



# Clyde Fenton Transition 2025 Handbook

## School Contact Details



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PO Box 421, Katherine NT 0851



22 Rapide Street, Katherine



<https://cfs.net.edu.au>



## School Background



Clyde Fenton School opened in 1977, named after flying doctor and territory pioneer Dr Clyde Fenton. The school services a variety of family cultures and backgrounds including Aboriginal, English, Filipino, Islander, Indian and Nepalese.

The layout of the school is open planned and designed for learning flexibility and student collaboration. The centralized library, food science room, performing arts area, cultural program, extensive STEM and ICT resources make our school an optimal learning environment.

The enrolment size of the school is small, with a dedicated teacher and tutor for each classroom, meaning that children receive an individualized program and plenty of support in learning.

## School Staff



Principal: Lynnelle Rankine [lynnelle.rankine@education.nt.gov.au](mailto:lynnelle.rankine@education.nt.gov.au)

Assistant Principal: Cath Champion-Smith [cath.champion-smith@education.nt.gov.au](mailto:cath.champion-smith@education.nt.gov.au)

Transition Teacher: Sri Tiwari [srijana.tiwari@education.nt.gov.au](mailto:srijana.tiwari@education.nt.gov.au)

Special Education: Cath Champion-Smith [cath.champion-smith@education.nt.gov.au](mailto:cath.champion-smith@education.nt.gov.au)

Early Childhood Leader: Lynnelle Rankine [lynnelle.rankine@education.nt.gov.au](mailto:lynnelle.rankine@education.nt.gov.au)



## “Welcome” from Clyde Fenton

In Transition, we are excited to educate and nurture children using playful experiences and formal small group lessons which utilise playful activities, to maximise learning.

We are passionate about children learning and developing through play in the early years. We look forward to welcoming new Transition students and their families for a year of learning as we grow together!



## About the Transition Program



Transition operates five days a week, the same as the school program. The session times are 8:15am – 2:45pm. Leadership team is on duty 30 minutes before and after school. We ask that children are picked up promptly. Clyde Fenton School is unable to accept responsibility of children on school grounds outside the times of 7:45am – 3:15pm.

Children have three breaks: a fruit break, recess and lunch. Recess is 10:00am – 10:30am. Lunch is 12:30pm – 1:00pm. Recess and lunch time eating is supervised by a teacher. Children may order recess and lunch from the school canteen. The classroom teacher may extend meal breaks using discretion, for example if children are missing out on play to eat or are forgoing their meal to play instead.

Clyde Fenton School follows the Department of Education Healthy Eating Guidelines. We encourage and support families to provide a nutritious packed lunch and provide a water bottle to stay hydrated.

Transition is the first formal year of schooling. The program follows the Australian Curriculum and is underpinned by the principles and practices of the Early Years Learning Framework. Teaching and learning is structured around your child's unique strengths, interests, abilities and needs. The learning that takes place is play based, immersive and hands on.

The transition space is a purpose-built space separate from other classrooms with its own art facilities, sand pit, large space for play based learning and toilet block.





## Entry Requirements

Children who turn 5 before June 30<sup>th</sup> are eligible to start Transition at the start of the school year. Families are encouraged to enrol their child in our Preschool program if they do not meet the age requirements. Families may be supported by the school to extend their child's Preschool enrolment to build on the foundational learning required to enter Transition.

Enrolment packages are available at the front office. The school requires a completed enrolment package, including a birth certificate, an up-to-date immunisation record (obtained through MYGOV or GP) and emergency contact phone numbers. The enrolment package must be completed in its entirety before a student may commence.

## Attendance Requirements



It is a requirement of the Department of Education that children attend school every day. If your child is away, please notify the front office as soon as practical.

Clyde Fenton has an attendance reward scheme called "CFS Dollars". Please note, no actual money is given. Children accrue 2 points every day they attend school. These points can be redeemed at the Clyde Fenton shop each Friday,



## Absence and Illness



If your child is unwell, we ask that you please keep them home until they are well. This will give your child time to rest and also prevent the spread of illness and infection.

If your child will be absent, please phone or email the school. It is important to remember to phone or email, so we can correctly mark the attendance roll.

In the event that your child becomes unwell at school, parents and guardians will be contacted as soon as practical. Emergency contacts may be used if parents and guardians cannot be reached.

We ask that all carers/parents to please update contact details as soon as possible after any changes in circumstances.



## Allergies and Intolerances



We may have children who present with allergies, intolerances or anaphylaxis. In this instance, we ask that you please respect any nutritional restrictions the school may impose.

If your child has an allergy or intolerance, please make the school aware of this **before** enrolment. The school can then assess the environment for any potential risk and minimise this prior to commencement. Your child will not be able to start school until a management plan developed by a GP has been signed and actioned.

If your child has asthma or anaphylaxis, we ask that you provide an asthma or anaphylaxis management plan, written by your GP. Please also provide in date medication and any other information relevant.



## Communication

The school newsletter is emailed to families once a fortnight. You may opt to receive a paper copy. Any notes will be sent home with your child, so please check their bag regularly.

Families are encouraged to stay in regular contact with the classroom teacher. Please contact the front office to schedule in a time to meet. It is also appropriate to have a “quick chat” at the end of the school day.

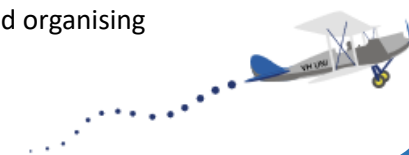
Clyde Fenton can be found on Facebook “Clyde Fenton Primary School”. Photos and updates are posted regularly. The school website address is <https://cfs.nt.edu.au/>

## Be Involved at CFS



We love when families stay a while and contribute to our program. We know your child loves it, too. If you are able to spend some time at Transition or School, there is lots to do!

For Transition	For the School
Help with home readers	Help with books and resources in the library
Stay for rotation activities	Read with children
Cut, laminate and prepare resources	Join school council
Help with cleaning and organising	Help with cleaning and organising
Be an extra set of hands in class	Share a skill you have
Bring in items for craft	Help in the garden



# Public School Bus

Children in Transition may use the bus service provided by the NT Government. Bus numbers and routes may be found here;

<https://nt.gov.au/driving/public-transport-cycling/public-school-buses/katherine-timetables-and-maps>

Students must agree to abide by the code of conduct while travelling on the bus. This can also be found on the web link. Transition children will be walked to the bus stop by an adult just before the school bell sounds.

Please ensure that your child knows their street address and bus number, in case of emergency.



## Kiss and Go – Pick up and Drop off Area

We strongly encourage parents to use the car park located in front of the Preschool grounds. There is a pedestrian crossing marked where children can safely cross here and remain on a footpath.

We strongly discourage parents from parking along Giles Street and on Rapide Street outside the front office entrance. Please consider the safety of your children and the other children in the school when choosing a pick up and drop off location.

Clyde Fenton has been awarded funds from the Building Better School government grant, which will be used to construct a “kiss and go” lane. It is projected to be completed by 2022.

## What to Bring

- Medium backpack
- Water Bottle
- Packed lunch (or a canteen order and money)
- Closed in shoes
- Bucket hat (available to purchase from School)
- Spare clothes (underwear, shorts, shirt and socks)
- School uniform (available to purchase from School)

Please label all clothing and items belonging to your child.



# Preparing for Transition

- Visit Clyde Fenton School and ask to meet the teacher prior to starting. This will help to support a feeling of belonging and seeing school as a safe place.
- Talk about school, the kinds of things your child might enjoy and friends that are attending.
- Let your child choose the items that go into their lunchbox and allow them to make their sandwich or wrap. Ask your child about the foods they are enjoying and continue to pack those.
- Pack and unpack your child's backpack together. This teaches ownership, responsibility, autonomy and is a great chance to discuss items they bring home.
- Spend ten minutes a day reading to your child. Look at the pictures in a book and make up a story, ask questions about pictures and text, point out letters in their name. Early reading behaviours are a critical skill.
- Take your child to playgroups, to the park and swimming pool, to play dates with other children. These activities with other children promote essential skills like turn taking, sharing, empathy and respect, friendships, fairness and cooperation.
- Allow your child to have large blocks of uninterrupted play. Chances to rest and play help your child to process the information they have learnt at school in their own time. It is also important for your child to have chances to play alone and in a restful state.

