

Our Curriculum

The curriculum of the Centre is based on a program of active learning through play. This is formalised in the National Early Years Learning Framework document. Copies of this document may be borrowed from the staff.

At the Centre your child will have opportunities to

- Develop physical skills, grow in self-confidence, and experience a sense of achievement.
- Develop effective relationships with adults and peers.
- Grow in independence while contributing to the life of the group.
- Learn to play within group rules, develop awareness of personal safety and learn to positively express a range of emotions, including feelings of frustration and aggression.
- Engage in literacy, mathematical, musical, environmental and creative experiences.
- Develop awareness of a shared world in which everyone is responsible for caring for it in some way. Recycling & using resources responsibly is an integral part of the everyday program. In the kindy garden the growing of vegetables assists in promoting eating & cooking with what is fresh & local (sustainability)

Underlying all of the experiences within the Centre is the recognition that the development of a positive self-concept and wellbeing is crucial for each child's learning.

Assessment and Reporting:

Parents are asked to fill out a questionnaire to help us best meet your child's needs.

Staff in the Centre will undertake to observe, monitor and report on children's learning in a variety of ways.

Short parent interviews will be offered in your child's time at kindergarten and you will receive 2 Individual Learning Plans highlighting goals and actions for their development.

A final report will be given to parents on transition to school and a copy will be sent to your child's school.

Child Protection Curriculum

All DECD sites are mandated to teach the child protection curriculum, and all staff are mandatory notifiers of child abuse.

Children will be taught to be assertive about seeking help when they feel unsafe, and to be able to assert that their whole body is private and that they have a right to be safe.



Parent Information Booklet

45 Barramundi Drive
Hallett Cove SA 5158

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Email: dl.3645.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au

Staff: Jacqui Knolder (Director)
Daniel Larcombe (Teacher)
Helen Miller (Teacher)
Charli Wootton (Early Childhood Worker)
Michele Suskin (Early Childhood Worker)
Kim Wight (Early Childhood Worker)

Playgroup

Family Playgroup is held on Fridays, 11.00am - 1.00pm during term-time, for children from birth to 5 years, accompanied by a parent or carer. Bring a packed lunch, hat and water bottle.

Fees: Weekly cost \$2.50. There is no Playgroup Insurance required, however you are welcome to take this out through us if you plan to access other playgroups as well.

Transition Sessions- (formerly Pre-Entry)

Transition is an unfunded transition program that aims to gradually introduce children to their Kindergarten. Children attend for one session **per week** in term 4 prior to starting sessional kindergarten in the January.

Transition is integrated into kindergarten sessions and access is dependent on spaces in preschool sessions.

Cost: \$30.00 per term. This includes a kindergarten hat.

Sessional Kindergarten- Eligible Year

Sessional Kindergarten is available for up to 15 hours per week (5x 3 hour sessions) in the 4 terms prior to starting school. Children come into this group in their "Eligible year" which runs January– December. Children must be 4 before May1 of that year to attend. For children with special needs, approval may be given for early entry. Proof of age is required to enrol in kindergarten.

Session Choice and Flexibility:

At our Kindergarten you are able to choose **which days you would like your child to attend and may also choose from half and full day sessions. We offer you the ability to change your bookings as your child gets older or your situation changes.** We offer a full day option with a Lunch Care Program. This is a user-pays service. Our Lunchtime care is not counted in the 15 hours of kindergarten and this allows us to offer the flexibility for parents to use a half day session in both the mornings or afternoons on each day, as meets their needs.

This year Preschool sessions run:

Monday to Friday mornings . 8.30 to 11.30p.m

Monday to Thursday afternoons 12.00 to 3.00p.m.

Full Days are available Monday to Thursday with additional charge where there are spaces in our Lunch Care Program.

Please respect these sessional times, as staff are not available to supervise your child outside of session times. If you arrive early for the afternoon session, please stay with your child until the session commences. Thank you.

Lunchtime Care

Lunchtime Care is a service offered by the kindergarten if you wish to have 2 sessions in one day, however you are not required to access it. If you choose to access this service there is a termly charge which contributes to employing an extra staff member to supervise the children at this time. This allows us to offer Lunchtime Care and full days to a larger number of families. **Children are required to bring their own packed lunch.** The cost for the term is \$30 (for 1 lunchtime each week) and this keeps a place for you in the Lunchtime Care each week. There are no reductions for illness or holidays. Bookings for a regular Lunchtime Care place are to be paid by the date specified on the fees envelope to keep your place. Please see our Lunchtime Care Policy for more information if required.

Emergency Care:

Places may be available for lunch care (\$6). Please arrange with staff.

Fees:

To assist with kindergarten management we ask that fees be paid early each term, ie. by week 4. If you have difficulty in paying in this time frame, please speak to the Director. You will receive a fee envelope from the treasurer, who will also give you a receipt. Fees may be paid online by electronic transfer.

Full time Term fee - \$90.00.

Pre-Entry fee is \$30 includes a kindy hat.

Lunchtime Care fee \$30/ term (\$3 per session).

Working Together

Please be punctual when bringing or collecting your child.

Please check your mail tube in the foyer every day, and read notices and notice boards.

Our program is regularly displayed on the whiteboard in the foyer, and briefly summarised in newsletters. We welcome comments.

If someone other than you or your partner is collecting your child from kindergarten, please fill in the details in the Collection Book, which can be found on the kitchen bench next to the sign in book. If this is a regular arrangement, you need only to fill in the details at the beginning of each term.

Please ring the kindergarten if your child is sick or is to be absent. We receive funding and staffing based on attendances only. Regular attendance benefits your child's social, cognitive and friendship development.

For safety, please make sure the kindergarten gates are shut after you enter, and **only let YOUR child through the gate.**

Always bring your child into the building so that staff know they have arrived. Please sign your child in as well.

It is important to keep information, such as your contact details, provided at the time of enrolment, up to date. Please let staff know of any changes to information like contact phone numbers, etc.

The carpark off Barramundi Drive is for Staff Only. Exceptions are vehicles displaying a disabled permit.

The Governing Council

The Governing Council is an integral part of the operation of the kindergarten. Any parent or carer using a service of this Centre is most welcome to attend meetings, but only members have voting rights. Being a member of the council is a rewarding and enjoyable experience, providing opportunities to be involved in **decision-making, contributing to programmes, day-to-day financial management and fundraising**. The Governing Council also shares responsibility for decisions about the maintenance of the grounds, buildings and equipment. The Governing Council also endorses the centre policies. **Policies** are available to parents on request and are held at the sign-in bench.

Parent Participation

You are welcome to visit at any time and particularly during the first few days, when your child is new to the Centre. Please feel free to stay and enjoy activities with your child. We encourage you to share your talents, special skills and culture with us. We also welcome your ideas and suggestions regarding the program. If you have an idea to share, please speak with one of the staff.

You are welcome to speak to the staff regarding your child's progress at any time, but it may be helpful to book a specific time for an uninterrupted discussion.

Helping out.

There are many ways you can help out in the kindy including; taking home the weekly washing, cooking with the children, taking home materials to be prepared for the learning programme, undertake tasks or assist with children's activities during sessions. We also encourage all families to be involved in the fundraising activities of the kindy.

Children's / Parent Library

Children's library books are available to borrow for up to a week. We have a parent library at the kindergarten, with books covering a range of issues relating to child development, behaviour management, relationships and stresses within families. Please feel free to browse and borrow from our books. Just fill in your child's name / your name and details and sign when the book is returned.

Medication Procedures in Kindergarten

All medication **must** be handed to a staff member by a parent or carer (this includes asthma puffers and spacers). Medication must be in its original container or packaging. Please do not leave any medication of any kind in your child's bag. All medication will be stored securely and only accessed by a staff member. Staff will administer/ supervise only those medications/ treatments as prescribed by a doctor.

Regular medication needs a Health Care Plan, available from the centre, to be completed and signed by a medical practitioner. (A Health Care Plan must be provided for all children with asthma).

Healthy Food Policy

We encourage children to eat healthy food in line with DECS Right Bite Healthy Food Guideline. We support low fat, low sugar and low salt food choices.

Suggestions for fruit - time snacks: fresh fruit, raw vegetables (cucumber, capsicum, snow peas, carrot), dried fruits, cheese.

FOOD WITH ANY NUT OR EGG CONTENT IS NOT ALLOWED DUE TO CHILDREN WITH EXTREME ALLERGIES. Please supply a drink bottle that can be refilled with filtered drinking water which is available at all times throughout the day. Please see our Healthy Food Policy for further information.

A Note about Birthday Cakes

We are often asked by parents if they can bring a birthday cake for their child to share. We discourage this for the following reasons:

- It is not in line with the Healthy Food Policy.
- Some children at the centre have food or colouring allergies or intolerances.

Your child's birthday will be acknowledged and celebrated by singing "Happy Birthday" with a pretend cake with candles. They will also receive a hand-made card and sticker.

Starting Out: What Your Child Will Need

- A bag, preferably a backpack (which is easy for your child to open and close). The bag needs a marker or key item for easy identification eg: a ribbon or key ring. Your child's name needs to be clearly visible.
- A piece of **fruit /chopped vegetables** for every session (see our Healthy Food Policy).
- Named drink bottle to be kept in the kindy bag. **Water only please.**
- A legionnaires or broad-brimmed hat. Sunsafe policy applies: A hat must be worn when outside. No hat, no outside play. Kindy hats are available for \$8 (and are included in the Transition fee)
- Spare clothes in case of mishaps.
- Appropriate clothing and footwear which is easy for your child to manage, especially when toileting. (Staff will assist with mishaps). Smocks are provided for messy activities, but children should be dressed casually and comfortably so they can participate in a wide variety of activities safely and without fear of "getting dirty". Long dresses are inappropriate for climbing as they restrict movement and some types of play, and no thongs or other footwear with no backs please, as again they are difficult to climb or run in.
- Please name all articles brought to kindergarten: bags, hats, lunchboxes (both lids and bases), clothes etc. It makes it so much easier to identify lost or misplaced things.
- We ask that children keep their toys, teddies, jewellery etc. at home so that they don't get lost or broken at kindergarten. The lost property basket is in the foyer.