HALIDON PS KINDY

INFORMATION BOOKLET 2024





Welcome to Halidon Kindy 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Starting kindergarten is a major milestone for you and your child and the start of a new phase of life for you both. This booklet will help make the kindergarten experience at Halidon as smooth and enjoyable as possible.

We recognise the uniqueness of each child, that they are special and have the right to be respected, cared for and valued. In the early childhood setting, all interactions, experiences, activities, routines and events occur in an environment designed to foster learning and development. The Early Years Learning Framework, National Quality Standards and the Kindergarten Guidelines underpin the Halidon Kindergarten Program. The teaching and learning environment has a balance between play-based learning (free and intentional) and the explicit teaching of literacy and numeracy. Your child will be taught by an experienced Early Childhood Teacher and an Education Assistant who both have a wealth of knowledge about how children learn, grow and develop.

A range of age-appropriate and motivating topics in the learning areas of English, Mathematics, the Arts, Science, History and Geography will be introduced. Children grow and develop at different rates and we

believe all children are successful and competent learners. They need to be supported through child-centred, hands-on learning experiences based on developmental and individual need.

It is widely recognised that a powerful way young children learn is through play. Play is both active and interactive and it fosters children learning together. Children use play to develop their relationships, to experiment, imagine, create, practise, problem solve and role play.

Your child and family are very important new members of the school community - welcome to Halidon! This is the beginning of a wonderful journey where teachers and parents work as partners to deliver excellence in education.

Welcome to the Kindy Yongkas (kangaroos).

Principal





HALIDON CONTACTS

Administration Office Hours: 8.00am to 4.00pm

Office Phone Number: 6207 2500

Student Absence Number: Please send text to 0437 289 575

Office Email Address: halidon.ps@education.wa.edu.au

Principal's Email Address: adam.mosconi@education.wa.edu.au

Associate Principal's Email Address: rachael.nelhams@education.wa.edu.au

School Website: www.halidonps.com

Facebook Page: facebook.com/halidonps

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AT HALIDON

NATIONAL QUALITY STANDARD

The National Quality Standard sets a national benchmark for equality in early childhood education and care services across Australia and establishes a set of standards that all service types are expected to meet. This document outlines seven standards that we demonstrate through our Kindergarten program.

- Quality Area 1: Educational program and practice
- Quality Area 2: Children's health and safety
- Quality Area 3: Physical Environment
- Quality Area 4: Staffing arrangements
- Quality Area 5: Educational program and practice
- Quality Area 6: Children's health and safety
- Quality Area 7: Physical environment



KINDERGARTEN CURRICULUM GUIDELINES

The School Curriculum and Standards Authority is responsible for curriculum guidelines for all Western Australian Schools K-12.

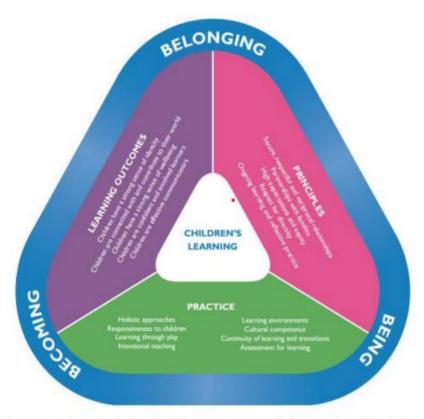
The Kindergarten Curriculum Guidelines focuses on children's learning and development, consistent with the Early Years Learning Framework. In kindergarten, we focus on personal and social competence and pre-literacy and pre-numeracy skills. Every student is an individual and we strive to plan and support each student to their own developmental level, addressing students' academic, social, behavioural, emotional, psychological and physical needs.



EARLY YEARS LEARNING FRAMEWORK

The first four years in a child's life are vitally important in terms of education for they are the years when a child is laying down foundations for future learning and participation in society. This document describes five broad outcomes which underpin our teaching pedagogy.

- Children have a strong sense of identity.
- Children are connected with and contribute to their world.
- Children have a strong sense of well-being.
- Children are confident and involved learners.
- Children are effective communicators.



This figure is a diagram showing the relationship between outcomes, principles and practice which centres on children's learning. The three themes of Belonging, Being and Becoming are included, thereby overlapping all of these elements.

Belonging

Belonging acknowledges children's interdependence with others and the basis of relationships in defining identities. In early childhood, and throughout life, relationships are crucial to a sense of belonging.

Being

Being recognises the significance of the here and now in children's lives. It is about the present and them knowing themselves, building and maintaining relationships with others, engaging with life's joys and complexities, and meeting challenges in everyday life.

Becoming

Children's identities, knowledge, understandings, capacities, skills and relationships change during childhood. Becoming reflects the process of rapid and significant change that occurs in the early years as young children learn and grow.



GETTING READY FOR KINDY

There's a lot you can do to prepare your child, and yourself for kindergarten. The first day of school can be an emotional time for parents and children. The more you can help your child to become familiar with the layout of the school and what they need to do before day one, the less overwhelmed they are likely to feel.

Before School Starts

The Summer holidays are a great time to:

- show your child where our school is and talk about how you will get here;
- arrange playtimes with other families whose children will be going to Halidon it helps if your child knows another child at school;
- practise the things your child will need to do to get ready for school (putting things in their bag, remembering to take a hat);
- confirm your before-school, after-school care arrangements; and
- be positive about starting school and enjoy your child's excitement.

We encourage you to help your child become independent over the early years of schooling.

Children should be able to:

- Take themselves to the toilet.
- Wash and dry own hands and face.
- Blow their own nose.
- Put on and take off their own jumper.
- Take off and put on shoes and socks.
- Recognise their first name and state their full name.
- Recognise and be responsible for own belongings.
- Be able to ask a question in a full sentence. e.g. "Please can I borrow your scissors?"



PRACTICAL MATTERS

WHAT TO BRING TO KINDERGARTEN

A list of Personal Use Items will be distributed to you. It is important that you provide your child with each of the items on the list – which has been approved by the School Board. Consumable booklist items (e.g. pencils, textas, glue sticks) do not need to be labelled as they will be shared.

Each child should have their own bag to keep their belongings in. A back-pack that is large enough to carry home school work, a lunch box and spare clothing is required. Please ensure that the bag is clearly labelled with your child's name. Encourage your child to be responsible for their own bag by having it placed in the correct location and collect it from there. Encourage independence - have your child carry, unpack and zip open/close their own bag.



School bag: at least 35cm x 50cm is the recommended size.

Children are asked to bring:

- brimmed hat
- library bag
- lunch box with a water bottle (clearly labelled)
- Fruit for 'Crunch and Sip', cut up and placed in a labelled container

Please provide a packed lunch box for the first few weeks to assist your child to adjust to the routines of the kindergarten day.

You may consider using the canteen as a healthy lunch option from week 5. The canteen will be available for lunches on Tuesdays and Fridays in 2024.

To place a lunch order go to: https://halidonpscanteen.square.site (Orders close at 9.00am on both days)







Halidon has a priority area of sustainability, so we encourage minimal packaging in lunch boxes.

DRESS CODE

Clothing:

Right from kindergarten, our students are strongly encouraged to wear the school uniform.

Uniforms can be purchased at Uniform Concepts in Joondalup.

While every effort is made to protect clothing, some activities are messy! Some activities may involve water play and some children may have their own accidents. Children are to come to kindy in comfortable and easy to wash clothes. Please avoid instructing your child "not to get dirty". Students do wear an art shirt for painting, however, should there be a spillage or splat, paint stains need to be soaked in cold water before washing.



Please avoid sending your child with buckles, laces and buttons that they cannot independently manage.

A spare set of clothes and underwear, clearly labelled with your child's name, <u>is essential</u>. These items need to remain in your child's bag and need to be <u>repacked</u> if used. If your child is provided replacement clothes from the classroom, please return these cleaned the following day.



Footwear:

Shoes that children are able to take off and put on themselves are highly recommended. No gumboots or thongs, for safety reasons.

In warmer weather the children are encouraged to take their shoes off. We recommend sturdy shoes and sandals with VELCRO fastening to encourage independence and lessen children's frustration with long laces and floppy elastic.



Hats:

It is whole school policy that all children wear a brimmed hat whilst playing outside throughout the year.

Every child is required to bring a clearly labelled brimmed hat. Children who do not have a hat are asked to remain in the sun protected areas.

FACTIONS



Students are allocated to one of three factions, each named after a West Australian explorer or pioneer. If your child has a sibling at Halidon, they will automatically be allocated that same faction. If not, students are allocated a faction and are spread evenly across the year group.

Coloured faction polo shirts displaying the faction logo are available from Uniform Concepts in Joondalup and may be worn on special sport days. *Please note: these are NOT required for kindy.

Our Factions are:

Giles	Red	Ernest Giles
Forrest	Green	Sir John Forrest
O'Connor	Blue	C.Y O'Connor







ATTENDANCE and TIMES



All classroom doors open at 8.35am.

You are welcome to sit with your child and complete an activity such as a puzzle or share a book. At 8.50am please allow the teachers to start lessons. At this time only parents on roster should remain in the classroom.

The kindy day finishes at 3.00pm each day.

All kindergarten children must arrive and depart with an adult.

At the end of the day, students sit inside on the mat until staff sight their parent and call the child's name. Parents need to wait outside the door for their child to be called and allow the children to exit a few at a time. This is important for staff to ensure that all students are

accounted for and are safely collected by their nominated person. Students will only be allowed to go home with their parents or a nominated adult. If someone else is to collect your child, notify staff and write the details on the specified collection sheet.

Once enrolled in kindergarten, it is important for children to develop regular attendance habits. Going to kindergarten, pre-primary and year 1 each day gives children the best start to school. If your child attends school regularly in the early years, they are more likely to continue this in the future. Teachers plan programs sequentially, so when children don't attend school regularly, they miss out on important information, learning and skills. Children who are regularly absent risk missing out on the basic building blocks in core learning areas

A simple SMS absentee message may be sent to <u>0437 289 575</u>. Please enter this number into your mobile, separate to the school number, as it can only be used to send and receive texts regarding absences. Alternatively, a note, email or phone call from the parent or carer giving the date and the reason for the absence for our school records should be forwarded.

INCURSIONS and EXCURSIONS

To complement the curriculum, teachers may organise special events throughout the year. External providers may come in to school and present to the children. Prior to the incursion, a note will be sent home to inform parents and seek permission to participate in the event. Please ensure you sign the form and follow the payment instructions. The Halidon school account details are below and the preferred method of payment is online.

Please note: If there is no authorisation form, your child will not be able to attend the incursion.





CONTRIBUTIONS and CHARGES

The Halidon Primary School Board endorses the schedule of Contributions and Charges each year. The schedule is broken into five sections and will allow you to calculate all costs that may be incurred throughout the year. The costs outlined are maximums that the school will not exceed and actual costs for most parents will be well below these figures.

The P&C also ask that you support the school by paying their voluntary contribution annually. The Halidon Primary School community are involved in a number of fundraising activities which require your ongoing support. We ask that you make payment of the *Voluntary Contribution* as early as possible in the year, but before the end of Term 1. The schedules will be forwarded at the commencement of the new year.

The preferred method of payment is online.

Recipient:	Halidon Primary School	
Bank:	ANZ	
BSB:	016006	
Acct Number:	340951726	
Reference:	STUDENT Name	

TREASURES FROM HOME



We have many exciting activities and lots of equipment for the children to use at kindy. It is good for your child to play with different toys and activities at kindy than those they have at home, so we encourage children to leave their own toys at home.

We ask that children do not wear jewellery to kindy as it is very upsetting for them to lose precious things in the sandpit.

SPECIAL OCCASIONS

We love to celebrate birthdays, or other special occasions at Halidon Kindy. We encourage healthy choices when celebrating birthdays at school.

If handing out birthday invitations onsite, please **only** do so if ALL students are invited.





HEALTH AND MEDICAL

ILLNESS and ACCIDENTS

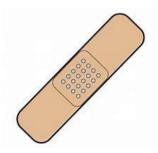
Children who are ill should not attend kindy. A child who is not well can become very distressed when in a group situation. Also, staying at home when sick stops the spread of infection to other children and staff. Please advise the school when a child is absent.

Please keep your child away from school and see your doctor if your child has:

- COVID symptoms
- a fever of 38°C or above
- vomiting or diarrhoea
- severe cold or flu symptoms
- rashes of unknown origin
- a persistent cough

If your child has been in an accident and hurt at school, we will contact you. Please ensure contact details are kept up to date and you have listed an emergency contact.





If the injury is minor, e.g. fallen and bumped knee, we will apply basic first aid e.g. ice pack, assess injury and care for the student, but not necessarily call you at every detail. A bump to the head requires parent notification and the child collected.

Should you need to collect your child during school hours at any time, you are required to visit the front office in the first instance and request a leave pass, which is to be passed on to the class teacher.

Please try and keep appointments to outside school hours where possible so as to avoid continuity of the learning programs.

MEDICATION

Sometimes children are required to take prescribed medication during the day, and whilst it is preferable for parents to administer, we are able to do so, provided:

- Requests to administer medication have been prescribed by a doctor.
- Parents must complete and sign the Administration of Medication Form at the front office.

All medication must be provided in properly labelled containers showing the name of the medication, the name of the student and the appropriate dose and frequency. The means to administer the appropriate accurate dose must also be included.





ALLERGIES and MEDICAL CONDITIONS

If your child has a medical condition i.e. allergy, asthma etc. please notify the school immediately if you have not done so already. Where necessary, an Action Plan will be developed in consultation with you and the Associate Principal, so that if an emergency





arises, directions can be easily followed. This will need to be up-dated annually.

We ask that the food you provide your child is **nut free**, i.e. do not bring nut products to school: peanut butter, Nutella, nut bars, nuts in muesli bars etc.

Halidon Primary School has a NUT AWARENESS policy in place to support students who have nut allergies. Several children have a condition known as FOOD ANAPHYLAXIS which is a sudden, severe and potentially fatal allergic reaction to nuts, especially peanuts.



IMMUNISATION

Children enrolling in kindergarten must be up to date with all the scheduled immunisations for their age to be able to attend school. You are required to show your child's Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) Immunisation History Statement as proof of immunisation.

From Pre-Primary onwards, if an outbreak of an infectious disease occurs at the school, parents of children who do not have an up-to-date immunisation status will be asked to keep them at home, until the danger has passed. You can check your child's immunisation status online: www.medicareaustralia.gov.au/public/onlineservices/

If your child has contracted a communicable disease such as chicken pox or measles, the school should be notified as soon as possible after the diagnosis has been confirmed.

SCHOOL HEALTH NURSE

Halidon engages the expertise of the 'School Health Services' each year for all kindergarten students and any new students/families who require the school nurse services. School Health Service's role is to work with children, families/guardians and classroom teachers for the early detection of physical and psychosocial health and development issues which may impede health, wellbeing and school achievement.

Care provided to individual children and their families may entail assessment, brief intervention, health information, referral, monitoring and support.

The School Health Service (school nurse) will implement the *School Entry Health Assessment* program for all kindergarten students which includes vision, hearing, teeth and developmental screening and BMI assessment.

Any inquiries, contact the school nurse on:

Andrea.Zulch@health.wa.gov.au



School Entry Health Assessment

- The CHS 409-1
 - Vision
 - Hearing
 - Teeth
 - · Healthy Growth
- Please complete and sign the form
- Return it to your child's teacher



Vision assessment

Vision Tests

- · Lea chart tested at 3 metres
- Child needs to match shapes
- Testing for childhood eye conditions
- Referral to ophthalmologist may be required





DENTAL THERAPY CLINIC



We are very fortunate that the Dental Therapy Clinic is based at our school. It is located just inside the staff carpark but is not part of our admin building. The contact number is 9409 6362.

COMMUNICATION

An important aspect of the school's operating procedure is the fostering of a healthy, constructive, homeschool relationship. We welcome your involvement in your child's education and we operate with an 'open door' policy which welcomes discussion, comments and suggestions.

Matters of concern are usually best clarified by direct discussion. Please make an appointment to speak directly with your class teacher; this is much more beneficial than just worrying or speculating about an issue.

Newsletters are our primary source of communication and are emailed in weeks 3, 6 and 9 of each term. A P&C Newsletter is emailed home also. We also have our Facebook page and the P&C Facebook page to communicate reminders and provide certain updates to our community.

Assemblies are also held in weeks 3, 6 and 9 of each term on Thursdays from 8:50am. Although our kindergarten students do not attend, you would be very welcome to drop into the undercover area and watch an assembly.

End of Semester reports will be emailed to you. Occasional notes will come home with your child.



BEING INVOLVED

Children love to see their parents and carers at their school, whether helping out in the classroom, canteen or being involved in other ways. Research shows that students perform better at school when their parents or carers take an active interest in their school work. Your contribution to the school is needed and valued.

Parent involvement provides continuity for the child between home and kindy and parents are welcomed, encouraged and celebrated when they can assist in the classroom or for special events.



If you have special skills or hobbies you would like to share, let us know so you can help to enrich our program.

Please keep all visits confidential, and sign the volunteers form before you commence.

P&C and HALIDADS

The Halidon P&C Association is extremely proactive and has been a valued contributor to the school's educational programs and the improvement of school facilities.



This is your Association and deserves your support! Involvement in the P&C is one of the best ways of being aware of school activities designed to improve the school environment for your child. There are many ways of supporting this organisation, however personal involvement is the one most appreciated.

Payment of the annual P&C contribution of \$45 per family also supports your P&C. The P&C also engages in fundraising and social activities, or arranges busy-bees at which parents can socialise and meet other families. It is hoped that you will help maintain this support.

Meetings are held twice per term on Monday evenings at 5.30pm. Dates for P&C meetings will be advertised in the school newsletter, P&C newsletter and school website Term Planner.

The Halidads group is Halidon Primary School's Fathering Project program. It's primarily a group created for Fathers and Father figures of Halidon children to communicate in an open forum, share ideas, tips and work together to build a stronger community of awesome Halidon Father figures!

The Halidads have some really fun activities planned, e.g. the Camp out at school in November and the bike ride. Meetings are very low key, held at the Kingsley Tavern.





SCHOOL BOARD

What is the School Board?

Bronwyn Hinder School Board Chair

The Halidon Primary School Board is an elected group of staff, parents and community members who help formulate the strategic direction of the school, determining in collaboration with staff, the school's educational objectives and priorities.

What does the School Board do?

- represents the educational needs and aspirations of students, teachers, parents and the community
- in collaboration, determines school priorities, assisting in the formation of the School Business Plan
- monitors the school's learning outcomes against Business Plan targets
- monitors the allocation of resources (financial and human) to achieve school priorities
- determines level of contributions and charges to be sought from parents
- advises on policy matters, but does not become involved in the day-to-day management of the school



With the exception of the Principal, members of the School Board are generally elected for a period specified in the Terms of Reference. The Halidon School Board operates in line with the School Education Act and relevant Regulations. Parent representatives are elected to their positions by parents and carers. Staff representatives are elected to their positions by the school staff.

Meetings in 2023 will be held on a Monday at 5:30pm twice per term.

SUPPORT for STUDENTS







Government schools are for all children. Diversity among students and their families is recognised and welcomed. All school staff and teachers are committed to working with you to provide every possible assistance and support for the wellbeing of your child.

The Learning Support program at Halidon involves a collaborative model which is overseen by the Associate Principal, who works closely with teachers and the School Psychologist where required. Outside agencies are involved where required. This is a supportive wrap-around approach and aims for all stakeholders to have a shared responsibility. Students who are deemed at educational risk will have



a documented education plan in place and are monitored closely by teachers and administration.

If a teacher feels a student requires additional support, they will consult with parents and the administration team and a referral to the School Psychologist will be completed. Students may be referred where there is concern about academic, behavioural, social or emotional factors affecting the child's progress at school. Parents will be contacted to attend a case conference to discuss their child's needs and supports moving forward.

CHAPLAIN

Leonie Lupton is the YouthCare School Chaplain at Halidon.
Leonie's role is to care for students, staff and parents by being a support person, a listening ear and an encourager. Leonie spends time in classrooms, having one-to-one conversation with students, running resilience and friendship programs and supporting families suffering grief and loss. She is passionate about seeing young people live out the best story they can with their lives. You will see Leonie around the school on Tuesdays, Fridays, so feel free to say hello!



GRROW VALUES



GRATITUDE
RESPECT
RESILIENCE
OWNERSHIP
WILLINGNESS



EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFILE



We would appreciate if you could complete the 'Kindy Questionnaire' (inside your pack), which helps us build a profile of your child and your family before they commence kindy with us. We understand each child has a special set of qualities and skills, and brings their own blend of experiences and perspectives to their learning.



HANDWRITING

The style of handwriting your child will be learning at Halidon is the South Australian Style Handwriting Script. In your bag you have a handwriting card in this font. You may like to give your child a head start and practise tracing the letters in their name. Your child will be learning to write their name in this script in kindy. Please take note of the pencil grip guide so as not to form bad grip habits!

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz 0123456789

Correct Pencil Grip

While technology has impacted on the different ways we communicate, the ability to handwrite legibly remains a vital skill. It is important to establish and reinforce a proper pencil grip as early as possible. The tripod grip is the preferred grip as it allows for proper control of the pencil. In the tripod grip the thumb, index finger and middle finger form a triangle to hold the pencil with the ring finger and the little finger supporting the middle finger. The pencil should be positioned between the three fingers so there is equal pressure. The index finger should rest on the top of the pencil. All fingers are slightly bent.

Hold pencil with a light grip.

- I. Thumb holds pencil.
- 2. First finger rests on top of the pencil.
- 3. Pencil rests against third finger.

Left hand

Right hand





PLAY and the KINDY PROGRAM



While it may sound simple and easy, play-based learning is a complex form of natural enquiry that requires an experienced educator who knows each child's overall development, emerging strengths and interests. Through play-based learning, skilled educators can introduce and reinforce concepts we want children to learn in a way that engages each child's interests. Play based learning capitalises on children's natural sense of inquiry and discovery through hands-on exploration of the world around them.



A self-directed learning approach will develop decision-making skills leading to a child taking responsibility for their own learning.

A positive self-esteem will be developed to enhance your child's academic success and personality development. Children will learn to recognise the rights of others and be responsible for the care of equipment through appropriate use and packing away when finished. Acceptable social behaviour will be encouraged through use of positive reinforcement.

READING

Literacy starts with oral language. We encourage appropriate speaking and listening skills, while supporting students to develop their descriptive language and questioning abilities. We focus on *Who, What, When, Where, Why* and *How* during a range of oral language tasks. Beautiful picture books lend themselves to beautiful conversations, so...

READ BOOKS TOGETHER WITH YOUR CHILD AS OFTEN AS POSSIBLE and ASK QUESTIONS

Snuggle, bond, cuddle and chat while you share a love of reading.

Without a doubt, reading with your child every day is the most important activity you can do to help your child develop language and reading skills.

The '3 Rs' of Reading are Repetition, Rhythm and Rhyme. Children enjoy books about their world and having books read over and over. Run your finger under words showing the orientation in which we read the words and look at the pictures (top to bottom and left to right) and point out how to hold a book (right-side up with the spine on the left).

After reading, ask your child what happened in the beginning, middle, and end of the story. Give your child plenty of opportunities to

draw (without colouring books), making their own books. Ask them to draw the things they see in the pictures or read about.

We are served by an up-to-date state of the art library and resource centre. Library sessions are conducted weekly. 'Book Fairs' are a feature during the year.

Book Club / Scholastic Australia: The P&C circulate opportunities for you to participate in purchasing books for your child approximately twice a term. If you wish to purchase items there is an online ordering system.



NUMERACY IDEAS

Go on a **shape & colour** hunt. Point out colours, circles, triangles, squares, and rectangles to your child while you are taking a walk or grocery shopping.

- Have your child help you sort items according to colour, size, and shape (laundry, blocks, silverware, toys, and other household items work well).
- Talk about positional and directional concepts like up/down, over/under, in/out, behind/in front, top/bottom, beside/between, off/on, stop/go.
- Talk about opposite words (big/little, empty/full, slow/fast).
- **Number Recognition and Concept:** Help your child learn to count with concrete objects such as marbles, rocks, dolls, cars, beans, Pasta. Play hopscotch then have your child place the correct number of items on each number. Have your child point to each object as they count.
- Teach your child to make various patterns (red, blue, red, blue). Garage sale dot stickers or craft pom-poms are great for this purpose.
- Practice counting aloud to 20 while driving in the car, washing hands.





HALIDON SCHOOL SONG

Verse 1

We proudly wear our uniform of lemon and grey.

We know we will be people who show the way.

As from the Kingsley bushland our school has grown,
we shine our light for all to see, the future's bright for you and me

CHORUS

At Halidon we are growing with wisdom, with the Boobook and the Tawny Frog Mouth we share this place and we care for each other.

We are there for one another.

Here at Halidon Primary School.

Verse 2

We strive each day for excellence, we always do our best.
Whether music, maths or phys-ed, we're aiming for success.
We love our sporting carnivals in red and blue and green, the open air, the wide blue sky, we give our all and that is why....

CHORUS

At Halidon, we are growing with wisdom, with the Boobook and the Tawny Frog Mouth.

We share this place and we care for each other.

We are there for one another.

Here at Halidon Primary School.

CODA

We are Halidon Primary School. Halidon!

