesday 7 May 2025 10:30am - 2:30pm  
Hornsby RSL**