

CLASS INFORMATION BOOKLET

2017



Kindergarten 1
Mrs Ann Rose

Welcome

Welcome to Edgewater Kindergarten. It is an important and exciting milestone when your child starts school. Your child's journey through school builds on all the things they have learned with you at home. Kindergarten is the first experience your child has of school life. They will learn important early maths, reading and writing skills as well as social skills that will help them through school.

Here at Edgewater your child will attend Kindergarten for 15 hours each week.

You are an essential part of your child's learning and development through school.

At Edgewater we value input from parents, and by opening our doors at 8.30am it allows parents/carers time to participate in numeracy and literacy tasks as well as reading stories and assisting with puzzles.

We offer a parent/carer help roster where they participate in our daily programme assisting with small group work, preparation of materials and snacks for the children. This also allows for valuable communication time between teachers and parents/carers.

Students will participate in a number of social events such as the Easter Bonnet Parade and Sports Day, where they will be given the opportunity to perform before an audience, building their confidence and social skills. Parents/carers will also be invited to assist should an education excursion be planned.

Occasionally, and when appropriate, students will be invited to join in whole-school incursions where they will participate as part of the whole school.

We are proud to provide an educational programme that deals with social, physical and intellectual skills and we look forward to what will be an exciting year getting to know you and your child and feel confident that it will be the start of an exciting, happy journey into the future.

Please read this booklet to find out more about the many differe



Enjoy the journey!

Kindergarten Staff

Contact

If you wish to discuss your child's progress or any concerns, please appreciate that this cannot be done successfully while a session is in progress. Please see teachers to organise a convenient time, or if you wish you can telephone the school on 9405 4007 to make an appointment.

Classroom/Teaching Philosophy

Research has shown that children learn through exploration and play. We aim to provide children with a programme which is play-based, hands on and lots of fun.

We believe that every child is a unique individual and is a valued member of our class. Every child learns in a different way and in Kindergarten we strive to provide fun meaningful learning experiences that cater for each child's needs and learning style.

We strive to make our Kindergarten programme encourage a love of learning and help your child become a confident learner.

Our Programme

The educational programme provided at Edgewater Kindergarten deals with social, physical and intellectual skills. It is a balance between free choice activities referred to as 'constant positives', and structured formal group times.

The programme is one of readiness, a time for a child to gain a range of skills, concepts and attitudes that will help them be ready for primary school. However, education is not a wild rush forward to adulthood. It is a process of steady growth and discovery. It needs to be fun. If learning is an enjoyable process, it will encourage a positive attitude toward more formal learning.

We aim to provide an environment in which your child is free to observe, question, explore and experiment. The children will be encouraged to be independent and find out things for themselves. They will learn to respect themselves and others and the need and feelings of others. Children who learn to solve his/her problems are on their way to being well adjusted adults.

We provide learning experiences that are interesting, inviting and challenging, allowing children to build on existing knowledge and discover new learning, maximising literacy and numeracy outcomes.

At our Kindergarten we include the following specific programmes

- * Phonological awareness
- * Fundamental Movement Skills
- * Bounce Back and Friendly Schools (social skills programmes)
- * Primary Movement (daily movement exercise)
- * Western Australian Kindergarten Guidelines
- * Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF)
- * National Quality Standards (NQS)

Parent Responsibilities

As Kindergarten may be the first big step away from home for some children, it is very important that there is strong communication links between parents/carers and teachers. You can make a positive contribution to your child's year by:

- ♦ Taking an active interest in activities:
 - Trying to spend some time with them after their day if possible.
 - Display some of you're their work at home, even if it is only for a few days.
- ♦ Work with teachers in matters concerning your them.
 - Please inform us about any things concerning your child's health and wellbeing and any changes at home that could effect their participation in the group.

A parent roster will be operating every term. It would be appreciated if all parents/carers could come along. We understand that this is not always possible due to work commitments. If you are unable to come at all, we would welcome a grandparent, or a special friend. Having someone on roster is of great benefit to any child as it brings home and school together.

We look forward to working with you this year.



Supporting Positive Student Behaviour

There may be times when individuals require assistance with the management of their behaviour. Usually, a short, calm reminder of the correct behaviour and re-direction is enough. Should the behaviour continue, a child may be requested to think about what they have done and be removed from the situation and have some 'time out'. This takes place on the 'thinking spot'. Positive, verbal reinforcements are used as well as the 'Getting Along Programme'. The Getting Along Program is a reward programme we use in Kindy where positive behaviours are rewarded with a sticker, once the child has received 10 stickers they get a lucky dip. Administrators, the school nurse and the school psychologist are always available for advice and support after consultation with parents.

Absences/Attendance

For the sake of your child and the health of the other children, please do not send your child to Kindy if he/she is sick. In the case of infectious diseases please ask about quarantine periods. Any absence from school must be supported by an explanation – this can be by note, email, phone call to the office (9405 4007), or by using our online absentee form from the link on the home page of our website. Explanations must be made within three days of the student returning to school. Family holidays during term time must be notified in advance and in writing to the principal.

Birthdays

We love them! Turning 4 or 5 is a very important event. If you would like to share this event with Kindy friends, we have no objection to small cupcakes brought along to be shared at snack time. Lollies etc. are not encouraged. Please avoid sending cakes which have peanut ingredients as some children may have allergies.

Uniform

Although not compulsory, the school uniform is recommended.

Could you please send along a complete change of clothes to be kept in your child's bag. These are available in case of an emergency, such as when we have water play activities. Please label all of your child's clothing.

Hats

Please send a labelled bucket hat each day, to be kept in your child's bag until needed. The school has a *no-no play in the sun* policy – only bucket, broad-brimmed or Legionnaires styles are permitted. Caps are no longer part of the school uniform.

Bags

Please provide a large roomy bag. We find that smaller bags are not suitable as once lunch boxes fit there is not much room for anything else.

Fruit

Once piece of fruit, suitable vegetable, or a healthy alternative such as cheese, dried fruit, polony etc is required daily for shared fruit. Please place this in the fruit basket on arrival.

Lunch

A packed labelled lunch is needed each full day at Kindy. Please do not send along fizzy drinks or lollies. Each child is requested to bring a drink bottle of water daily to be kept inside. The children will be reminded to drink regularly.

The school canteen is open from Tuesday to Friday for lunch orders. A menu is available on the school website.

School Website/School App

The school website and the app are your 'one stop' shop for information about the school, including events, upcoming activities and online forms. Please download the school app as soon as possible from either the iStore or Google Play. The app's name is Updat-ed and it is free to download. Further instructions are on the website.

Newsletters

These are published on the website fortnightly on Friday commencing in Week 1. If we have your email address on file you will receive an email alert to indicate that the newsletter has been published and links to it. Important information is always placed in the newsletter.

WHAT DO I LEARN?

I need to learn all of these skills to help me grow into a happy, healthy adult.

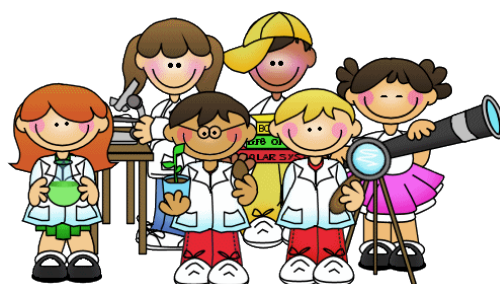
- ♦ I learn to be away from you—and this may take some time.
- ♦ I learn to work with teachers and other adults.
- ♦ I learn to work in small and large groups.
- ♦ I learn to work alone.
- ♦ I learn to share and co-operate.
- ♦ I learn simple rules and routines.
- ♦ I learn to complete a task or activity.
- ♦ I learn to question and answer.
- ♦ I learn to be independent—but not afraid to ask for help.
- ♦ I learn to select and choose.
- ♦ I learn to share my family and experiences with others.

I may have difficulty explaining or understanding my feelings at a young age but:

- ♦ I can act them out in play.
- ♦ I can express them in my art.
- ♦ I can find appropriate activities to let off steam.

REMEMBER

I will learn at my own rate and this may be faster or slower than others.



BEFORE I LEARN TO READ I NEED TO KNOW:

- ♦ What a book is.
- ♦ That a book contains words and pictures.
- ♦ That a book has a beginning and an end and a back and a front.
- ♦ That reading is done from left to right top to bottom and that each printed word represents one spoken word.
- ♦ To learn to love and care for books in order to want to read.
- ♦ Books are enjoyable– I can find out such a lot of things.
- ♦ My language and listening skills grow with lots of stories, poems, singing, puppets, games and music.
- ♦ How to identify, rhymes, syllables, sounds, letters and words.

BEFORE I LEARN TO WRITE I NEED TO KNOW:

- ♦ Know what happens when I put pencil to paper.
- ♦ Be able to hold and manipulate writing tools appropriately.
- ♦ Have time to enjoy and experiment with writing.
- ♦ Learn about letters, words, how they are formed and what order they go in.
- ♦ Be praised for my efforts.
- ♦ Have lots of opportunities to practice.

At Edgewater Kindergarten we model and encourage

- ♦ Correct pencil grip, appropriate use of upper and lower case print using the 'stick and ball' font.
- ♦ Left to right progression.

Parents sometimes show concern when their child writes backwards or upside down. At this level it is not a concern but shows that the child has not developed or understands to follow print from left to right.

If you are modelling to your child how to print his/her name please avoid using Capitals.

Eg. Model 'Jane' not 'JANE'

See attached sheets for correct formation of 'stick and ball' font and correct seating and pencil grip.



BEFORE I LEARN MORE ABOUT MATHEMATICS I NEED TO

- ◆ Know the names of numbers.
- ◆ Be able to say numbers in the correct order.
- ◆ Match each number with the correct number of things.
- ◆ Know the names of shapes and colours.
- ◆ Put things into sets.
- ◆ Learn about size.
- ◆ Learn about weight.
- ◆ Learn about space.
- ◆ Learn about patterns.
- ◆ Practice my mathematic skills in all ways, games, sand play, water play, block play.

I NEED LEARN ABOUT THE WORLD AROUND ME BY

- ◆ Finding out what things are called.
- ◆ How things work.
- ◆ Where things come from.
- ◆ What things are made of and who makes them.
- ◆ How things feel, look, taste, smell, and sound.
- ◆ How things may hurt me.
- ◆ How things grow and change.

I may get dirty, wet and maybe a little scratched while I am finding out about things,

But

If I make a discovery, then it's been worth it!!!



LEARNING AREAS

Book Corner

A Book Corner with attractive and favourite books is a positive step towards encouraging your child having a great deal of interest in reading, writing, speaking and listening. It teaches children what books have to offer and the pleasure which comes with listening to a story. It also encourages children to take care of books and use them correctly. Children will learn that a book is read from left to right and front to back—as well as beginning to recognise letters, sounds, rhymes, and the ability to orally recall in correct sequence.

Block Corner

In the Block Corner the children have many opportunities to build a world of their own. Blocks provide many problem solving situations for the child. The Block Corner is a very important avenue of play to develop mathematical skills, dealing with size, shape, number, matching, comparing and classifying. The children learn to deal with space and position in space (under, on, top, beside). Hand and eye co-ordination is being developed as well as social skills such as sharing and turn taking.

Dramatic Play

The Dramatic Play area is a place where children can act out family situations, express their feelings and all the things they enjoy or find difficulty understanding in real life. Dramatic play offers an outlet for the children to be and do what they may not be allowed to do under normal circumstances. Play clothes and props are provided to help dramatic play situations feel more real for the children. In this area the children learn to play together—share, take turns, and co-operate. All the time the children are using language and developing their creativity.

Outdoor Play

Outdoor play is eagerly participated by most children. The outdoor environment is where the children develop their large muscles by climbing, balancing, crawling and jumping etc. the children also develop their small body muscles by gripping, catching, pulling etc. All these skills are necessary to develop the children's confidence and in their turn taking ability.

While outdoor the children can also explore nature.

Maths concepts are also developed as children learn about under, over, through etc.



LEARNING AREAS (cont.)

Sand and Water Play

Both forms of play provide children with a situation in which they can play together or alone. Sand/ Water play stimulates language development, imagination, concentration and exploration. Both areas of play help develop mathematical and science exploration. They also help small muscle development. Water play is a relaxing and soothing activity which makes no demands on the child. Sand play develops constructing and building creativity along with an opportunity to play dramatically.

Art and Craft

Art and craft opportunities are offered to the children every day. This allows the children to express themselves using various art materials and tools. The children are encouraged to experiment with a wide variety of materials which help them to appreciate texture, colour, size, shape and design. Art and craft activities allow the children opportunity to develop small muscles, writing skills, hand eye co-ordination as well as following simple instructions and working alone or with others.

Technology

The children have access to a computer and a number of educational programmes which assist in the development of basic computer skills as well as mathematical and literacy skills. An interactive whiteboard is also provided as a tool for teaching and learning.

Other basic forms of technology are readily available for the children's use eg. Staplers, hole punches, sticky tape dispensers, glue guns, CD Players etc.

Listening Post

Using recorded stories etc, the children learn to sit and concentrate, operate simple machines and develop their listening skills.

Music and Movement

In this area the children learn to co-operate and join in with others, to enjoy their body and new ways to move it, to appreciate a wide range of music and the use of simple musical instruments and costumes. The children will learn many songs and how to make their own music. They will develop their sense of rhythm and memory.



LEARNING AREAS (cont.)

Nature and Science

Through the exploration of a wide variety of interesting objects and activities the children will be able to develop a wide variety of basic science skills such as investigating, recording information, experimenting as well as finding out more about the world around them.

Writing Centre

The children have the opportunity to experience a wide variety of writing materials and practise their writing skills at their own level and pace. They are given the opportunity to experiment with letters, words and numbers as well as participate in more formal lessons encouraging the correct formation of letters and how letters are used to form words.

Collage Drawing and Painting

These areas are important for the children to express themselves creatively in their own way. Fine motor skills are developed for cutting, placing and writing. The children learn to follow simple instructions as well as working as a whole group, in small groups and individually, sharing and taking turns.

Play dough/Clay

This is FUN! Small hand muscles are developed as well as mathematic, literacy and social skills.

I learn through all of these activities because they are carefully planned at my level,
I want to and it is FUN!!!

Resources

We need to collect a variety of scrap materials for use at Kindy. Below is a list of materials that would be useful. We would appreciate any donations of the following items.

Cotton wool	Plain wooden pegs
Lace/Ribbon	Small paper plates
Coloured patty pans	Large paper plates
Coloured match sticks	Threading pasta
Cotton buds	Plain flour
Balloons	Cream of tartar
Coloured straws	Wool (black, red, yellow and brown)
Coloured pop sticks	Craft materials
Buttons	Bottle tops
Egg cartons	

Boxes (we use various sized boxes for construction so please recycle any of your food boxes to us eg. Teabag boxes, cereal boxes, tissue boxes etc)

Illustration of correct pencil grip.

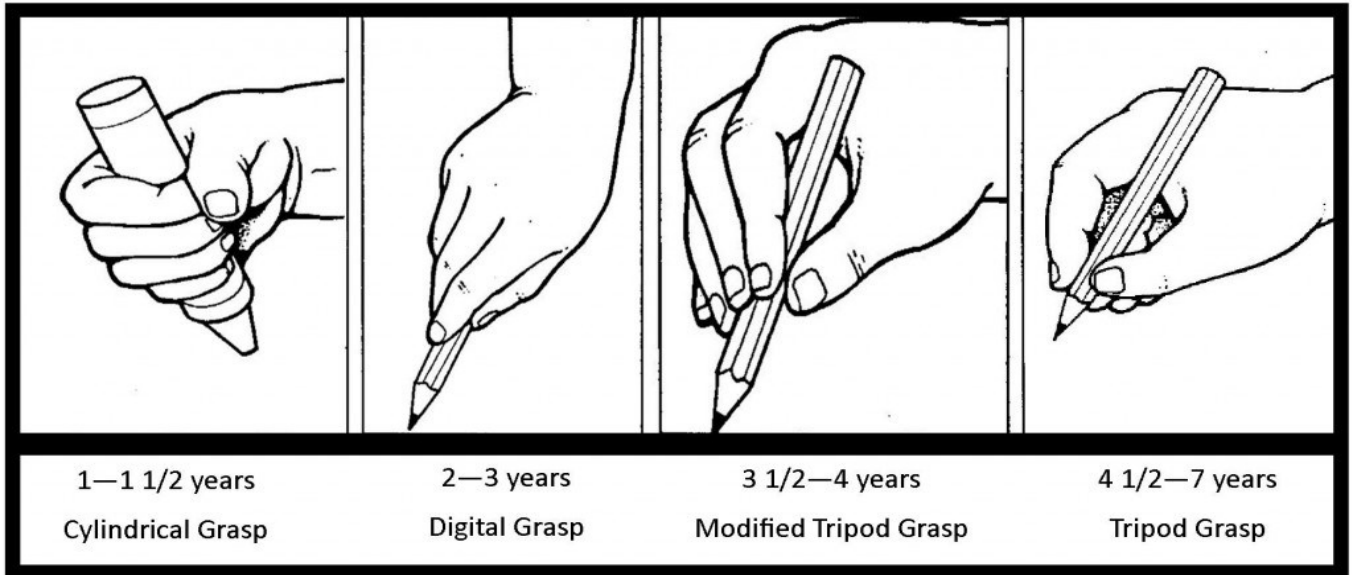
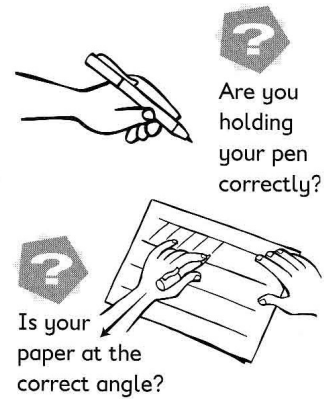


Illustration of correct seating for writing.



Copy of the 'Stick and Ball' font used at Edgewater Primary School.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M
N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

a b c d e f g h i j k l m
n o p q r s t u v w x y z

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20