Welcome to Hannam Vale Public School - a school where each child is encouraged to succeed, guided by professional and caring staff, excellent learning programs, a highly supportive parent group and local community. Choosing to send your child to Hannam Vale Public School is a great way to start your child’s education!

We provide a stimulating and challenging environment where students can achieve their potential. Hannam Vale is a dynamic school built upon a commitment to providing excellence in education. This Prospectus will give some ideas and suggestions for preparing you and your child for school and necessary information throughout the year.

A secure and friendly environment...

Hannam Vale Public School has friendly and welcoming environment. Children at the school feel safe and secure. The smiles on student’s faces are a clear indication that Hannam Vale is a happy, caring and safe school. The school is committed to building self-esteem in students and working with parents and students to ensure both responsible behaviour and a strong sense of community pride.
Excellence in literacy and numeracy...

Hannam Vale Public School has a strong commitment to literacy and numeracy. Our experienced teaching staff are kept abreast of current teaching practices through regular professional development. Our school caters for the individual needs of all students within our K-6 classroom. Hannam Vale Public School presents quality literacy programs, using Soundwaves phonics across school, Multi-Lit Program, Accelerated Literacy and has demonstrated success in all aspects of the Literacy Continuum.

Numeracy programs at Hannam Vale Public School are implemented through a carefully sequenced program based on the North Coast curriculum. The numeracy program is based on principles of Count Me In Too, Targeting Early Numeracy Strategies and Working Mathematically, keeping an eye on trends in NAPLAN focus. Each student’s mathematical learning is sequential, moving carefully along the Numeracy Continuum. Fast Maths is a daily undertaking.

Technology that prepares every student for the future....

Hannam Vale Public School has up-to-the-minute technology programs, having interactive hardware, connected classroom and videoconferencing facilities. The school has a fully managed computer network with computers currently available for every student, students in Years 3 – 6 have wireless laptops. Students have access to a vast array of hardware and software. Technology plays an integral role in the development of literacy and numeracy skills across the key learning areas for all students. Technology is a vital component of the curriculum from Kindergarten to Year 6.

Where your child will be treated as an individual...

All Hannam Vale Public School teachers pride themselves in ensuring that mandatory curriculum and curriculum requirements are met, and that each student is taught using strategies that cater for individual learning styles. The school has a focus on technology that has carried across the curriculum. Across all teaching programs is a strong commitment to multicultural, environmental and community perspectives. The school has a supportive community where students, parents, carers, teachers and the broader community work together to foster the understanding of different cultural customs and values. Our Values Program is embedded into daily activities and programs.

Professional and caring teachers...

The emotional, social and intellectual well being of all students is extremely important to our teachers. We believe in providing programs that cater for the “whole child”. Developing each child’s emotional intelligence and resilience is paramount at Hannam Vale Public School.

Hannam Vale Public School takes pride in delivering an excellent education in a warm and nurturing environment. The teachers are familiar with the Every Student Every School initiative, and are highly trained, caring individuals who are committed to helping all students reach their full potential.

An innovative school of the future...

Hannam Vale Public School proudly reflects the historical nature of the Hannam Vale community. Our teachers are committed to the tenet of life-long learning. Hannam Vale Public School is an innovative school community where staff and students are continually evaluating and changing approaches to
learning to ensure that programs are cutting edge, in line with National Curriculum Guidelines and outcomes.

A dynamic school community

One of the things that makes Hannam Vale such a dynamic learning community is the high level of involvement and support from parents, carers and other community members. The school values actively encourage parents and community members to support teaching and learning programs including student reading, spelling and maths resource development and sporting engagements. Teachers and parents are given regular opportunities to discuss student progress and develop ways to further support the educational goals of their children. The school has a cohesive, welcoming and proactive parent and Citizens Association which meets once a month on a Friday 8.30 am.

Active and healthy students...

The Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE) curriculum and Premier’s Sporting Challenge provides structured opportunities for all students to enjoy regular physical exercise. The emphasis is on participation and enjoyment.

The Live Life Well @ School program implemented at the school is a joint program of the NSW Department of Education and Communities (DEC) and NSW Health. The program aims to enhance student’s knowledge, skills and confidence in nutrition education and physical activity (including fundamental movement skills) as part of the K-6 Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE) syllabus. The program promotes “whole school” initiatives such as daily Crunch ‘n Sip at 10.00 am, consistent with classroom practice and school policies and encourages community links.

Students learn to acquire coordination skills through physical movements and develop physical fitness through endurance, flexibility and strengthening activities. Children regularly participate in circuits, endurance runs and use fixed equipment and games.

The school is fortunate to have excellent outdoor facilities. These include a large oval (incorporating a soccer field) tennis and basketball courts, fixed play equipment, sandpit (under renovation), a covered seating area and large open outdoor spaces surrounded by shade trees. Students participate in swimming, athletics and cross country carnivals during the year.

Hannam Vale Public School participates in local small schools regional and inter school sports gala days and has a learn-to-swim program for all students. Students at Hannam Vale Public school have been regularly selected to represent the school at Zone and Regional sporting events.

The benefits of a strong arts program...

Children at Hannam Vale Public School are encouraged to develop skills in self expression and creativity through our Creative and Performing Arts programs. Visual Art is promoted inside and outside the school. Students are involved in Camden Haven Show exhibits. Programs are linked to other Curriculum Areas such
as Human Society and it Environment and Science. Our school students perform regularly at Assemblies and in combined Schools activities in the areas of music, dance and choir. Hannam Vale Public School showcase their artistic skills at the Camden Haven Arts Festival for schools (CHAFFS) Performance annually.

Instrumental lessons including keyboard (for all students), guitar and recorder add to the schools music focus.

**Excellent facilities....**

The school is on a large site surrounded by beautifully landscaped grounds. Students are involved in developing the grounds, including vegetable, bush tucker and herb gardening. Teachers are currently developing the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation Program in the school. A Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Grant to develop a kitchen area with two cooking “stations” has been secured by the school.

Tennis and play areas of good standard, currently application for grant monies are being formulated to provide quality tennis instructions for students. Hannam Vale Public School is a member of the MLC Tennis Hot Shots Program, and is looking to expand this program in the near future.

Technology is at the cutting edge. Staff and students have access to computers, with Years 3 - 6 using laptops. Connected Classroom and Interactive Whiteboard facilities keep students and teachers in touch with the global learning and teaching scene, and allow us all to move with current educational trends.
Library

Our well resourced library compliments learning at Hannam Vale Public School. It houses an excellent range of study and recreational resources to support students and staff in all areas of teaching and learning. Hannam Vale Public School participates in the Premiers’ Reading Challenge.

Students visit the library on a weekly basis to borrow books and work with the Teacher-Librarian. Students are involved in Literacy and information skills activities (our current focus is Science and Environment) specifically related to their classroom learning.

Additionally a Book Club is provided by the school in conjunction with a selected firm in which books at discounted prices are offered for sale to students. Purchases are entirely optional.

Relevant teaching and learning programs....

All key learning areas have been designed to meet current learning standards to ensure students are taught the very latest curriculum. This strategic planning has evolved through consistent evaluation and professional development of staff. Where necessary, the input of outside agencies are obtained.

The School’s involvement in the Community of Schools, Collegial Leadership Network and Every Student Every School projects ensures that students gain a good understanding of what is happening across NSW schools.

Innovative teaching programs...

Planned sequenced units in Human Society and it Environment, Science, Technology, Environmental Programs and Music enable teachers to concentrate on differentiated learning options each student. Quality Literacy and Numeracy aspects of the units can be emphasised. Writing of text types, and talking, listening and oral activities are the focus, as are developing numeracy skills for problem solving in todays’ technological world.

Quality through diversity - Multicultural and Aboriginal perspectives...

Hannam Vale Public School is committed to equitable outcomes for all students and participates in learning experiences that promote Aboriginal and inter-cultural understandings.

Aboriginal and multicultural perspectives are evident in teaching and learning activities. Hannam Vale Public School is proud of its history of offering curriculum content that is inclusive of different views and beliefs, reflective of contemporary Australian life and sensitive to the rich history shared by all Australians.

Program’s to improve student learning....

Funding is directed towards the acquisition and development of resources to support highly effective learning programs.
Another key factor in the school’s capacity to improve student learning is an effective partnership between home, school and the wider community. The schools management plan is revisited and revised annually, and targets and priorities are set.

**Transition to High School**

Year 5 and 6 students are involved in a coordinated transition and middle year’s program in collaboration with other local primary schools and Camden Haven High School. The program is implemented through inter-school, in-school and virtual classroom initiatives to adequately prepare our students for the high school learning environment and curriculum programs.

**Subjects taught**

- **English** - an emphasis on reading, writing, talking and listening builds literacy skills quickly and effectively. Students needing extra assistance are identified early and receive specialist help.
- **Mathematics** - a challenging "real-life" problem-solving approach, developed around the "Count Me In Too" strategies.
- **Science** - enjoyable, meaningful opportunities are provided for students to investigate the world around them.
- **Technology** - students are taught to utilise information technology to support their learning in all subjects. The school is fully networked with computers available for all students.
- **Human Society and its Environment** - students gain understandings about people and their social and physical environments.
- **Creative and Practical Arts** - our music and drama programs provide learning and performance opportunities that develop skills, self-esteem and confidence. Visual Arts and Crafts encourage creativity and fosters self-expression.
- **Personal Development, Health and Physical Education** - each student is taught age-appropriate courses in personal development, nutrition, good health habits and physical education.

Effective welfare, social skills and discipline programs...

At Hannam Vale Public School we believe that behaviour is part of student learning and is therefore explicitly taught, regularly practised and reinforced. At Hannam Vale this enables all students to develop effective social and academic behaviours for successful schooling and the development of positive interpersonal relationships with others.

The Hannam Vale school rules are based on our school values. Values include co-operation, excellence, honesty, participation, fairness, respect, responsibility and kindness.
To instil these values in our students we have:

- A positive learning environment.
- Appropriate teaching methods.
- Explicit teaching of expected behaviours.
- Caring and consistent use of appropriate strategies.
- Effective Reward System and positive reinforcement.
- Liaison with parents.
- Clearly defined values and school rules.

In the particular areas of Child Protection and Drug Education, students are taught how to recognise their own feelings, who they can trust, how to act appropriately assertive, and ways to keep themselves safe.

The School's Discipline policy has clear guidelines on the need for students to treat each other with respect, which includes the unacceptability of racism or bullying of any kind.

Starting school successfully...

Starting school is an important step in a child’s life. At Hannam Vale Public School we believe in the importance of strong home / school, teacher / parent partnerships from the very first day of your child's schooling.

We encourage parents to participate and be involved in all aspects of their child’s schooling and to become part of the school community.

For this reason we organise prior-to-school visits, information sessions and a successful Kindergarten transition program which provides opportunities for children starting Kindergarten to settle into a school routine, meet their teacher, mix with groups of other children and engage in both structured and unstructured play activity.

Children are eligible to be enrolled in Kindergarten, if they are 5 years of age or they turn 5 on or before July 31st of that year. Best Start testing is conducted at the beginning of the students first school year and thereafter.

Tips to help your child for their first school year:

- Be positive about school and learning
- Talk to your child about school
- Use your local library
- Read to your child and talk about what might happen next in the story
- Share many different experiences
- Support your child in your home language
- Provide a variety of play materials; water, sand, paper, pens, paint, scissors, glue
- Encourage your child's curiosity by asking questions and encouraging questions in return
- Label items, the door, the cupboard, the refrigerator etc..

What does your child need to bring to school each day?

- Kindergarten - Year 2, books and pencils are usually provided by the school.
- Year 3 - 6 children need to bring lead pencils, blue pen, rubber, ruler, coloured pencils, sharpener, textas and pencil case.
A family’s story:

Our family has had a 19-year long association with Hannam Vale Public School. All our five children have attended the school.

We have found Hannam Vale has many strong aspects. It is wonderful to be so much a part of your child’s education. Being a small school there has always been an opportunity to be involved in so many areas. The teachers, children, parents and other community members all working together for the sake of our children’s education provides a warm, caring, enthusiastic and motivating spirit.

Hannam Vale Public School provides a strong foundation of learning and so many other areas of growth to prepare children for high school, further studies and life experiences. The child’s natural abilities are well recognised and these areas can be developed. There is a strong focus on literacy and numeracy and as a parent there is open communication with the teacher to ensure the child’s potential is maintained both at school and at home.

Over the years our own children have been involved in a wider range of learning such as debating, speech and drama, excursions to cities, music, public speaking and on three occasions they have represented the school in sport at state level.

The relationship the children have with one another is another positive area. They learn to be accepting and understanding within the different age groups. The opportunities also exist to join with other surrounding school for many other extended activities.

Our family has been very fortunate to be part of the Hannam Vale Public School community. Our elder children still have very fond memories of their time spent at the school and still have a strong connection with the community. To be able to live, grow up and be educated in such a safe, beautiful part of the world is truly a blessing for any child and their family.

PAUL AND LYN SCHMITZER

Stories from parents...

When we first looked at moving to Hannam Vale, Hannam Vale Public School played a huge role in helping us make our decision. From the beginning we were made to feel welcome, we were shown around the school and received all the information we needed.

We have found the school to be a caring, nurturing environment for our two children. Being a small school they get a quality education, with lots of one on one time with the teachers. We feel that in this education environment there is less chance of any problems going unnoticed.

At Hannam Vale Public School parents are always welcome, and are kept fully informed on what the children are learning. Parents are encouraged to play a role in their children’s education, creating a lovely family atmosphere at the school.

I would highly recommend Hannam Vale Public School to any families considering a move to Hannam Vale.

CARLA McINNES
Helpful Information for parents....

School hours

9:00 am Lessons commence

10.00a.m. Crunch ’n Sip

11:00am to 11:20am Recess

1: 00pm to 1:45pm Lunch

3:00 pm End of school day

Travelling to and from school

All students travel to and from school by private car or on foot. Students should use common sense and observe the correct road rules whether alighting from or returning to a car or walking.

Supervision

Supervision is provided from 8:30am till 3:00pm. If your child is late to school or leaves early from class you must obtain an attendance slip from the office.

Absences

If your child is absent from school, please send a note with them when they return. If it is a prolonged absence let us know as soon as possible.

A Home/School Liaison Officer visits our school on a regular basis to check rolls for any high absentee rates. If this occurs without a reasonable explanation then the officer may visit the home for further consultation.

School uniform

Hannam Vale Public School has a uniform policy which was formulated in consultation with the P & C Association. As a result of this consultation, there is a strong across-the-board support for the wearing of the school uniform.

We believe it encourages the students to feel part of the school community. The uniform design allows students to be as comfortable as possible to enable them to participate fully in the schools many daily activities.

Boys
  Winter: Yellow polo shirt / Navy tracksuit
  Summer: Yellow polo shirt / Navy shorts
  Sport: Yellow polo shirt / Red shorts

Girls
  Winter: Yellow polo shirt / Navy tracksuit or culottes
  Summer: Yellow polo shirt / Navy culottes or Tunic
Sport: Yellow polo shirt / Red sports skirt, red bike shorts or red shorts

- Socks are to be WHITE for both boys and girls
- Navy broad-brimmed hat or Navy cap (for sporting activities)
- Battle Jacket is also available for boys and girls

NB: Sports uniform should be worn every Friday.

Please label all clothing worn to school by students, ESPECIALLY hats, tracksuits and jumpers.

**School hats**

As part of our Sun Smart policy, children are required to wear a hat. Hats can either be of the wide brimmed or cap variety with the school logo, to protect the face, ears and neck. Hats must be worn at all times whenever children are outside. Children without hats have to remain in the shade. School hats are available for sale from the P & C. Caps are recommended for sport activities.

**Clothing Pool**

From time to time there are some second hand uniforms available for purchase. Please consider giving any clean school clothes, which are still in reasonable condition, to the clothing pool.

**Homework**

Homework is provided as a revision tool. Your child's teacher will inform you of his/her homework expectations. Whilst not compulsory, homework is strongly encouraged as we believe that it provides our students with appropriate self management skills and study habits and it also creates a strong home/school partnership.

**Home reading**

A Home Reading program operates in Kindergarten to Year 2. This allows children to practise their reading at the appropriate level. As parents, you are also encouraged to regularly read to your child and also have them read to you.

**School reports and assessment...**

School reports provide important feedback on the progress of your child and provide students and parents with feedback on how much students have achieved throughout the year. Reports are sent home at the end of Term 2 and Term 4. We encourage parents to discuss their child's report with their child, focussing on the positive aspects.

**Interviews with staff**

Hannam Vale Public School encourages regular contact between parents and teachers. Of course, there are times during the day when the teacher/principal are unable to talk with parents because they are teaching or have other school commitments.

Therefore, it is advisable to phone or call into school and arrange a convenient time if an extended interview is required. The school has an "open door" policy and encourages parent participation and involvement in all aspects of school.

The Administration Office is open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Enquiries should be directed to Ms Hughes, Administration Manager.
Teacher / Student / Parent (3 Way) interviews are held during Term 1 and may be advised for some students in Term 3. This is an opportunity for parents and teachers to meet formally and discuss student progress, and to allow students to set goals and directions for the current and following year. Each student has an Individual Education Plan.

**Canteen**

Hannam Vale Public School P & C Canteen is investigating reopening in Term 2, 2014.

**Newsletter**

A newsletter is sent home with the eldest child in the family every Monday. Important and relevant information is published in this weekly bulletin. The newsletter is also available on our school website and can be emailed to families.

**Money**

All money has to go through the office.

When sending money to school, please place it in the envelope provided by the school. A good idea is to wrap coins in glad wrap or foil first so it won’t fall out of the envelope.

If the school envelope is unavailable, use a normal envelope which is clearly marked with NAME, WHAT it is for and AMOUNT enclosed.

**Fundraising**

Hannam Vale Public School fundraising initiatives are coordinated by the Parents and Citizens’ Association. The P & C organises different activities to raise additional funds for school programs and equipment. In recent years, BBQs, raffles, food drives, sports canteen events and various other activities have been organised by the fundraising committee of the P & C. Parents are encouraged to support the fundraising.

**Medication**

We are not required to give medication at school; we do so for your convenience. A single dose is to be placed in a small container labelled with your child’s name, class and time to be taken. This must be sent to the office accompanied by a note stating when the medication is due. No medication (with the exception of Ventolin puffers) is to be left in the child’s school bag for obvious safety reasons. No medication will be given to a student without written permission from parent/caregiver.

The school is not permitted to give Aspirin or Disprin unless specifically prescribed by a doctor. Paracetamol can be given with parental consent. If your child is to receive medication on a regular basis from school, please obtain medical consent forms from the office. No medication will be given without proper authority.

**Community Nurse**

A Community Nurse screens Kindergarten children for any medical problems. A consent form will be sent home to all parents of Kindergarten children. Parents will be requested to make an appointment with the local Community Health Office.
**School Counsellor**

Hannam Vale Public School has access to the services of a School Counsellor during school terms. If you wish to speak to the Counsellor about your child, you may do so by arranging an appointment through the Principal.

**Scripture**

A non-denominational scripture class is conducted once a week on a Thursday. Classes are of half hour duration.

**Accident and Illness**

In the event of an accident or illness it is essential that you can be contacted. For this reason we have emergency/medical information forms that we ask you to complete. The school should be notified immediately of any changes in contact details.

If we are unable to contact you and your child requires urgent medical attention, the school’s policy is to transport him / her by ambulance to the nearest hospital.

**Parents and Citizens**

Hannam Vale Public School has an active P & C Group that welcomes new members and encourages parents to participate in their child’s education.

The P & C Association meets at 8.30 am in the School Residence once a month on a Friday.

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**Principal’s Message**

I hope you have enjoyed finding out about Hannam Vale Public School. It certainly is an honour and a privilege to lead, and be committed to, such a dynamic quality learning environment. Come along and see for yourself the exciting opportunities availed to every student! ...*Pamela Everingham*

For further information or to enrol your child, please contact:

The Principal  
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Hannam Vale Public School  
Hannam Vale Rd  
Hannam Vale NSW 2443  
Email - hannamvale-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au  
Website – hannamvale-p.school.nsw.edu.au

Phone: 02 6556 7636 / Fax: 02 6556 7672