

# *Big Rock Primary School*

**The Big Rock Staff and Board of Trustees Pledge:**

**At Big Rock the staff and Board of Trustees pledge to all children and their families to deliver the following things:**

- **A learning environment where every child is valued, safe and stimulated**
- **A learning environment where every child is encouraged and provided with the resources that they require to be the best they can be**
- **A learning environment where every child's teacher plans and delivers learning programmes that designed to meet every child's learning needs**
- **A learning environment where every child and their family is valued and respected**



## **Prospectus**



School

2 Bath St • Brighton • Dunedin 9035

Ph 03 481 1781

email: [office@bigrock.school.nz](mailto:office@bigrock.school.nz)

## Welcome to Big Rock Primary School

Included in this information pack is an enrolment form – please fill in as much information about your child as possible.

Please supply a birth certificate or passport to be photocopied for our records. There is also a consent form for health. This information remains confidential at all times.

In the event that your child is to be collected from school by someone other than parents we would appreciate that person being named on the form, or a phone call at the relevant time.

Please update the school with any changes of address/phone numbers as this is important to ensure that you can be contacted easily for any sickness/emergency.

The school uses the Skool Loop phone app and Facebook to inform of events such as late start/closure of school due to extreme weather conditions. Late starts/closures are also broadcast over local radio stations 97.4 FM or 89.4 FM as ‘all Dunedin Primary Schools from Mosgiel to Port Chalmers’, this includes Big Rock.

## The Big Rock Teaching Team



**David Grant**  
Principal



**Susannah Keen**  
New Entrant/Year 1



**Lisa Lamb**  
Deputy Principal  
Years 2 & 3



**Teresa Grant**  
Years 4 & 5



**jude van aalst**  
Years 5 & 6



**Richard Murray**  
Years 7 & 8

## Big Rock Support Staff



**Kelly Adie**  
Office  
Administrator



**Kara Walters**  
Property Manager  
Teacher Aide

**Kia ora and welcome to Big Rock.**

**My name is David Grant and I have the honour and privilege of being the Principal at Big Rock Primary School.**

**Our aim at Big Rock Primary School is to ensure that we provide the very best educational and developmental experiences we can for all of our pupils.**

**We do this by having a *rock* solid foundation in Numeracy and Literacy and by working hard to provide an environment that is stimulating and safe for your children to learn and grow.**

**We offer stimulating learning experiences and opportunities across the whole school, ensuring that school is exciting meaningful and fun for every child, so that every child can be the very best that they can.**

**To further support this, we endeavour to have small class sizes, modern teaching and learning resources for all children and excellent teachers.**

**These are a few of the things that make the learning culture at Big Rock special:**

- **Information and Communication Technology (1 laptop for every child over 7 and 1 between 3 under 7)**
- **Kapa Haka**
- **The Children's Kitchen (Cooking and nutrition in the Children's Kitchen)**
- **Education Outside the Classroom (Camps, trips and our beautiful beach)**
- **Swimming and Aquatics ((Our heated pool and swimming lessons)**
- **No More Gaps and Gifted and Talented Education (Ensuring every child meets their potential)**
- **School Sports Teams- football, Futsal, Basketball, Netball**
- **School Pet Day**
- **Equality and Equity in Education**

### **Little Rockets**

**We run a programme for four and a half year olds to ease the transition to school and become familiar with school – the days and times are flexible, by arrangement with the New Entrant teacher, Susannah Keen.**

**As four and a half year olds approach their first day of school we encourage them to attend more regularly so as to make the first days as enjoyable as possible.**

## Information and Communication Technology

Here at Big Rock we are continually striving to provide all of the children with a 21<sup>st</sup> century education and provide the resources to support this. As part of this process all children over the age of 7 have their own laptop or netbook, at no cost to parents. We are immensely proud to be able to offer this to all of our children, which we believe puts us at the forefront of New Zealand education. Equally we ensure that technology is used to support learning and that computers and iPads are a learning tool, adding to the richness of our learning environment.



## Kapa Haka

Our Kapa Haka group performs to a high standard and has members from across all ages.

## The Kid's Kitchen

As part of our meaningful learning philosophy we have a fully equipped Children's Kitchen. The children undertake cooking; learn about nutrition and using cooking as a means of learning Maths, Reading and Writing.

In 2014, our kitchen had a major upgrade, which created an even better learning area. This is a phenomenal resource and provides all of the children incredible learning opportunities.



## Education Outside the Classroom

We live in a beautiful part of the world and our school makes the most of it by ensuring that our children learn in and about our beautiful environment. We have beach days, beach sports days and integrate the beach into the Arts programmes. We know that if the children love their environment they will look after it.

Another key part of our philosophy on Education in the Outdoors is that children take part in school camps. School camps are based around team building, challenging children and generally sharing the magic of the outdoors in safe yet stimulating environments.

We also operate school ski trips for all children.

We also have an annual bike trip on the Rail Trail or the Otago Peninsular.



## Performance Arts

We have a highly skilled staff in the area of Performing Arts and all of the children get an opportunity to perform in regular school productions. These feature music, dance and acting. We are also ably assisted by parental support in costume and set design and building. The children are involved in all aspects of stage performance.

## Swimming and Aquatics

We are incredibly fortunate to have a fully heated swimming pool. Our pool has an average temperature of 28° Celsius. Our pool is open from term four through to the end of term one. We are in the position to be able to offer swimming instruction to all children as part of our summer programme.



## Surfing

All of our senior children (years 7 & 8) fully participate in our School Surfing programme. This provides the children with not only the opportunity to learn to surf but also in-depth practical knowledge on water safety and understanding, love and appreciation of their local environment.



## No More Gaps and Gifted and Talented Education

At Big Rock our aim is to enable all children to reach their potential and be the very best that they can be. To do this we target any child who has not yet achieved where we know they can be and develop programmes specifically for these children. These are developed by the principal, deputy principal, classroom teacher and our specialist teacher. Equally when children are working well above the National Standard we ensure that programmes are put in place to continue to raise this achievement.

Gifted and Talented programmes are put in place to support children of exceptional ability in all areas of the curriculum.

## School Sports Teams

In recent years, Big Rock has had teams in Futsal, Netball, and Basketball, depending on interest.

## School Pet Day

Every year we host a Pet Day where all of the children bring their pets, we have games, bouncy castle, baking competitions, art competitions etc. The day is always a great one for young and old with activities and competitions for everyone, including community baking competitions, art displays, A and P Show type games, bouncy castles.



## **Equality and Equity in Education**

Here at Big Rock we are proud that we do everything within our power to ensure that no child is disadvantaged by the cost of school trips, camp and other learning experiences. We heavily subsidise all extra learning experiences while ensuring that we still offer a wide and varied curriculum.

Our philosophy is that 'Education is for all, not just for those who can afford it.' We are proud that our Board of Trustees subsidises all camps, school trips and extra activities.

## **Child Safety and Well Being**

Child welfare and safety is a fundamental necessity for quality education, which is why we have an active, zero tolerance to bullying and have proactive programmes in place ensuring that we continue to provide a safe and happy environment for all of the children.

We encourage and create opportunities by having all of the children at certain times during the term working together in team building and problem solving activities. This provides the older children in the school with the opportunity to put their leadership skills into action. Equally, it provides our younger students with the opportunity to get to know the senior students.



However, the best teaching resource available is quality teachers who are equipped to meet the needs of all of the student's educational and developmental needs. The teaching staff at Big Rock is experienced and energetic as well as being passionate about the education of all of the children and they strive to be the best that they can be.

We believe that by working together we can achieve anything.

Please feel free to contact me should you require more information or wish to see our school.

Thank you

David Grant  
Principal

## **Big Rock After School Care**

**Big Rock has been operating After School Care since 2012.**

**The programme operates every day after school.**

**At After School Care, the children take part in a range of activities that include art and craft, cooking, ball games and swimming in the school pool.**

**Our After School Care supervisor is also able to help support your child with their homework should this be required.**

**The programme runs Monday to Friday from 3pm to 6:00pm and all of the children are provided with afternoon tea.**

**Charges are:**

**1 child \$7.00 until 3.30 p.m., then an extra \$1.00 until 4pm, then \$1 per quarter hour**

**2 or more children - half price again for each extra child**

**Children picked up after 6.15 will be charged \$15 per ¼ hour or part thereof.**

**If you need to book your child in simply text, phone or email our supervisor.**

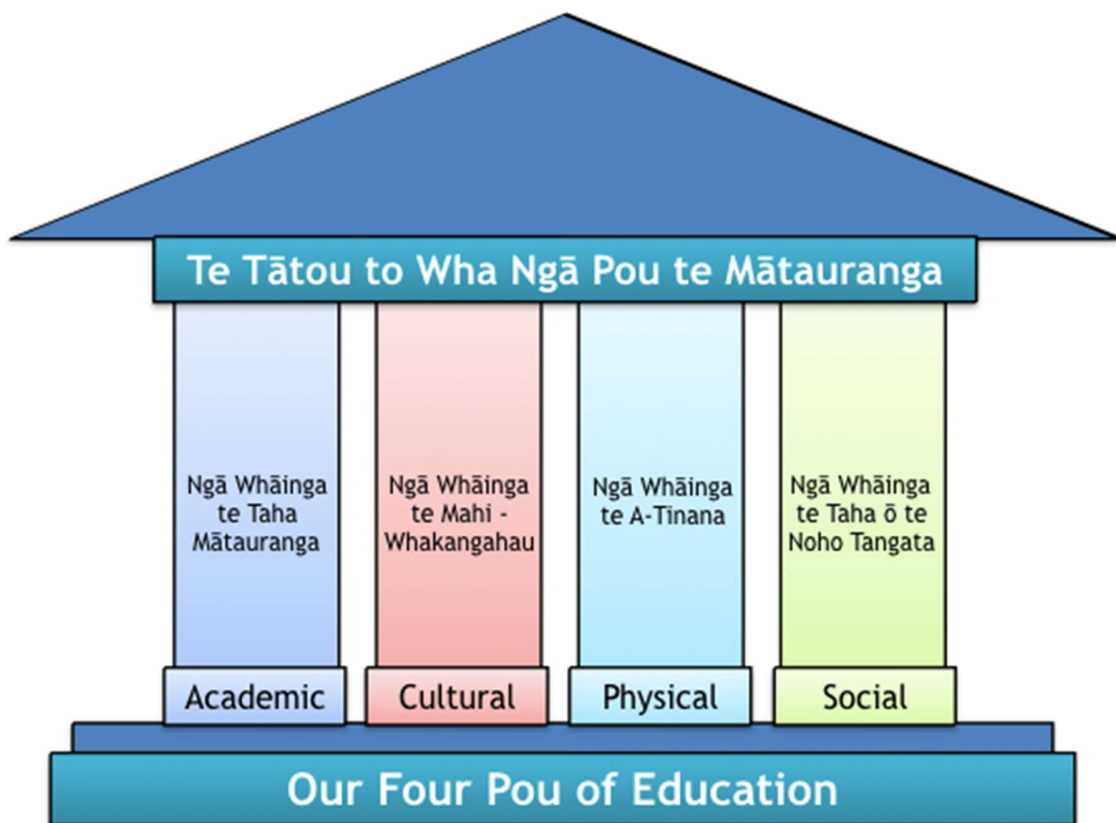
**Kara Walters  
After School Care  
Supervisor  
021 082 50863  
asc@bigrock.school.nz**

Curriculum Statements

# Big Rock Primary School

Te Tātou to Whā Ngā Pou te Mātauranga

(Our Four Pou of Education)



Revised Curriculum



# Big Rock Primary School

Te Tātou te Ngā Pou te Mātauranga has been completed through Community Consultation, Curriculum review, consultation with our Māori Community, staff meetings, professional readings, legislative requirement, Board of Trustees expectations and of course consultation of our children.

The aim is to provide all children with a rich, vibrant education that is about the whole child.

David Grant  
Big Rock Principal

## Big Rock Primary School "Learning in Paradise"

### Vision Statement

At Big Rock Primary School our vision is:

***Our Vision at Big Rock Primary School is to create independent, resilient lifelong learners with inquiring minds by providing all of our students with rock solid foundations in Numeracy and Literacy.***

In practice this means that our major focus is on providing rock solid foundations in Reading, Writing and Mathematics and that our aim is for every child to be meeting or exceeding expectations of the New Zealand Curriculum.

At Big Rock we use Social Sciences, Science and Technology to enhance and enrich those three core areas, through meaningful, relevant and stimulating activities. At school through hands on activities, research and investigation as well as a broad range of experiences through E.O.T.C. Where possible this is done by utilising our local community and environment.

At Big Rock we create *independent, resilient, lifelong learners with inquiring minds* by ensuring that our School Values and the Key Competencies are a cornerstone of everything we do at Big Rock.

Some examples of things we do to make this happen are:

- A School Values system that operates across all classes and where success is rewarded and recognised through newsletters and assembly.
- Resilience is developed through honest and open feedback, (Teaming older children with younger children).
- Stimulating and relevant learning experiences through regular use of the school kitchen.
- Utilisation of the wider environment through surfing programmes and general usage of our beach.
- Encouragement, opportunity and the resources to take a meaningful role in directing their own learning.

## **Big Rock Primary School**

### **“Learning in Paradise”**

### **The Big Rock Curriculum**

At Big Rock the School Curriculum is designed to enable *all* children to be the very best they can be. As such it covers a number of key areas, these include the **School Vision, Te Whā Ngā Pou te Mātauranga (Our Four Pou of Education) of Key Competencies and School Values.**

#### **Ta Tātou te Whā Ngā Pou te Mātauranga (Our Four Pillars of Education)**

Our four pillars of education are **Taha Mātauranga/Academic, Mahi Whakangahau/Cultural, A-Tinana/Physical and Taha ō Noho Tangata/Social.** These four pillars can be taught individually or together but they are intrinsically linked together.

We know that these 4 pillars do not stand alone, but are the support that holds up the Big Rock Vision, and as such, supports the child and enables the child's whole learning and development.

The following statements explain what they mean at Big Rock and some examples of how they may be included in student learning and development.

## Ngā Whāinga te Taha Mātauranga/Academic Goals

The academic component of the curriculum includes the cornerstones of learning at Big Rock - **Reading, Writing and Mathematics**.

At Big Rock we know that by having rock solid foundations in the key academic areas of **Reading, Writing, and Mathematics**, the children are then better able to access the whole curriculum. At Big Rock our academic learning programmes are integrated with Cultural, Physical and Social learning programmes, when appropriate.

- All children meet expectations in **Reading, Writing and Mathematics**.
- **Reading, Writing and Mathematics** learning programmes are supported by integration in **Science, Social Science and Technology**.
- All children utilise I.C.T. to **support** learning in core areas (**Reading, Writing and Mathematics**) as well as across the wider school curriculum.
- All children develop critical thinking skills.
- Children experience a range of hands-on learning including mechanical and understanding how things work.
- Children will learn how to present and share ideas through oral language.
- Build confident learners.

## Ngā Whāinga te Mahi-Whakangahau/Cultural Goals

At Big Rock, we value the Treaty of Waitangi and the unique position in the world of Aotearoa New Zealand and the many cultures and people within it. As such we aim to be inclusive and to learn and celebrate the many different cultures within our school and the wider community and where appropriate integrate into Academic, Social and Physical programmes.

- Develop understanding and knowledge of Te Reo and Tikanga Māori (Refer Te Reo and Tikanga Māori curriculum).
- Explore and develop an understanding of the world around them.
- Investigate issues, local and wider ranging.
- Explore a range of different cultures, countries and people.
- Understand food of the world, what people eat and why.
- Undertake a range of cultural experiences, including *Music*, *Dance* and *Art*.

## Ngā Whāinga te A-Tinana/Physical

At Big Rock we know that fit, healthy children are better able to fully partake in school learning programmes, we also know that it is important for children to understand the benefits of physical exercise, nutrition and positive healthy living practices. As part of Physical learning programmes the local environment will be utilised.

- Learn 'sports skills' (Passing, catching, throwing, kicking with a range of skill based games).
- Develop meaningful understandings of sportsmanship and fair play through meaningful experiences.
- Explore and experience the local environment through camps, trips and learning experiences (Including Beach Ed, surfing, kayaking, paddleboarding).

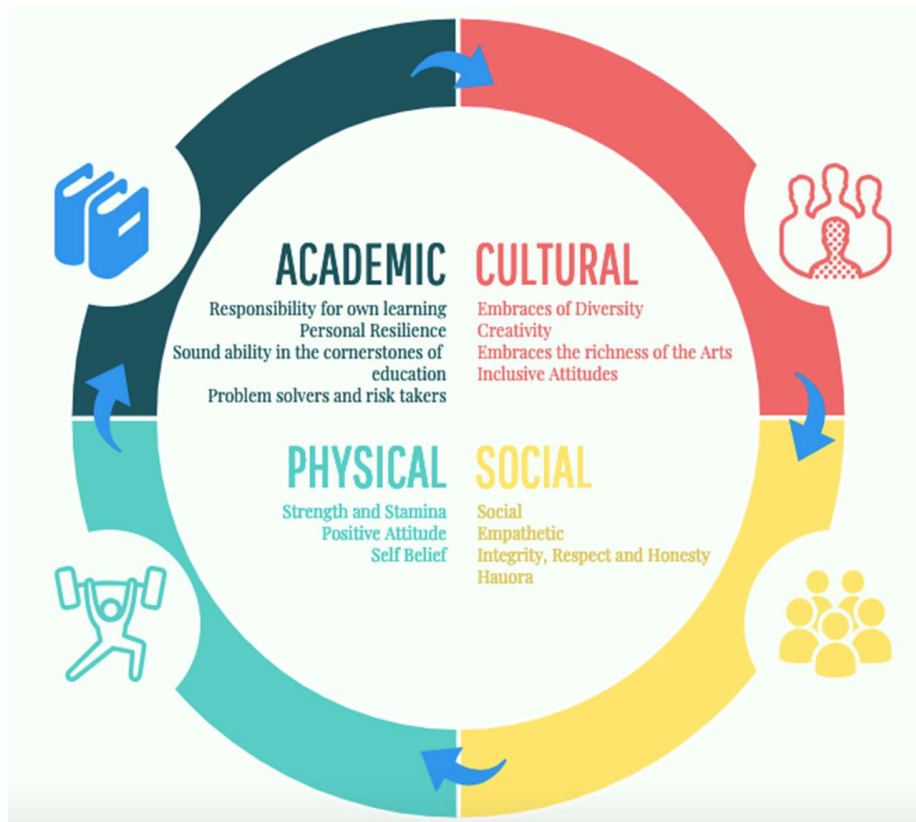
- Develop understanding of safety in the outdoors through experiences.
- Have the opportunity to try new sports.
- Develop bike riding and safety skills through meaningful experiences.
- Participate in whole school sports opportunities.

## **Ngā Whāinga te Taha ō te Noho Tangata/Social Goals**

At Big Rock positive social skills are a key part of being successful and happy in everyday life, as such it is vital that they are included in a meaningful curriculum. These will be integrated across the curriculum

- Community engagement through volunteer work
- Learn and develop skills and understandings based on empathy and compassion
- Build self-esteem through personal affirmation

In essence these four pillars are an overview of Teaching and Learning at Big Rock so as to enable all of the children to be the best they can be, and to have a curriculum that teaches the whole child.



# Big Rock Primary School

## "Learning in Paradise"

### School Curriculum Overview

#### The Big Rock School Vision

Our Vision at Big Rock Primary School is to create independent, resilient lifelong learners with inquiring minds by providing all of our students with rock solid foundations in Numeracy and Literacy. Our school learning goals, values and the Key Competencies will enable us to fulfil our Vision.



#### School Values

- Managing Self
- Respect for Self and Others
- Cooperation
- Communication
- Participation



#### Key Competencies

- Using Language, Symbols and Texts
- Relating to Others
- Participating and Contributing
- Managing Self
- Thinking Skills



#### Literacy Learning Goals

- 100% of children provided with opportunities and support to be the best they can be.
- Demonstrate enthusiasm for Reading in a variety of genre.
- Children will learn to read and read to learn.
- Select and read for enjoyment a wide range of texts.
- Develop writers who are competent in a range of genre, both fiction and non-fiction.
- Write clearly and logically for a range of purposes.
- Use the skills learned and developed to communicate ideas, information and feelings.



#### Numeracy Learning Goals

- 100% of children provided with opportunities and support to be the best they can be.
- Develop understandings and process skills in the areas of Number, Measurement, Algebra, Geometry, and Statistics.
- Develop and understand a range of strategies in solving Numeracy and mathematical problems.
- Know and recall their Basic Facts.
- Understand and effectively use the four computational processes.
- Use equipment and technology as aides to understanding, processing and checking.

# Big Rock Primary School

## "Learning in Paradise"

### Key Competency Curriculum Connections (What the Key Competencies look like in action at Big Rock)



# Big Rock Primary School

## "Learning in Paradise"

### The School Values

At Big Rock we practice and celebrate our school values as we know that through these and in alignment with our school vision, learning goals and the Key Competencies in action we can guide the children into becoming lifelong learners and positive productive members of society.

Our School Values are recognised and rewarded in the classroom and playground by all teachers as well as being recognised in assembly and school prize giving in alignment with our school systems.



## **CONTACT DETAILS**

2 Bath St  
Brighton, Dunedin 9035

Phone 481 1781

Email [office@bigrock.school.nz](mailto:office@bigrock.school.nz)

ABSENCES Skool Loop Absence form (app)  
School website Absence form  
Answer Phone 481 1781  
Text: 021 0904 2455  
Email [office@bigrock.school.nz](mailto:office@bigrock.school.nz)

DENTAL THERAPISTS 489 3480 or 0800 672 543

AFTER SCHOOL CARE 021 082 50863/[asc@bigrock.school.nz](mailto:asc@bigrock.school.nz)

## **TIMETABLE**

SCHOOL STARTS: 8.55am  
MORNING BREAK: 11am – 11.30am  
LUNCH BREAK: 1.20pm – 2pm  
SCHOOL FINISHES: 3.00pm

## **ABSENT CHILDREN**

Children are expected to be punctual to school and class. Parents are required to inform the school office by phone, email or on the Skool Loop app, if the child will be absent. All Attendance Registers are marked at 9.00am and 1.20pm daily.

**Children arriving late MUST sign in on the ipad at the office before heading to class.**

Absences are noted on the electronic role by classroom teachers. The office administrator checks against parent notifications and the electronic absentee forms. The Office Administrator will follow up daily absences and the Principal will follow up persistent absences.

## **ACCIDENTS / SICKNESS TO CHILDREN**

Any child injured or feeling unwell will be seen by the duty or class teacher.

Duty teacher/Class teacher/Office Administrator to attend to the needs of the child - ice in staffroom freezer/medical supplies in medical room cupboard.

If a child is to be sent home:

- Principal or senior staff member will be informed
- Office Administrator to ring parent/caregiver and make arrangements for the child to be collected.
- Contact emergency number if parent/caregiver cannot be contacted. No child to be sent home if an adult is not present.
- Take to Emergency Department of Dunedin Public Hospital in the event of a serious accident

## **ASSEMBLIES**

The aim of Assembly is to promote positive successes and celebrate successes. Assemblies are about singing and sharing.

## **LOST PROPERTY**

This is kept in the library for children and parents to look for lost clothing. It is disposed of at the end of each term.

## **LUNCH ORDERS**

Big Rock Primary School has lunch orders from the local shop on Fridays - see price list in this folder. Orders, in an envelope (used is fine) with money enclosed and name and order on the outside are to be put in the container at the office before school. Orders can also be made and paid for directly at the Brighton Store.

Each Wednesday online lunch deliveries are made to the school, orders are placed with Ezlunch at [mykindo.co.nz](http://mykindo.co.nz)

## **NEWSLETTERS**

The school newsletters is sent out weekly, via skool loop, email, facebook and on our school website. Other Management/Curriculum notices may go at the same time or separately during the week.

## **PARENT TEACHER CONTACT**

Parents who wish to discuss any aspects of class programmes or school activities are encouraged to talk with the teacher concerned. Incidental chats with parents/caregivers about children's progress are valuable. Formal interviews must be by appointment, at a time suitable to all parties.

## **SCHOLASTIC BOOKCLUB**

The Book Club is run by the Office Administrator. There will be approximately 2 issues per term. Please give your orders in to the office by the due date. These are checked when received back from the Scholastic book club, and are given out to children. Alternatively, orders can be placed online directly with Scholastic.

## **STATIONERY**

A class pack of stationery is issued to children at the beginning of the school year on payment of a fee which covers all replacements for the year.

## **SUPPORT SERVICES**

The following agencies support the school on a regular basis.

Public Health Nurse – Calls twice each term.

Hearing and Vision - Term visits  
- checks all 5 year olds and others on request