Honour, Pride and Achievement

Braeside Primary

Independent Public School

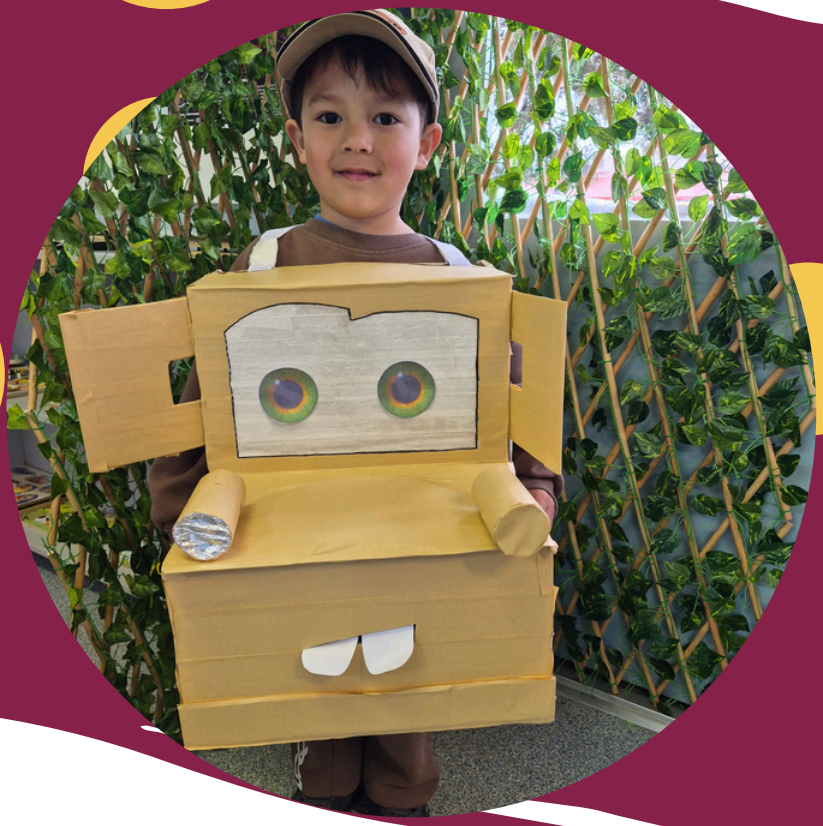
Embrace diversity, realise potential, aim for excellence

Kindergarten 2027



Contents

	Page
School Information	3
Welcome to Kindergarten at Braeside Primary School	4
Our Classrooms and Learning	5
Getting Ready for Kindergarten	6
Beginning Kindergarten	7
Attendance	8
What food to bring?	8
Other Useful Information	9
Health and Medical Information	10
Communication	11
Parent Concerns	11
Handwriting Style	12
Healthy Food and Drink Choices	13
How to Read with Your Child	14
School Calendar	15



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Welcome to Kindergarten at Braeside Primary School

Welcome to Our Community

Your child and family are important members of our school. We warmly welcome you to Braeside Primary School and look forward to a positive and successful Kindergarten year together.

Starting Kindergarten is a major milestone for you and your child, and the beginning of an exciting new phase of life for you both. This booklet will help make the Kindergarten journey at Braeside Primary School smooth and enjoyable.

Our Kindergarten Program

Our program is guided by the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) and Kindergarten Curriculum Guidelines, with a balance of intentional play-based learning and explicit teaching of literacy and numeracy skills.

Kindergarten is taught by an experienced Early Childhood Teacher and an Education Assistant who understand how children learn, grow and develop. Our classrooms are happy, safe and stimulating, where individual needs are supported and strong relationships are built with children and families.

Teaching and Learning

Children explore a range of motivating topics across all learning areas, with a focus on English and Mathematics. Lessons are child-centred, hands-on experiences that extend each child's knowledge and skills.

Play is central to learning. Through play, children build relationships, problem-solve, experiment, imagine, create and role-play. Our program provides a balance of free and guided play, in line with the National Quality Standards Framework (NQS) and Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF).

National Quality Framework

The National Quality Framework (NQF) ensures high-quality early childhood education across Australia. It sets the National Quality Standard, covering 7 areas:

1. Educational program and practice
2. Physical environment
3. Children's health and safety
4. Relationships with children
5. Partnerships with families and communities
6. Staffing arrangements
7. Leadership and management

At Braeside we are committed to these standards and to giving every child the best possible start to school.

Our Classrooms and Learning

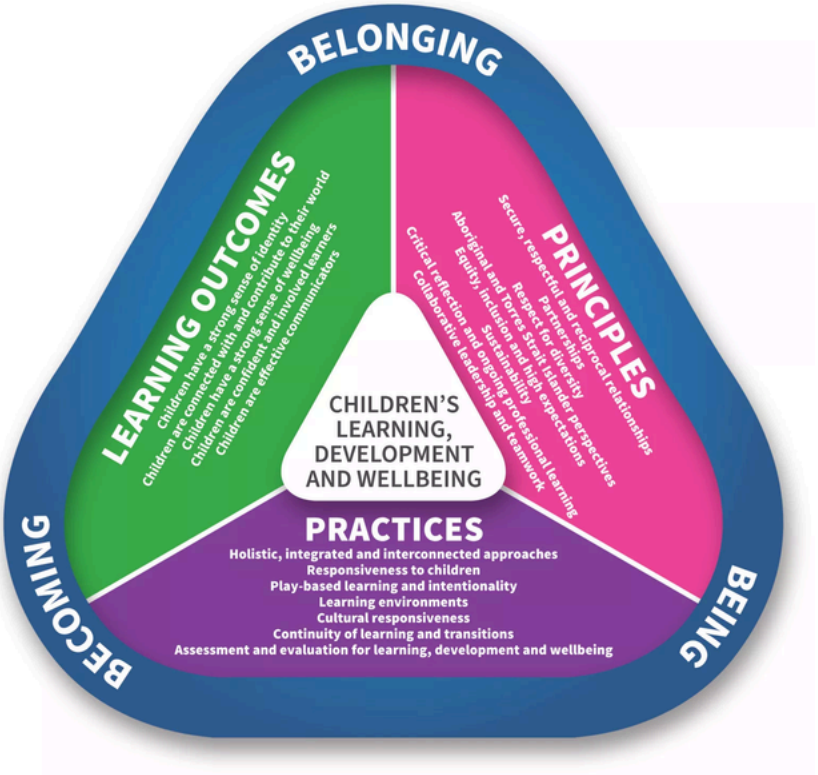
Our classrooms are welcoming spaces designed to spark imagination, creativity and curiosity. They feature colourful displays of children's learning, artwork, books and construction materials that encourage exploration.

Every child begins Kindergarten with unique skills and experiences. Our teachers design programs to meet each child's needs, guided by both the **Australian Curriculum** and the **Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF)**. Together these ensure strong foundations in **literacy**, **numeracy**, **social and emotional skills**, **health and wellbeing**.

The EYLF: Belonging, Being and Becoming

The Early Years Learning Framework is built around the concepts of:

- **Belonging** - children feel they are connected to others and experience relationships where they are valued, safe and supported
- **Being** - children engage in life in the here and now, enjoying childhood through play, discovery and meaningful interactions
- **Becoming** - children develop their identity, knowledge, skills and confidence as they grow and learn to participate fully and actively in society



This diagram show the integrated connections of the Vision, Practices and Learning Outcomes that centre on children's learning, development and wellbeing. Belonging, Being and Becoming overlap these elements.

Getting Ready for Kindergarten

Starting kindergarten is exciting, but it can also feel emotional for both children and parents. The more familiar your child is with school before the first day, the more confident and comfortable they will feel.

What to bring to Kindergarten

Each session please make sure your child brings:

- **A backpack** - around 40cm x30cm
- **Morning tea** - a piece of fruit, vegetables, cheese or crackers
- **Lunch** - healthy and easy to eat independently (sandwich, salad)
- **A broad-brimmed hat** - named, in line with our sun-safe policy
- **A drink bottle** - filled with water only
- **A spare set of clothes** - including underwear, in case of accidents
- Packaged foods are discouraged

Before school starts

Please enquire about our pre-kindergarten program, which runs in Term 4 in the year prior to starting kindergarten.

The summer holidays are a great time to:

- Practise routines like packing a bag, putting on shoes and remembering a hat
- Confirm before-school, after-school and vacation care arrangements
- Stay positive about starting school and share in your child's excitement

The night before

- Lay out clothes, shoes and socks ready for the morning
- Establish a calm bedtime routine to make sure your child is well rested

The first days

- Help your child pack their bag with fruit, lunch, a drink and a hat
- Include a spare change of clothes (including underwear) in a plastic bag for emergencies
- Apply sunscreen in the morning if needed
- At the end of the day talk with your child about their experiences at school





Dressing for school

- Kindergarten students wear the school uniform, which can be ordered at school
- A broad-brimmed hat is required and should be clearly named
- Choose clothing and shoes with simple fasteners so your child can manage independently
- Encourage your child to practise dressing themselves, including jumpers and shoes

Looking after belongings

- Label all items clearly and show your child where the labels are
- If something is misplaced, check with the class teacher

Beginning Kindergarten

Kindergarten days are Monday, Wednesday and Thursday

All Kindergarten sessions begin at **8.55am**. Our doors open at **8.35am**. Children should arrive at **8.35am** to settle in calmly and be ready for the day.

Saying goodbye

- In the early weeks, you may wish to stay for a short time until your child feels secure
- Once your child has settled, a brief and reassuring goodbye supports independence
- Always let your child know you are leaving and who will collect them at the end of the day

Pick-up at the end of the day

- Kindergarten finishes at **2.30pm on Mondays** and **3.15pm on Wednesdays and Thursdays**
- Children wait inside until staff see their parent/carer and call their name. Parents are asked to wait outside the door while children are released. This ensures all children are accounted for and collected safely
- Students will only be released to a parent or nominated adult. If someone else is collecting your child please notify staff or the office on 9821 3500
- If you know you will be late or arrangements change, please phone the school. This helps us reassure your child and avoid unnecessary distress

Attendance

Once enrolled in Kindergarten, it is important for children to develop regular attendance habits. Attending Kindergarten, Pre-Primary and Year 1 each day gives children the best start to school and builds strong lifelong routines.

Teachers plan learning programs sequentially, so when children miss days, they also miss important information, skills and experiences. Regular absence can make it harder for children to build solid foundations in literacy, numeracy and social skills.

- If your child is absent please notify the school via the Compass App or by phone or email
- If no notification is received, we will contact you to confirm the reason
- Where possible, please schedule medical or dental appointments outside school hours

Birthdays

We love celebrating birthdays at Kindergarten! You are welcome to bring individual cupcakes to share with the class. Please check with the teacher to provide appropriate amounts, and check for allergies.

What food to bring?

Crunch and Sip

Every day children enjoy a shared mid-morning fruit break. This routine encourages social learning, where children practise good table manners, waiting their turn and chatting with their friends.

- Please send a piece of fruit each day. We love trying new and unusual fruits!
- Staff use tongs to serve the food and children practise good hand-washing before fruit time

Lunch and Drinks

- Each child needs a packed lunch in sealed containers with your child's name on.
- Please ensure that your child can open and close thier lunch box, containers, and wrappings independently
- Each child also requires a drink bottle filled with water only, also with their name on it.

Allergy Awareness

- For the safety of all children, we are a Nut Aware school. Please avoid sending products containing nuts or traces of nuts.



Other Useful Information

School Development Days

- Schools have School Development Days each year for staff professional development and school planning. Students do not attend school on these days. The term dates for students in 2027 are as outlined in the table on page 15

Uniforms

Kindergarten students are encouraged to wear the school uniform each day. The uniform shop is open regularly throughout the term but dates may change. Please ask at the School Office for details.

Voluntary Contributions

- Voluntary contributions are optional contributions requested of parents and carers to enhance educational programs
- The Principal determines the level of voluntary school contributions in line with published Department advice, consultation with the school community and endorsement from the School Board
- The voluntary contribution for 2027 is $50 and can be paid at the School Office or directly into the school bank account





Health and Medical Information



If your child is sick at school

If your child gets sick or is injured at school we will contact you and seek the necessary medical attention. You will be called to come and collect your child if they are too sick to remain in class. For this reason, it is important to keep your contact details current with the school. Contact details can be updated at the School Office.

If your child is sick at home

If your child is obviously unwell or you think they are becoming unwell, please err on the side of caution and keep them at home, as we have a lot of children that can be affected. Please notify the school if your child is unable to attend.

Allergies

If your child has an allergy you must alert administration upon enrolment and advise the class teacher. An Allergy Action Plan which has been developed by your doctor, along with your child's medications, including a labelled EpiPen if prescribed, must be provided to the school.

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

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.

Medication

Sometimes children need to have prescribed medications during the day, and whilst it is preferable for parents to administer them, we are able to do so when given adequate information and a completed and signed Administration of Medication Form beforehand.

The medication must be clearly labelled with the child's name and provided in packaging from the pharmacy or the manufacturer.

Head lice

It is common for school children to get head lice at some time and it has nothing to do with being clean or dirty. Head lice can spread when children are in close contact, but do not cause any harm to your child's health.

To prevent your child getting lice:

- Check your child's hair regularly
- Keep long hair tied back

If your child has head lice:

- Remove tangles with a large comb, then comb hair with a thick, white hair conditioner using a fine-tooth comb to get rid of head lice and their eggs (nits) daily until there are no more eggs
- Inform the school so they can ask others to check their children's hair ; your child does not have to be identified

For more information:
https://healthywa.wa.gov.au/Articles/F_I/Head-lice

Communication

The following communication channels are available so you can be kept informed of your child's experiences at school. You can also arrange meetings with class teachers or the Principal throughout the year.

There are three levels of communication used at Braeside Primary school.

School App

The primary means of communication is through the Compass App, which provides an easy and effective way to disseminate information quickly. The Compass App is a mobile phone app that communicates directly with iPhone and Android devices The app provides parents with a convenient way to receive school notifications, newsletters, consent and authorise payment for excursions and events, school notices and alerts.

Instructions on how to download the Compass app can be found at the following link:
https://www.compass.education/compass-features/compass-for-parents/
If you have any trouble, please contact the office.

School Newsletters

The school newsletter is produced once a fortnight and is published on the app and website. The newsletter contains important dates and promotes students achievements.

Facebook Page

Our school's Facebook page allows our community to keep up to date with activities through a medium preferred by many. Our Facebook page is a private group restricted to parents and guardians of current students and current staff. Anyone wishing to join must complete the membership questions in the request.

Parent Concerns

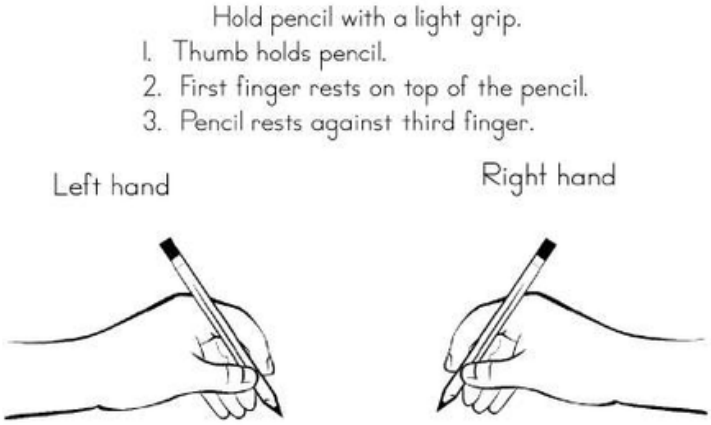
If you have any concerns about your child's education, you should raise them in the first instance with your child's teacher. If you still feel you need further assistance, contact the school office and request an appointment to speak with a member of the school administration.

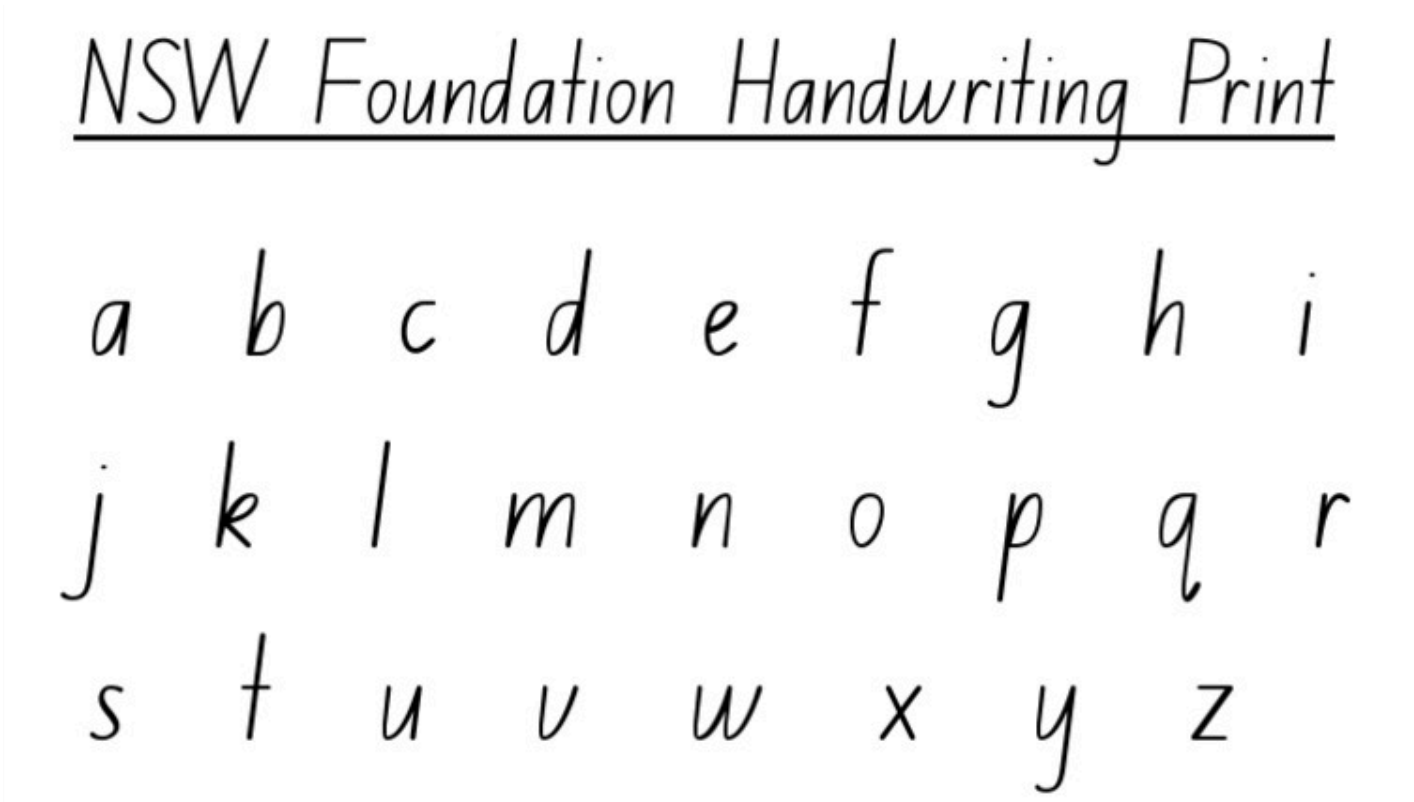


Handwriting Style

Correct Pencil Grip

While technology has impacted on the different ways we communicate, the ability to handwrite legibly remains a vital skill in many aspects of everyday life. 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.





Department of Education

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HEALTHY FOOD AND DRINK CHOICES

FACTSHEET

Tips for making healthy food and drink choices – Parents and carers

Children's energy needs for a busy day at school require them to eat a variety of foods. Children will have the best chance of getting all the nutrition they need if they are offered a variety of tasty and healthy foods every day.

Over their schooling life children can consume up to 2500 meals. Therefore it is crucial that these meals are nutritious, whether brought from home or purchased from the school canteen. All meals should re ect healthy food choices.



Healthy foods allow children to:

- ✓ *grow and develop*
- ✓ *concentrate.*

Lunches from home re ect:

- ✓ *personal choice*
- ✓ *parental knowledge about health and nutrition.*

Parents and carers can support healthy food and drink choices. When making lunches at home:

- ✓ *include bread, wholegrains, rice, pasta or noodles (try wholegrain for extra goodness)*
- ✓ *include reduced fat milk, cheese or yoghurt*
- ✓ *include some meat, sh, chicken, eggs*
- ✓ *go for 2 (fruit) and 5 (vegetables).*

Some lunch ideas:

- ✓ *sandwiches, rolls or wraps*
- ✓ *quiche*
- ✓ *mini pizza with cheese and vegetable toppings.*

These foods and drinks are not good choices for school lunches:

- ✗ *chips, crisps and similar snacks*
- ✗ *high fat savoury biscuits and snacks*
- ✗ *sweet biscuits and cereal bars*
- ✗ *lollies and chocolates.*

GREEN
FILL THE MENU



AMBER
SELECT CAREFULLY



RED
OFF THE MENU



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How To Read With Your Child

A Parents' Quick Guide





Choose the right book! Your child should be able to read **95** out of every **100** words. Higher than this and they could be missing out on further development. Lower, and they could be reading at 'frustration level'. **(Test this by reading 100 words with them!)**



Avoid the temptation to compete through the **school scheme levels** with your child's peers.



Discuss the story so far, or the book's **synopsis** (blurb) from the back cover. Make predictions on what will happen next.



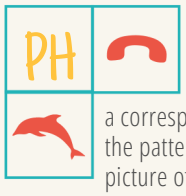
When reading, **track** the words - use either their finger, a ruler, a pen...



Use a variety of strategies to read the unfamiliar words - i.e. use **context clues, picture clues** (sparingly), **build the word up** (blend) using known **phonic sounds** (s-n-a-p = snap). It's handy to have a pencil and paper at the ready to show words with similar patterns.



Make a **list** of the words that couldn't be read, and **review** them at the end, then again at the start of the next session.



Make a **grid** and in each box write a phonic pattern the child is struggling to remember, along with a corresponding **picture** e.g. for 'ph' write the pattern (grapheme) along with a small picture of a phone, or a dolphin...Review these graphemes each reading session. Try spelling words containing them. Put them on your fridge!

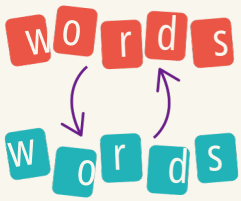


Spend part of the session **reading** to your child. This models good practice. Show them how you'd blend an unfamiliar word (pretend you don't know one!).



Vary the reading material. Use a **library**. Include factual as well as fictional.

Try **substituting** the author's words with new ones. Do they have the same effect? Why / why not? Can they tell the characters' feelings by their words or actions?





Try **digital reading** material too. There are many interactive reading apps available.



Read regularly! Several times per week is best. Doesn't have to be a long time each session. Go with the flow and make it fun. Consistency is vital.

www.ashtutors.co.uk.

AshTutors

2027



Public Holidays
School Development Days *(provisional)*
Vacation
Parent Teacher Interviews

Term dates

Term 1: Mon 1 Feb to Fri 9 Apr
Term 2: Mon 26 Apr to Fri 2 Jul
Term 3: Mon 19 Jul to Fri 24 Sep
Term 4: Mon 11 Oct to Thurs 16 Dec

Student Free Days

Mon 22 Mar	Mon 16 Aug
Tue 27 Apr	Mon 13 Sep
Mon 19 Jul	Mon 11 Oct

Public Holidays

New Year's Day	Fri 1 Jan	ANZAC day	Mon 26 April
Australia Day	Tue 26 Jan	Western Australia Day	Mon 7 June
Labour Day	Mon 1 March	King's Birthday	Mon 27 Sep
Good Friday	Fri 26 March	Christmas Day	Mon 27 Dec
Easter Monday	Mon 29 March	Boxing Day	Tue 28 Dec



every child... every day...



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