



Welcome to Kindergarten

Parent Handbook 2025



Shaping bright futures by empowering lifelong learners



Thank you for choosing to enrol your child in Kindergarten at Gosnells Primary School.

As you begin your educational journey with us, be assured that you have chosen a school that prides itself upon:

- ◆ Our long, well established history;
- ◆ Our achievement of excellence;
- ◆ Our dedicated and professional staff; and
- ◆ Our excellent results.



Gosnells Primary School prides itself on providing an environment of excellence for all staff, students and their families with four simple expectations that everyone will '**Be Safe**', '**Be Responsible**', '**Be Respectful**' and '**Be Better**'. We ask that you join us in expecting the very best from both us and your children, so that they have every chance to achieve their potential.

Kindy is an important foundational year. Your child will develop those skills necessary for reading, speaking and listening, writing, maths and getting along with each other. They will do so through:

- ◆ An integrated approach to learning;
- ◆ Learning through play;
- ◆ A vibrant and flexible learning environment;
- ◆ Intentional teaching of literacy and numeracy skills; and
- ◆ Support to foster self-regulation and emotional control.

Join with us in encouraging your child to develop a love of learning, so that every day at school is a happy one.

We look forward to working together with you to make a difference for your child.

With best wishes,

Scott Tapper
Principal



What can I do before my child commences Kindergarten?

Talk to your child about where they will be going. Show them the pictures in this booklet of some of the activities they will do at Kindergarten. Tell them they will do things like puzzles, read books, play with blocks, playdough and play on outside equipment. If you haven't already, start teaching them to put on their own shoes and jumpers and how to take them off. Show them how to wash their hands with soap and dry them on a towel. Teach them to begin looking after their own belongings. Having these skills will make their day at Kindergarten a lot easier. Drive or walk past the school and point out the classrooms and playground. Establish a bedtime routine during the holidays to ensure they get enough sleep ready for the start of the Kindergarten year.

What happens on the first day of Kindergarten?

Ensure your child has had a good night's sleep before their first day. Make sure they eat a good breakfast before school. Encourage them to pack their own bag. Parents are invited to stay for a while and read books or do puzzles with their child. When parents leave, we will sing some songs, read a book and have some "table activities" for the children to participate in. These will be things like playdough, threading, Lego or colouring-in. We will all have fruit together then go outside for a play. After lunch we will have a rest, read a story and do more table activities. The first two weeks of school will be quite informal, to ease the children into the routines. As the year progresses the learning becomes more structured. It would be appreciated if your child's booklist items could all be in a plastic bag with their name on the bag.

How many hours does my child attend Kindergarten?

All children enrolled in our Kindergarten program are funded to attend 30 hours per fortnight. Your child will attend two days in one week and three days on the alternative week. Classes commence at 8:30am and finish at 2:40pm on each day. Doors open at 8:15am for children to read a book or do a puzzle with their parent/guardian. During the first two weeks of the school year you may wish to pick your child up at lunchtime if you feel this would make the transition from home to school easier and less tiring for them. You will be advised of which Kindergarten group your child has been placed in, and which days they will be attending later in the year.

Parent Contributions

The parent contribution for Kindergarten is \$60 per child per year. This contribution may be paid in cash at the office, online via the Qkr! App or when personal items lists are ordered.



At Kindy we...



...create things with our friends.

...learn about animals.



...play outside.

...dress up with friends.



...listen to our teacher.



...climb and hang.





...learn about the community.



...cook healthy food.



...grow plants.



...investigate the library.



...have fun at sport.



...read books.



What does my child wear to Kindergarten?

School uniform is strongly encouraged in Kindergarten. It makes it easier to identify children as belonging to the school community. The uniform consists of a yellow t-shirt and blue shorts or skirts. These can be purchased from the school uniform shop or any department store. Remember that although aprons are provided, some activities can be quite messy. Children need to be able to do activities; run, climb, etc. without being hindered by their clothes. Please make sure that footwear is suitable for running, jumping and climbing, but is easy for your child to put on and take off independently. It is also School Policy that children wear a sun-safe hat in the playground. These are legionnaires, broad brim or bucket hats. Caps are not sun safe. *Please make sure that all items of clothing have your child's name on them.*

What does my child bring to Kindergarten?

At Kindergarten we have a healthy snack time. Please ensure your child brings one piece of fruit and another snack; for example vegetables, cracker biscuits, dried fruit, cheese cubes, muesli bar or sultanas, but please - no sweet biscuits, lollies or nuts. They also need a healthy lunch in a lunch box. Children need their own water bottle each day, which they will take home at the end of the day to be filled with water only (no juice please).

In case of an "accident" please ensure your child *always* has a spare pair of undies, shorts, pants or a skirt in their backpack. Please also provide a pillow/cushion for "rest-time" after lunch (to be kept at Kindergarten).

Please ensure anything your child brings to Kindergarten has their name clearly marked on it.

What information do I need to give to the teacher?

No child will be able to leave the Kindergarten unaccompanied or with a person other than his/her legal guardian unless written or verbal permission is given to the Kindergarten staff or Principal. If someone other than parents/guardians are picking up your child, please let the staff in the classroom know in person at drop off time or by phoning the school.

Make sure the school has up-to-date contact details, including an emergency contact. We often send information in the post, or call you, so please update your contact details if they change.

It is very important that you notify the teacher as soon as the school year starts about any allergies or health conditions affecting your child. These may include food allergies, asthma, bee/wasp allergies and dietary considerations due to religion.



How can I help as a parent/guardian?

We value your help in our Kindergarten program and ask that you volunteer to come in for a couple of sessions per term by writing your name on our parent roster which will be displayed in the Kindergarten classroom. We do not have a parent roster for the first few weeks to give children time to settle into school and get to know the Kindergarten staff. Please help out by taking laundry home to wash when on roster. Rosters will be displayed on the board outside the classroom. If any parents have special talents we would love you to come in and share them with us; such as art, music, storytelling or dancing. We appreciate donations of scrap materials for our art/craft program. Suggestions are:

Egg cartons	Computer or plain paper	Yoghurt containers
Small cardboard box-	Wood shavings	Butter containers
Foam trays	Ribbons	Ice-cream containers
Wrapping paper	Cotton reels	Leather scraps
Buttons	Small pieces of wood	Wool
Plastic milk bottles	Shredded paper	Unused stationery

Can my child celebrate their birthday at school?

You are most welcome to bring along a cake to Kindergarten when it is your child's birthday. Please ensure there is enough for 22 children. Individual cup cakes are a good idea.

During the weeks ahead

When your child comes home from Kindergarten talk with them about what they have been doing. Much of what they do at Kindergarten cannot be brought home. It may be what they made in the sand, the story we read, the songs we sang, what they made with the play dough, who they played with or what they built. Show an interest in what they have made to bring home, show it to others and find a special place for it.

Check your child's bag every day for notes and read class and school newsletters as they will keep you up-to-date with what is happening. Our school website is also regularly updated and timely information can be found by 'liking' our Facebook page.

Regular attendance is important to develop a routine, developing skills and understandings and forming relationships with other children and staff. If your child is going to be away or is away please provide a note and inform the teacher.



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