



Queensland
Curriculum Licensed School



Queensland
Government
Australia

School to Mine
CAMPUS

LIHIR INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Parent Guide 2024

“Knowledge Knows No Bounds”

Managed by Newmont Corporation

Member School of Education Queensland International
Permitted School PNG Department of Education



Newmont Townsite
Lihir Island New Ireland Province
Papua New Guinea
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SCHOOL CONTEXT

Lihir International School is a Kindergarten to Year 10 School, of approximately 140 students, situated on Lihir Island in the New Ireland Province of Papua New Guinea.

The student population is approximately 80% Papua New Guinean and 20% Australian, with a small number of children from other countries also attending the school.

Students study a blended curriculum based on the Australian Curriculum, due to the school's licensing agreement with Education Queensland International and the school's registration with the PNG Department of Education.

The school has excellent facilities that are well maintained by Newmont Corporation.

Classes are taught by Australian and PNG teachers with support from a full-time Teacher Assistant or Teacher Aide from K – Year 2. Some teacher assistant support is also given to Years 3 – 6.

Lihir International School shares a strong partnership with its community and the school is the focus of many well-supported community events. The school is part of the larger School to Mine program that is focussed on developing the education standard on Lihir, particularly for Lihirians.

Parents are involved in all aspects of Lihir International School and support the need for their children to have a strong learning foundation. The school's philosophy is underpinned by a commitment to providing high quality education for the children of Newmont Corporation's Townsite residents and to be recognised as a school of academic excellence, providing a quality education and a foundation of lifelong learning skills in an inclusive environment.

Outstanding teaching and learning is evident in all curriculum areas at Lihir International School with the School Improvement Plan focussing on constant improvement of Maths and English, particularly in problem solving, reading and writing. 2024 sees a particular emphasis on developing STEM education throughout the school.

Staff at Lihir International School have high expectations of all students and challenge them to be successful, enquiring learners while acknowledging individual differences and learning needs.

SCHOOL FACILITIES

- Fully air-conditioned classrooms each with art and information technology facilities
- Use of the School to Mine campus facilities
- All classrooms are equipped with interactive panels
- Well-resourced music room
- Well-equipped libraries and both the primary and the high school
- Well-equipped science room
- Latest STEM and Technology resources
- Computer room
- Undercover outdoor assembly area
- Large oval
- Undercover basketball, netball and volleyball court

- Synthetic grass play space in the courtyard area
- Two playgrounds and a sand pit
- Covered outdoor learning area for junior primary classes
- Well-equipped canteen
- Constant access to the local 25 metre swimming pool
- Student laptops and tablets

SCHOOL HOURS AND TERM DATES

SCHOOL HOURS Prep - 6

Official school times are:

8.10 Bell rings

8.10 – 8.15 Home room (Assembly on Friday)

8.15 – 10.35 First session

10.35 – 11.05 Recess (15 minutes eating followed by 15 minutes play)

11.05 – 12.35 Second session

12.35 – 1.20 Lunch (15 minutes eating followed by 30 minutes play)

1:20 – 3.00 Third Session

3.00 End of school day

SCHOOL HOURS 7 - 10

Official school times are:

8.10 Bell rings

8.10 – 8.15 Home room (Assembly on Friday)

8.15 – 10.05 Two periods

10.05 – 10.35 Recess (10 minutes eating followed by 20 minutes play)

10.35 – 1.20 Three periods

1.20 – 2.00 Lunch (10 minutes eating followed by 30 minutes play)

2.00 – 2.55 Third Session

2.55 – 3.00 Home room

3.00 End of school day

2024 Term Dates:

Term 1 for students will begin on **Monday 29th January.**

Term 1 Monday 29 January to Thursday 28 March

Term 2 Monday 15 April to Thursday 20 June

Term 3 Monday 15 July to Thursday 12 September

Term 4 Monday 30 September to Thursday 5 December

ATTENDANCE

Parents are asked to co-operate by ensuring their children are on time for school, as arriving late causes disruption to class routine and can cause embarrassment.

If your child is going to be absent, please notify the school as soon as possible and provide a reason for your child's absence.

All absences will be recorded on the school's attendance record, including if your child comes to school late or leaves early.

A written note to your child's teacher or a telephone call or email to the front office is appropriate.

Families are encouraged to have holidays during holiday times; however, sometimes this is not possible. Please notify the school in advance of any planned term time absence to enable an exemption to be obtained.

CURRICULUM

The Australian Curriculum provides the basis for programming, planning and assessing at Lihir International School and the school is able to provide this due to a licensing agreement with Education Queensland International.

The school is audited each year to ensure the high expectations of the licensing agreement are met and teachers participate each year in Professional Development to ensure teaching and learning at Lihir International School continually improves and keeps pace with education delivered in Australian schools.

Students in Years 3, 5 and 7 sit the Australian NAPLAN tests in Literacy and Numeracy, in line with other Australian schools.

Lihir International School is also registered as a 'Permitted International High School' under the PNG Department of Education. Students sit the PNG National Exams for Year 8 and Year 10.

Learning Areas for Prep to Year 6

- Mathematics
- English
- Science
- The Arts
- Technologies
- Health and Physical Education
- Languages – Tok Pisin
- Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)



Learning Areas Years 7-10

- Mathematics
- English
- Science
- The Arts (Music and Visual Arts in Year 9 & 10)
- Technology Studies
- Health and Physical Education
- Making A Living (Year 7 & 8)
- Social Science
- Business Studies (Year 9 &10)
- Computer Studies (Year 9 &10)
- Work Studies (Year 9 & 10)
- Guidance (Year 9 & 10)

In Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS), underpinning the implementation of the Australian Curriculum at Lihir International School is the continual focus on developing socially responsible and respectful students by promoting personal excellence and values for a positive and successful future. HASS is supplemented by aspects of the PNG Social Sciences Curriculum in Years 7 – 10.

Physical Education is taught to all school classes throughout the week and Health is taught as a separate learning area, mostly by the class teacher.

Tok Pisin, the local *lingua franca* (common language), is the language other than English taught at our school in Prep to Year 6 and Making a Living (MAL) – Year 7/ 8.

The school features a range of extra-curricular activities for children, and these include out of school sport, media, technology and arts while visiting specialists work at Lihir International School, throughout the year, in areas such as Speech Pathology, Educational Psychology and Growth and Development.

The school offers a range of camps and excursions to engage students in a wholistic experience. Camps currently implemented into the school's curriculum include:

- Year 10 Leadership Camp and Year 9 Camp (yearly to Kavieng)
- Year 7/8 trip to Cairns (occurs every second year)
- Year 5/6 class camp to Kavieng (occurs every second year)

The school engages a swim coach as part of the Physical Education program with the highlight of this program being the School Swimming Carnival on the final Wednesday of term 3.



2024 Staff

Principal K-10 LIS / STM Gregory Neville (includes Coordinator Wellbeing/Discipline 7-10)

Deputy Principal K-10 Catherine Langusch (includes Coordinator Curriculum K-10, Coordinator Wellbeing/Discipline K-6)

Deputy Principal STM Kevin Collins

Coordinator Physical Education Judith Meauri

Coordinator Library / Relief Teacher Grace Savitas

Administrative Officer Lorna Romaso-Daimol

Kindy Angela Collins and Rachael Andar

Prep Jennifer Dovaston and Georgina Kinkinteng

Year 1/2 Diana Saua and Clementa Exzil

Year 3/4 Anastasia Tukata

Year 5/6 Catherine Langusch

Year 7/8 Elizabeth Laien - Class Patron

Year 9/10 Rachael Baiwan - Class Patron

High School and School to Mine subject teachers

Elizabeth Laien, Patricia Yip, Kevin Collins, Racheal Baiwan, Joseph Takaundo, David Wengip, Stanley Sirifave, Edwina Jason

PARENT PARTICIPATION

Parents are very welcome at Lihir International School and we encourage parent participation in many forms. Many parents are involved in the Parents & Wantoks Committee.

Lihir International School conducts a whole school assembly at 8:15am every Friday. Each class (Prep-6) takes responsibility for running one assembly per term and these assemblies highlight students' learning and achievement and are extremely well attended by parents.

Parents are also invited to support classes in a variety of ways e.g. sharing their expertise such as cooking, knowledge of different cultures, traditions, art and craft.

We also encourage parents to visit on special occasions e.g. Acquaintance Night, Parent / Teacher Interviews, Student Led Conferences, Athletics Day, Swimming Carnival, parent information sessions on learning and wellbeing and Independence Day Celebrations.

SCHOOL COUNCIL:

The School Council oversees school organisation in areas such as policy, facility development, communication with stakeholders and curriculum. Some parents will be appointed to the School Council by Newmont Corporation while other parents are elected

to the School Council at the Annual General Meeting held in February. The term of office is two years.

School Council meetings are once each term.

PURPOSE, VISION, MISSION AND VALUES

Lihir International School's Purpose, Vision, Mission and Values have been developed in consultation with the students, parents and staff of our school community.

The Purpose of the School:

The Lihir International School is owned and operated by Newmont Corporation.

The purpose of our school is to provide a high-quality education to the company's Townsite residents.

Our Vision

That Lihir International School is recognised as a school of academic excellence, providing a quality education and lifelong skills in an inclusive environment.

Our Mission

Lihir International School will proactively support Newmont's recruitment and retention strategies by providing a high-quality international education, in a multicultural and caring environment, that fosters the intellectual, physical, social and emotional development of the child, as well as the transition for students' productive and responsible participation in society. This will be achieved through the co-operative effort of the school, home and general community.

Our Values

The values that guide our operation are:

- Working together
- High performance
- Innovation and problem-solving
- Integrity and honesty
- Caring about people

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Lihir International School students are involved in a structured Student Council that raises ideas and makes recommendations to improve our school. Student Council is led by the Year 10 Student Leaders, supported by a teacher, who works in conjunction with one elected School Council representative from each year level. Student Council also takes part in a range leadership and fundraising activities and is supported by staff to organise and lead school events.

VIP – THE SCHOOL'S BEHAVIOUR ETHOS

Value, Include and Participate are the three words that will help people in Lihir International School act appropriately. They are three words to use, think about and include in dealings with staff, students and all aspects of the school community, even the school environment.

VIP is about effective communication.

Value

We value each other. Everyone's feelings, opinions, actions, behaviour and abilities are important.

- Protect and value the belongings of others and all school property.
- Be careful and thoughtful in the use of school buildings and equipment.
- Ask permission before using belongings of others.
- Take lost property to the Lost Property area.
- Keep your books and property neat and tidy, and in their proper place.
- Wear the correct school uniform with pride.
- Help keep the school tidy and litter-free.
- Behave in a way that will bring credit to the school especially on excursions and when representing the school.
- Always use good manners.
- Respect the opinions of others.

Include

We include everyone in games, discussions, group work and all activities.

- Play sensible games that everyone in your group can safely enjoy.
- Remain in the playground unless you have permission to leave.
- Walk your bike in the school grounds.
- Play in safe and supervised areas.
- Show respect to visitors.
- Greet everyone politely.
- Be a good sport.
- Try to work out problems.
- Be kind to others.
- Help new and lonely children.
- Don't tease or laugh at others, especially when they make mistakes.
- If you see a problem tell the teacher on duty

Participate

We allow everyone to participate in games, discussions, cooperative group work, activities.

- Always do your very best.
- Be well behaved and don't disturb the learning of others.
- Be a good worker and a good listener.
- Be punctual.
- Join in happily with school activities.
- Try to develop your skills with the help of the teacher.
- Respect and be obedient to all staff.
- Be honest and truthful

BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT POLICY

RATIONALE

At Lihir International School, we are committed to providing a safe, supportive and disciplined learning environment where students, parents, teachers and principal work together constructively to enable quality learning opportunities for all students.

Lihir International School is an environment where all members feel safe and are valued; where social and academic learning outcomes are maximized for all through a quality curriculum, interpersonal relationships and sound school organization.

DEFINITION

The supportive school environment is one where:

- (a) All members of the school community feel safe and are valued;
- (b) Social and academic learning outcomes are maximised for all through quality practices in the areas of curriculum, interpersonal relationships and school organisation;
- (c) School practices which involve a planned continuum from the positive or preventive actions for all students to the responsive actions for specific individuals and groups;
- (d) Non-violent, non-coercive and non-discriminatory language and practices are defined, modelled and reinforced by all members of the school community;
- (e) Suspension and exclusion procedures are considered only when all other approaches have been exhausted or rejected.

PHILOSOPHY

The philosophy of a supportive school environment is embedded within the school culture. It is reflected in a code of behaviour based on a set of principles that are understood, accepted and practised by all members of the school community.

PRINCIPLES

The Responsible Behaviour Policy is underpinned by the following principles.

- The school community expects high standards of personal achievement and behaviour.
- The foundation of positive classroom behaviour is effective teaching, inclusive and engaging curriculum and respectful relationships between staff and students.
- Positive behaviour is enhanced through a whole school approach and effective school organization and leadership.
- Partnerships with parents/carers, the wider school community and other support agencies contribute to positive behaviour in schools.
- Staff expertise is valued and developed.
- Standards of expected student behaviour are linked to transparent, accountable and fair processes, interventions and consequences.
- Responses to inappropriate student behaviour must consider both the individual circumstances and actions of the student and the needs and rights of school community members.

HOMEWORK

Rationale:

Homework helps students with their education by complementing and reinforcing classroom learning. It assists in fostering good lifelong learning and study habits, whilst providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning.

Parent co-operation is critical because it reinforces the value of homework.

Aims:

- (1) To encourage children to establish a routine of regular work.
- (2) To give children practice and immediate reinforcement of work conducted at school.
- (3) To give feedback to parents as to the type of work their child is doing at school and to gauge the success of that work.
- (4) To give a guide to the teacher if further assistance or teaching is required in that area.
- (5) Allow children to organise their time around other activities.

Implementation

The class teacher/subject teacher is responsible for setting the homework and communicating expectations to students and parents regarding organisation and completion.

Homework may include:

- reading to parents or independent reading
- completing unfinished work
- working on class project work
- completing work sheets
- practising skills, e.g. spelling, number facts

Class teachers may set a weekly contract of homework.

Homework Time Guidelines

- **Prep:** up to 15 minutes a day maximum
- **Year One/Two:** up to 20 minutes a day maximum; Year one will include reading and spelling **or** reading and sightwords
- **Year Three/Four:** up to 20 minutes a day maximum
- **Year Five/Six:** up to 30 minutes a day maximum
- **Year Seven/Eight/Nine:** up to 45 minutes a day maximum
- **Year Nine/Ten:** up to 75 minutes a day maximum

Homework will not be set during the first or last week of term for Prep – Year 6;

In Years 7- 10, it is at the teacher's discretion.

COMMUNICATION

Regular communication between school and home is important.

Primary classes have a regular homework book that parents may communicate to the class teacher and high school students have a diary. Parents are encouraged to check their child's diary regularly. Parents are welcome to email teachers.

The school sends home a regular newsletter, known as the *Toksave*, every week which can also be accessed via our website.

You are encouraged to 'keep in touch' with teachers about any current happenings in your child's life that may impact on their wellbeing or learning.

Before and after school are times when most teachers are available - if you require more time, please make an appointment with the teacher. Remember, the teacher's first priority during school time is to be with children.

RAISING CONCERNS

Parents and Caregivers are encouraged to ask questions and raise concerns about your child/children as soon as an issue arises. The first step is to seek clarification from your child's class teacher at an appropriate time – please remember that during teaching time the teacher's responsibility is to be teaching the class and discussion at this time is not appropriate.

If, following discussion with the class teacher, you have further questions please make an appointment to see the principal.

DAY TO DAY INFORMATION

FIRST AID

Children who require first aid first see the teacher on duty and following this they are assisted to come to the office where they are attended to by staff with up to date first aid training.

Sick children are also sent to the front office for assessment. Sometimes they just require some quiet time or a short rest.

If children are unwell, a member of staff will try to contact parents in the first instance and, if we are unable to contact you, we will try others on your emergency contact lists. If the school is unable to contact anyone, the Principal is empowered to seek whatever medical attention he feels is necessary.

If your child has a medical condition, a plan to ensure they stay healthy at school will need to be negotiated. This plan is essential for any students who require medication during school hours.

All medicines and puffers will need to be clearly labelled. All medications are distributed from the front office and can only be distributed if they are supported by a medical plan devised by a doctor.

LIBRARIES

Students are strongly encouraged to utilise the library facilities by borrowing books on a regular basis.

All students can borrow during their class time on a designated day each week. Each student is provided with a library bag that is required to be used to protect any book borrowed from the library.

Parents are also welcome to borrow from our library and there is a small Parent Resource Section in the Library with information on many different aspects of raising children and learning. Please ask Rachael if you require any assistance borrowing from the school or parent library.

LOST PROPERTY

Lost property will be brought to the front office and displayed at morning assembly if it is not claimed.

Please make sure all items of clothing and hats are clearly named.

MONEY

All money payments must be made at the front office, preferably between 8.00am and 9.30am. Payment can be made by cash or cheque.

UNIFORMS

The school uniform consists of the Formal Uniform and Polo Uniform:

Formal Uniform: Prep to Year 6 (worn on Fridays and special occasions)

Girls: Maroon and white check shirt, maroon skirt or shorts, navy school hat, sandals or sports shoes and white socks.

Boys: Maroon and white check shirt, maroon shorts, navy school hat, sandals or sports shoes and white socks.

Polo Uniform: Prep to Year 6 (worn Monday to Thursday)

Boys and Girls: Blue or red house polo shirt, navy blue shorts, navy school hat, sandshoes and white socks.

Formal Uniform: Years 7 to 10 (worn on Fridays and special occasions)

Girls: Maroon and white check dress shirt and tie, girls' maroon skirt, navy school hat, sandals or sports shoes and white socks.

Boys: Maroon and white check dress shirt and tie, maroon slacks or shorts, navy school hat, sandals or sports shoes and white socks.

Polo Uniform: Years 7 to 10 (worn Monday to Thursday)

Boys and Girls: Blue or red house high school polo shirt, navy blue shorts, navy school hat, sandshoes and white socks.

Kindy

There is no school uniform for the Kindy students.

HATS

All children are required to wear a school hat whenever they are involved in outside activities such as fitness activities, physical education lessons and lunch and recess playtime. This rule is in place for children's wellbeing and to reduce the chances of developing skin cancer.

Children not wearing hats will not be allowed to play outdoors. Students who consistently come to school without a hat will be referred to the principal.

Parents are encouraged to support the sun smart policy by applying sunscreen.

MOBILE PHONES & ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Students are not to bring mobile phones or electronic devices to school.

Parent contact with students can be made directly on fixed landline phones, with messages relayed by staff in the front office.

Our school community looks forward to welcoming you and your family to Lihir International School.

We will work hard to ensure your time at our school is an extremely worthwhile, enjoyable and memorable learning experience as you become part of our fantastic school community.

Kind regards,

Gregory Neville.