



CANNINGTON SCHOOL

"we can & we do!"

INFORMATION BOOKLET



Cannington Road

RD14

Cave, 7984

03 614 3723

www.cannington.school.nz

Welcome to Cannington School,

We are an exciting and progressive school nestled in the foothills of South Canterbury. Our school has a proud and wonderful mix of community, students, BOT, size, facilities and staff all working towards the students having success.

With it being a small school, the children are at the forefront of everything we do. Individual learning and personal attention is the norm in our classrooms. There are no 'lost children' at Cannington. They are individuals not 'one of many'.

Our classes are split into 0-4 years and 5-8 years. This split works due to the inclusive and supportive spirit of the school. Everybody is involved and this helps in the learning process of everyone.

The students are supported and encouraged to take risks and chase their dreams. We are here to support them and help them, not limit them or restrict their thinking. We celebrate each other's earned success no matter how small it seems.



If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to make contact.

I look forward to seeing you at Cannington School.

Regards

Deane Power

Principal

Every day, everywhere, our children spread their dreams beneath our feet.

And we should tread softly.

Sir Ken Robinson



Cannington School

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SMALL SCHOOL, BIG BENEFITS

Parents often wonder if a bigger school might offer more for their child, but bigger is not always best when it comes to the relationship between student learning and school size. Research is showing that far from being disadvantaged by attending small schools, children actually do better.

Children are less likely to be overlooked or isolated in small schools. Everybody's participation is needed for team activities, and children in small schools come to know and care about each other to a greater degree than is possible in big schools.

Children at small schools tend to take more responsibility for their own learning, learning activities are more individualised, classes are smaller, and teachers are able to employ multi-age grouping and cooperative learning.

“The culture of small schools typically revolves around hard work, high aspirations, respect for others, and the expectation that all students will succeed”. Wasley, P and Lear, R “Small Schools, Real Gains” Educational Leadership March 2001, Vol 58(6)

Children feel a greater sense of engagement, belonging, and personal value when their classmates and teachers get to know them. This in turn has a positive effect on behaviour, and behavioural problems often diminish.

Parents and teachers become allies in fostering student success. Communication between staff is easier, and they are able to work together to build a high-quality curriculum across disciplines and grade levels. Teachers have greater job satisfaction as a result.

“In short, while large schools tend to be depersonalised, rule-governed organisations, small schools are able to be close-knit, flexible communities where no-one is a stranger”. McRobbie, J “Are small schools better?” West Ed Policy Brief, October 2001

Cannington School is a small school. Teachers, children and parents have all experienced these benefits first hand. Size really does matter, and by enrolling your child at Cannington School, you are giving your child/ren a chance to experience these benefits too.

CANNINGTON SCHOOL

Our Mission

“We Can and We Do”

To educate and develop confident, connected and committed learners who positively contribute to society.

Our Vision

“We Can and We Do”

To educate and develop confident, connected and committed learners who positively contribute to society through authentic learning experiences.

Our Values

I	D	R	E	A	M
Innovation	Diversity	Respect	Excellence	Actively Involved	Motivated
Inquiry, Curiosity by thinking critically, creatively and reflectively	As found in different cultures, languages and heritages	Values, Honesty, Caring, Manners, Integrity	By aiming high and preserving in the face of difficulties	Participates in a range of life contexts, Community knowledge, pride in our community, committed, confidence, active learners Contributors to the well-being of New Zealand – social, cultural, economic and environmental	Resilient, goal setters, experience success and failure, independent learners

CORE TEACHING BELIEFS & BEHAVIOURS

Our community trusts the school to give our children a breadth of understanding of the diverse nature of New Zealand. The school community values education that is authentic and links to the nature of our community. The school community works with the school to nurture our children so that they:

- ✓ Are aware of the diversity in NZ society
- ✓ Are ready to survive in the changing world
- ✓ Have an appreciation/awareness of life
- ✓ Have a strong work ethic, excellence and competitiveness
- ✓ Have high expectations for themselves
- ✓ Are resilient and with strong oral communication
- ✓ Have strong interpersonal relationship skills, are team players
- ✓ Have a sense of belonging to a community
- ✓ Think globally and are aware of global responsibility
- ✓ Respect their past
- ✓ Are problem solvers, adaptable and are able to think outside the square

We provide the learning environment where our children can develop:

- ✓ Positive attitudes to learning and life
- ✓ A tolerance for others
- ✓ Responsibility for their learning and behaviour
- ✓ Well balanced capabilities through strong community support and involvement



RECOGNISING NEW ZEALAND'S CULTURAL DIVERSITY

Cannington School has procedures and practices that reflect New Zealand's Cultural Diversity and the unique position of Maori culture.

In recognising the unique position of the Maori culture, Cannington School will take all reasonable steps to provide instruction in tikanga (Maori culture) and Te Reo Maori (Maori language) for students whose parents request it.

At Cannington School we currently...

- ✓ Teach Te Reo Maori (Maori language) to an elementary level (greetings, counting, basic vocabulary for everyday items, and pronunciation of place names) in all classes.
- ✓ Sing waiata (Maori songs) in assembly, classroom music.
- ✓ Use resources in the curriculum (especially Reading, Maths, Science, Social Sciences, Art, Music & Phys Ed) which recognise New Zealand's dual cultural heritage
- ✓ Integrate Maori through curriculum areas as identified through integrated planning.
- ✓ Value our cultural heritage by understanding cultural diversity in our community and caring for our physical environment.

If a whanau requests a higher level of tikanga and/or te reo than is at present evident in our school's Maori programme, the staff and family will discuss options.

POLICY STATEMENTS & ANNUAL REPORT

Policies have been developed about many aspects of the school. You are most welcome to collect a copy of these from the school office if you wish to familiarize yourself with them. Also available is the school's annual report for viewing.

SCHOOL HOURS

9.00am	≈	Class commences
10.40am	≈	Morning Tea
11.00am	≈	Class commences
12.30pm	≈	Lunch
1.15pm	≈	Class commences
2.45pm	≈	End of school day

CLASSROOM ORGANISATION

Junior Room	Years 0-4	Leana Walker
Senior Room	Years 5-8	Deane Power

CONTACTING US

The school office is the first port of call to answer your general questions, and/or concerns. If you would like to talk about your child's teaching and learning, then you are encouraged to make contact with your child's teacher. The best times to contact your child's teacher are before and after school. The school answer phone is cleared regularly so all messages will be replied to in a timely fashion.

COMMUNICATION

Cannington produces a fortnightly newsletter. This comes home with children and has important information about school activities, expectations and achievements. The school term planner is sent home at the beginning of each term. The dates on this are generally accurate but can change due to the long-term nature of them.

Our website and Facebook page is regularly updated and has class blogs, term activities, notes and contact details. www.cannington.school.nz

Communication to parents about student achievement includes reporting to the Board of Trustees, parent interviews, and written school reports twice yearly. We have an open door policy. We are able to talk or meet with you before school and after 2.45pm. We encourage informal communication regarding your child's learning progress. Please feel free to call the school anytime and leave a message or make an appointment to see us.

The school grapevine is used to communicate important information to all parents/caregivers via the telephone. It might be used to inform parents of the closure of the school due to snow or for many other reasons, including the cancellation of a school trip (please request a copy of the grapevine from the school office).

NEW ENTRANT ENROLMENT

(FOR MORE DETAILS PLEASE REFER TO NEW ENROLEMENT BOOKLET)

Parents are encouraged to enrol their child at their earliest convenience. We have a pre-enrolment form for new entrants so that the teacher has a record of the child and can organize school visits. Where possible we like new entrant's parent's to have completed their pre-enrolment form two months prior to their start date. At this time, they can meet with the teacher to discuss school visits and to have a look around the school if they wish. The official enrolment form can be completed at the office closer to the child's start date. A copy of your child's birth certificate will be required, along with a record of their immunizations.

SCHOOL VISITS

Prior to commencing school, new entrants are encouraged to have school visits. This means visiting the junior room either with or without their parents. We would like your child to visit from 9am until 12.30, the number of visits is dependent on the child. If your child will be travelling to and from school on the bus, we encourage you to let them ride the bus on some of their visits. You can follow the bus in your vehicle if you wish. To use the bus on school visits you will need to sign a bus permission form from the office and present this to the bus driver.

GENERAL ENROLMENT

If you know your child will be coming to Cannington School, please contact us to fill out a basic pre-enrolment form. A full enrolment form can be obtained from the school office and filled out closer to the time. A copy of your child's birth certificate will be required for all enrolments.

HEALTH

It is important that you make us aware of any health concerns or allergies that your child may have. Please advise us at your pre-enrolment.

DENTAL SERVICES

The Department of Health has a mobile clinic. The dental nurse will contact you during the year to arrange a time for your child to have a check-up. If you require the nurse at other times, please ring Dental Services on 0800 846 983 to contact the nurse.

HEALTH NURSE, HEARING & VISION TESTS

When your child turns, four they will be invited to have a B4 School Check. This is the final Well Child check. This is performed by a public health nurse. On commencing school, the Health Nurse, and Hearing and Vision Testers visit throughout the year and are available to meet with parents who have concerns.

SPEECH LANGUAGE THERAPISTS

Available upon acceptance of referral.

CLOSURE OF THE SCHOOL

This has happened before for reasons such as heavy snow and high winds. Parents/caregivers will be informed of this through the school grapevine. If the school is closed during the day and parents are unable to be contacted, staff will follow procedures to accommodate children at school.

SAFETY VESTS

All children will be issued with a safety vest and they are required to wear it to and from school. This applies to children travelling to school by car, bus, bike, walking or any other form of transport.

BUSES

The bus is available in the morning and afternoon. However, if you live within 3 km of the school you will not be eligible for the bus. The bus run is contracted to Ritchies Bus Company by the Ministry of Education. The Ritchies Bus Company employs our bus driver.

The afternoon bus goes on one run. The morning bus run is always done in two runs. The children near the gorge are picked up first and dropped at school. The bus then heads toward Cave to pick up the remaining children.

The school bus driver is Jean Stewart, and the bus controller is the principal. Jean should be contacted **before 7.30am** if your child is not going to be on the bus in the morning. She can be contacted at home on **6864888**. The school should also be contacted if your child will be absent. The principal should be contacted in the first instance if you have any queries or concerns relating to the bus service.



AFTER SCHOOL ARRANGEMENTS

Please phone us before 2.30pm to inform us of changes to your child's after school arrangements. If your child normally travels on the bus, we will expect that this is the case until you inform us of other arrangements. Other arrangements might include your child being picked up for sport or that they are going to another child's house after school. Likewise, if your child is normally picked up from school we will expect that this is the case until you call us to let us know of other arrangements.

Please leave a message on the phone if it is unattended.

Please do not call the bus driver about changes to your child's after school travel arrangements. Staff will inform the bus driver of any changes to afternoon travel arrangements that they have received no later than 2.30pm. This will meet our system requirements.

Parents need to inform school that permission is given that another parent is to pick their child up from school.

REPORTING ABSENCES

Parents and caregivers are requested to ring the school if their child is absent from school. If the phone is unattended, please leave a message on the school answer phone. Legally we are required to know where absent children are. To ensure that this system works well we ask you to ensure we have a current record of your home, work and mobile numbers. Generally, our secretary will call you if we have not been notified of your child's absence. If we are not notified of your child's absence and we are unable to contact you, we will contact your emergency contact person.

The bus driver should also be contacted if your child does not need picking up in the morning. If your child requires extended sickness or leave not due to sickness, please discuss this by phoning or writing to the principal.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

School uniform is compulsory and are available for purchase at the school office. You are able to order polo shirts and polo fleece tops through the office. Suitable footwear is needed for physical education, sports and education outside the classroom.

LOST PROPERTY

Unclaimed clothing will be placed in the Lost Property Box.

HOMEWORK

This is individualized to your child's needs. Please attend meet the teacher evenings to keep informed of homework expectations. If you have any questions regarding homework or your child's learning, we encourage you to contact the classroom teacher in the first instance. Staff appreciate support from parents with their child's learning.

HEALTH CONSULTATION

From time to time, the school will ask you to attend a health consultation meeting. At these meetings, we wish to gain your perspective on such issues as sexuality education, Keeping Ourselves Safe, Drug Awareness programmes and Kia Kaha anti-bullying. From this consultation, the staff design the programmes of learning with the perspective of the parents in mind.

SUNSMART

We are a Sun Smart accredited school. This means our children are to wear approved sun hats. These are provided by the school. The hats are compulsory in terms 1 and 4; they may also be required on other high UV radiation days. The children monitor a UV index to inform the school. We encourage sunscreen to be applied at home prior to coming to school.

LIBRARY

The school library is a multipurpose classroom as well as a library. It is set up with book issuing and returning facilities. Books are processed by Student Librarians and/or teachers. The junior room visits the library to return/issue books weekly. The librarians also open the returns/issues desk on a Monday and Thursday lunchtime. The senior room visits the library on a Thursday.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

Throughout the year, students are issued with leaflets from Scholastic Book Club. Should you decide to purchase books we would appreciate orders and payment to be placed in a sealed envelope and sent along to the school office for processing by the closing date written on the leaflet. Cheques are to be made out to Scholastic New Zealand.

Books are distributed to students on arrival. Please check to ensure that the books distributed are in fact the books ordered.

The school is fortunate to receive a credit each year on the basis of the volume purchased by pupils/parents and staff throughout the year. This credit is used to purchase further books for the library.

HOT FOOD

An oven is available for heating lunch food. Please wrap food in foil and label with your child's name to avoid any confusion. Children are to place their named food in the green basket outside the staffroom at interval. Staff will issue the heated food to the children from the staffroom at lunchtime.

FISH 'N' CHIP FRIDAY

Every Friday the children have the option to order lunch from the specific menu. Orders and money to be placed in order box by 9am Friday mornings. Lunches are delivered to school at lunchtime.

STATIONERY ACCOUNT

Cannington School organizes and holds all stationery necessary for children; this includes exercise books, erasers, pencils etc. If your child is a NE, you do not need to supply any stationery on your child's first day as the school provides the stationery that is required.

If your child is transferring from another school, we encourage them to bring their stationery and exercise books that are already in use.

Parents are asked for a one off payment of \$30 for their child's Stationery for the year.

WORKING BEES

From time to time, usually once a term there will be a working bee held in the school grounds. This consists of a general tidy up and all help is greatly appreciated.



FRIENDS OF THE SCHOOL

The Friends of the School are a group of parents who work together to fundraise for the school. They have formal meetings and their work is under the guidance of the Board of Trustees. If you would be interested in joining the Friends of the School, please contact the school.

SCHOOL POOL

The school pool is available for community use. We have a padlock with a code on the gate. The code number is made available each year. The Cannington School Board of Trustees takes no responsibility for the use of the pool outside school hours.



SWIMMING

The pool generally opens in December or earlier if the weather is warm enough. Once the pool is open, the children are expected to bring their togs daily or a note if they are unable to swim on that day, during the swimming season. They will be taken swimming whenever water temperatures and weather permit.



During school hours' swimmers will be fully supervised by staff.

Swimming is taught by the teachers throughout the summer.

The swimming pool is available to be used by the whole community provided the following rules, to ensure the safety of others, are observed:

- ✓ When leaving ensure the pool is covered and the gate is locked.
- ✓ Users of the pool, outside school hours, do so at their own risk. The Cannington School BOT will not accept responsibility.

COMMUNITY USE OF SCHOOL GROUNDS

The community is welcome to enjoy the school grounds in a responsible manner.

END OF TERM

At the end of each term, on the last day, it is custom to have an end of term activity, which includes all school families. This is always a relaxed catch up time and a great way to meet new people and for the children to share their successes of the term.

SCHOOL TRIPS

School trips are well organized with children's safety needs being paramount. There may be a cost to some of these events and the management will endeavour to keep these as low as possible. You will be asked to sign a permission slip when necessary.

TERM PLANNER

At the beginning of each term, the staff compile a term planner which encompasses expected outings and events. It is useful to keep this somewhere handy to refer to.

FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER

Cannington produces a fortnightly newsletter. This comes home with children and has important information about school activities, expectations and achievements.

SCHOOL GRAPEVINE

You will receive a phone list with the names of all school families. This also acts as a grapevine with a few people being responsible for ringing others when messages need to be given quickly (e.g. If the school is going to close due to a weather event) or for fundraising reasons.

FUNDRAISING

Due to the fact that government funding does not meet the schools operational costs, we do need to fund raise from time to time. These are often catering type events with a trail ride and school dance being our major fundraisers. It is important that all school families help where they can because as well as many hands making light work it's also a great way to get the community together.

SCHOOL DONATION

Once again, due to a shortfall in government funding parents are asked to donate a fee of \$80 to the school. Different payment schemes are available. More details of this are available in the school newsletters and from the school office.

ACCIDENT OR ILLNESS AT SCHOOL

Rest assured your child will be well looked after if they happen to fall ill or have an accident at school. If staff deem it necessary, caregivers will be contacted and the child can be taken home. If you are unavailable staff will contact your emergency contact person/people. Please use common sense when it comes to deciding if an ill child should attend school and feel free to ask staff for guidance on this if necessary.

Regular Term Events

TERM ONE

- Meet the teacher & family BBQ
- Timaru Rural Swimming Competition in Timaru for Years 4 – 8.
- Parent/Child interviews

TERM TWO

- Rural School's cross country
- South Canterbury Cross Country Years 5 - 8
- Oral Assessment Years 4 – 8
- Written reports
- R.O.A.D (Record of Achievement and Development) books sent home

TERM THREE

- School speech and poetry competition
- Mackenzie speech competition at Albury School Years 5 & 6
- Ice Skating in Tekapo or
- Skiing at Round Hill, Tekapo
- Winter Tournament in Timaru for Years 5 – 8
- Parent Teacher Interviews
- Rural Cluster Enrichment Day Yrs. 5 – 8

TERM FOUR

- School photos
- Summer Tournament for years 5 - 8
- Athletics competition in Timaru
- Pet Day
- Written reports
- R.O.A.D books sent home
- School prize giving – Academic awards, sporting and craft awards.
- School Picnic

BI-ANNUAL EVENTS

- South Canterbury Science Fair
- Major school production
- Kia Kaha
- Keeping Ourselves Safe
- Puberty/Sexuality education

STAFF

Deane Power : Principal
Leana Walker : Junior Room
Rachel Butcher : Office Manager
Donna Batt : Cleaner
Trish Maxwell : Gardener

CONTACTS

School Telephone ≈ (03) 614 3723
Office Email ≈ office@cannington.school.nz

BUS DRIVER

Jean Stewart 6864888

BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEMBERS

Kath Campbell ≈ 614 3838
Sam Jamieson ≈ 614 3808
Racheal Searle (Secretary) ≈ 614 3956
Kiri George (Chairperson) ≈ 614 3366
Donna Batt ≈ 027 428 7095

CANNINGTON SCHOOL

We are delighted to offer 'testimonials' from current Cannington families. Please feel free to call them for their comments or for answers to questions that you may have.

Rene and John Crawford - 03 614 3756

(3 Past students))

Kath and Justin Campbell – 03 614 3838

(1 Past student and 1 Year 5 student in the Senior Room at present)