



Kindergarten Parent Information Booklet 2019



Telephone: **9345 6224** (direct line)

School: 50 Burbridge Avenue, KOONDOOLA WA 6064

Kindergarten: Meldrum Way, KOONDOOLA WA 6064

Classroom: EC2 (Early Childhood Classroom 2)

Dear Parents,

Welcome to your child's year at the Koondoola Primary School Kindergarten. It is our aim that Kindergarten is an enjoyable and enriching experience that will establish positive attitudes towards learning, which will last throughout your child's schooling.

This booklet is for your information to let you know all about the Kindy year. Please feel free to ask any questions regarding information in this booklet or about any aspects of the program.

Kindergarten Days and Times for 2019

In 2019 we have two kindy groups and the days and times for the groups are:-

Red Group

Monday - full day from 8.45am until 3.00pm – every week

Tuesday - full day from 8.45am until 2.30pm (early close day) – every week

Wednesday - from 8.45am until 3.00pm (**rotation day - alternate weeks**)

Blue Group

Thursday - full day from 8.45am until 3.00pm – every week

Friday - full day from 8.45am until 3.00pm - every week

Wednesday - from 8.45am until 3.00pm (**rotation day - alternate weeks**)

* **Please note, the school has “early close day” on Tuesday of every week.**

The children in the **Red Group** must be collected **at 2.20pm** so that the staff can attend meetings at the school. Children who are not collected at **2.20pm** will wait for their parents at the main school office.

- The children break for lunch at 12.30 pm.
- Parents will be given a **Kindy Wednesday Rotation sheet** before the beginning of each term that will show their child's Wednesday **rotation days** for the next term. The children come to kindy on their regular two days each week and the alternate Wednesday that is their **rotation day**.

Morning Routine

- Doors **open at 8.45am**. Welcome
- Place your **fruit in the basket and water bottle** on the trolley near the entrance. Lunchboxes to be placed on the shelf.
- Please only take a quick tour with your child, before they choose either to read a book or doing a puzzle. **This is the daily routine we establish for the rest of the year.**
- Encourage **independence** with an expectation that your child carries their own bag, brings in their fruit and drink bottle and takes a go at finding their name badge.
- **Leaving:** When the bell rings please take the time to have a quick kiss and cuddle goodbye before leaving through the front entrance.

**Please do not linger as this delays the inevitable separation.
Most children will settle quickly and if not, we will call you.**

Collecting your Child from School

It is very important parents arrive on time when collecting their child at home time. Young children can quickly become upset when all of the other children have gone home and they are left with the staff and have no other children to play with at the kindy.

Note:- written authority is required if a person other than the parent will be collecting your child, please let the teacher or office know in advance.

If you are going to be late collecting your child, please phone the kindy on [9345 6224](tel:93456224) to advise the staff.

Attendance

The importance of good attendance on your child's early learning:

Children enrolled at the kindergarten need to attend kindy **regularly**, so they can access a continuity of the program. If your child is unable to attend Kindy, please phone the Kindy on **9345 6224 before 9.30am or school office (9345 6200)** to let the staff know your child will be away. in the morning to let the staff know. At school we are highly sympathetic to and very understanding of legitimate illness among our students. The school has an automatic mobile phone messaging system that sends an SMS text message to the parent's mobile phone at 9.30am if their child has not arrived at school and the parents have not phoned the kindy.

When your child returns to kindy after they have been away, please tell the teacher the reason the child was away or write a note explaining the absence. The research below indicates that good attendance habits established in the early years of schooling translate to successful learning, beginning with kindy.

Please support your child by advising the school of non-attendance and by ensuring that your child attends regularly. If there are any issues that impact upon your child's attendance please contact the school so that we are able to support you.

The Kindergarten Program

We aim to make your child's initial contact with school a happy, engaging experience and to establish positive attitudes to learning. With Kindergarten being one of the first steps from home to school, we build on existing knowledge, skills and interests. Our program is supportive but it is also challenging. It is based around a balance of:

- Child-directed play - The child chooses how, when, with what and with whom to engage.
- Play Based Learning - The teacher manages the play environment to achieve specific outcomes.
- Explicit Instruction - The teacher plans and delivers explicit instruction to achieve specific outcomes.
- We foster the children's emotional development by encouraging them to be independent and take responsibility for their own actions and decisions
- Children learn a lot from each other and we encourage them to play together, talk to each other and help each other.

Planned and play based learning occurs throughout the day as a whole class, in small groups and individually. We are steered by three important documents - **Early Years Learning Framework, Kindergarten Curriculum Guidelines and National Quality Standards.**

Things your child will need

Fruit Time

We share “fruit time” together every day. Please send in **one (1)** piece of fresh fruit, or crunchy salad vegetables eg carrot, celery or cucumber. Dried fruit like sultanas and apricots are also very good. Cheese and savoury crackers are also very popular. The fruit and vegetables are cut up and put on plates for the children to share. We encourage the children to try different, perhaps unfamiliar, fruits and vegetables as a way of widening their experience.



Lunch

Please provide a nutritious packed lunch for your child. Send only what your child would usually eat for lunch. Sandwiches, rice and noodles are usually the most popular. We try to encourage your child to eat as much of their lunch as they can and take home any food they do not eat, so you can see how much food your child has eaten at lunchtime. Please put an ice pack in with your child’s lunch to keep the food cool during in the summer. **Please – do not send lollies, milk, milk boxes, Up ‘n’ Go drinks, muesli bars or any sweet ‘desserts’ or juice boxes.** These types of drinks have very high sugar content and fill the children up, without providing much nutritional goodness, and then the children can’t eat their lunch

Allergy Aware (nuts and nut products)

As an Allergy Aware school, we ask parents not send food containing nuts or nut products (eg no peanuts, other type of nuts, peanut paste, Nutella or any product containing nuts) for their child’s recess or lunch. We need to protect students at our school who have a nut allergy or sensitivity to nuts. These students are at risk by not only eating nut allergens but also by touching and smelling the allergens.



Water sipper bottle

Please provide a plastic water sipper bottle for your child to fill up **with plain water**, so your child can have a drink whenever he or she is thirsty. Please make sure your child’s name is written clearly on the bottle. Please do not put any cordial in the bottle – it is very high in sugar. We only drink water at kindy.



Sunscreen

Although sunscreen is provided at kindy we recommend sunscreen be applied to your child’s skin before your child comes to kindy. It is helpful if you teach your child how apply the sunscreen themselves.

Clothing and school uniform and hats

We encourage the children to wear the school uniform. Parents can buy the school uniform from Eclipse Universal, Unit 2/10 Stanford Way, Malaga. The telephone number for Eclipse Universal is 9249 4344 and the shop is open from Monday to Friday from 9.00am until 5.00pm. The school hats are reversible with navy blue colour on one side and the child’s faction colour on the other side. You will need to know your child’s faction before you buy the hat from Eclipse Universal.



Hats with a wide brim are recommended as they do not fall off as easily as other types of hats. Baseball style caps are not acceptable headwear for play in the sun as they do not provide enough protection to the neck and ears.



SunSmart School

Koondoola is a 'SunSmart School' registered with the Cancer Council and working to ensure our children are educated in how to enjoy Australia's glorious sunshine safely. We will be insisting children wear 'SunSmart' hats at recess, lunch and during physical education and sport. We will also be making sunscreen available and teaching the children how to apply it correctly. Thank you for your support in this important program that aims to keep our kids healthy as they enjoy our wonderful climate.

Please print your child's name on all of their clothing including their hat.

Spare clothes

We provide aprons to protect the children's clothes during "messy" work eg painting. Please **ALWAYS keep a complete change of clothing in your child's school bag** "just in case" it is required. Please also ensure your child can manage his/her own clothing eg zips, buckles and buttons etc when going to the toilet.

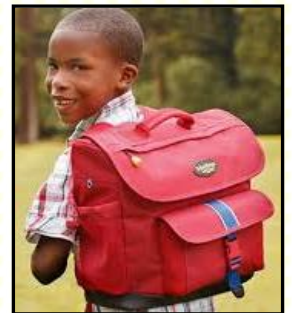


Kindy Booklist Requirements

Parents are required to purchase the items on the Kindy Booklist Requirements sheet. It is important the children bring the items along to kindy in the first week of Term 1. Please note, kindergarten children need "jumbo or mega size" crayons and markers.

School bag or backpack

The children need a school bag to carry all their belongings to and from Kindy. Please ensure your child can manage to do up the buckles and clips up on his / her own school bag independently.



Shoes

We ask the children to keep their shoes on during outdoor activities for safety reasons and to protect themselves against potential hazards in the playground. The children need to wear comfortable, flexible and safe shoes **that enclose the whole foot**, so the children can run, jump and land safely. Thongs, ugg boots or scuffs are not suitable for kindy. The children need to be able to **fasten their own shoes themselves** (velcro is easy for young children to manage). **Please do not send your child with lace-up shoes** that they cannot tie up themselves, these shoes are too difficult for young children to manage when they need to feel independent.



Medication

If your child requires medication while they are at Kindergarten, we'll give you a form for your GP / Family Doctor / Medical Practice to fill in. The staff will need full written instructions from the GP / Doctor / Medical Practice about any medicines your child may need to take while they are at kindy. We have a safe, lockable cupboard to keep the medicines safely out of children's reach.

Supervision

The children are supervised at all times. Please ensure you stay with your child in the morning before we open the doors, and that you are prompt collecting your child at home time.

Toys

We provide a lot of equipment to engage the children. The children do not need to bring toys from home as they may get lost or damaged, and misunderstandings may occur. If your child brings home a piece of a toy, puzzle or game we would appreciate you returning the piece to kindy as soon as possible.

Birthdays



You are welcome to send in a cake or individual cupcakes to kindy on your child's birthday (we can provide the candles).

We also keep a "model" cake at kindy so all the children can share your child's celebration and sing "Happy Birthday!"

Parent Roster

We will set up a parent roster and request you to volunteer to spend time with us at the kindy. Your child feels very encouraged with your presence, and becomes very proud. It also gives you the chance to see what happens at kindy each day and to ask questions.

Being on Parent Roster is also a good opportunity for you to mention any concerns you may have about your child. Grandparents, dads and other family members are also welcome to come to kindy.



Laundry Roster

Every week a child's name is chosen to "win" the bag of laundry. The bag contains some towels, tea towels, painting aprons and perhaps some dress-up clothes. We ask you to please wash, dry, fold them and return them to kindy early the next week.

We really appreciate your help in doing the kindy washing for us, and it helps to maintain our clean, hygienic atmosphere for the children.



Communication

We will have notes displayed near the kindy doors with information about current activities, themes and news. The children will also receive the regular school newsletter. We welcome you to come into the kindy and share books and puzzles with your child at the beginning of the day. This also gives you a chance to look around the kindy and see the activities and environment your child is participating in.

Tips for Kindy

Please begin to teach your child

- to recognise their name
- practise opening and closing their lunch box
- practise zipping and unzipping their school bag

Toileting

Over the next couple of months please encourage your child to use the toilet independently. Please remind your child to flush the toilet, wash their hands and dry them thoroughly.



Supporting your child:

Your child will really flourish if you find time every day to:-

- ❖ talk to your child and answer any questions with simple explanations. Discuss things with your child and listen to what your child tells you!
- ❖ read and share books together, discuss who is in the story and what is happening.
- ❖ count the number of small items around you eg blocks, cups, spoons, pegs etc. Ask your child, are there “more”, are there “lots”, or are there “just a few items”?
- ❖ take notice and talk about the different colours, shapes, sizes of everyday items around you.
- ❖ write words down on pieces of paper eg shopping list and let your child see that writing is meaningful. Please provide lots of crayons, marker pens (**jumbo** or **mega** size) and blank paper and allow your child to draw and “write” freely.
- ❖ **Give your child lots of attention!**
- ❖ You really are very important to your child and whatever you say and do makes a very strong impression on your child.
- ❖ The best way to help your child is to take an interest in him / her and what they are doing. *The more interest you show in your child, the stronger impact you have on your child.*
It is much more important than all the “teaching” you might do.
- ❖ When your child knows **they really do matter to you**, they grow strongly in their emotional development; this will positively influence and encourage every aspect of their all-round learning.



Parking at the Kindergarten

Parents and children can walk to the kindergarten on the path from the school or if you are driving your child to kindy, you can access the kindergarten on Meldrum Way. Please be considerate if you are parking your car on the street in Meldrum Way, our neighbours must be able to access their homes without cars blocking access to their driveway.

Voluntary Contributions - \$40.00 per child

In help teachers buy extra supplies like paint, reading books and sports equipment for the children in government schools, the Department of Education’s regulations allow Principals to ask parents to pay voluntary contributions. At Koondoola Primary School students from kindergarten to Year 6 are requested to pay the voluntary contributions. The Koondoola Primary School Board has set the amount of voluntary contributions for 2019 at **\$40.00 per child**. We would appreciate parents paying their child’s voluntary contributions at the beginning of 2019. Reminder letters will be sent out during the year about the voluntary contribution payments.



Payments

Payment for many items including voluntary contributions, excursions etc can be paid at the office using EFTPOS cards (saving, cheque or credit cards). If you are paying for items using cash, it can be sent to the office in the payment envelope that will be provided.

We look forward to an exciting year of learning in partnership with you and your child. If you have any further questions have no hesitation in contacting us.

Kind regards from Jennifer Turner and Jill Murphy (Wednesday teacher)