

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTRE

Kindergarten

Information Booklet



2021

NAME	
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WELCOME

Our school has a well-equipped purpose-built kindergarten centre staffed by trained early childhood teachers and education assistants.

We value each child as an individual and our play-based program provides opportunities to enhance each child's social, emotional and intellectual development in order to encourage them to reach their maximum potential.

Our kindergarten program is developed using the Early Years Framework, the West Australian Kindergarten Guidelines and is in line with National Quality Standards (NQS). Our teaching staff are continually undergoing professional learning, ensuring that they are up to date with current research and trends in early childhood education.

Each of the kindergarten groups are provided with the same learning program. Teachers collaborate together to plan a variety of integrated and engaging learning opportunities which cater for the interests and abilities of each child.

Ann Rose and Aimie Norris – Kindergarten Teachers

KINDERGARTEN ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR

Students will attend one whole day in Week 1 and two whole days in Week 2. Commencing Week 3 the full program will begin. This arrangement allows staff to spend time with a small group of students to help them feel happy and secure in their new environment.

Please see the **ticked box** below indicating the day in Week 1 your child will attend.

Monday 1 February	Tuesday 2 February	Thursday 4 February	Friday 5 February

When the full program begins in Week 3 the days will be:

Blue Group	Red Group
Monday/Thursday Alternate Wednesdays – odd school weeks 8.30am-2.45pm	Tuesday/Friday Alternate Wednesdays – even school weeks 8.30am-2.45pm

Please note your child is in _____ Group.

During Term 4, all Kindergarten students will come together for the Kindergarten Sports Carnival Day, the Kindergarten Assembly and the Christmas Party celebration days. This may require day changes for your child. Teachers will inform parents early in 2021 of the proposed days for these events.

ATTENDANCE

Whilst enrolment in a Kindergarten is not compulsory in WA, once a student is enrolled, attending is compulsory.

SESSION TIMES

Please ensure that the kindergarten session times are adhered to as closely as possible when bringing and collecting your child because students often become quite distressed if parents/carers are late and it promotes good habits in preparation for the later years of schooling.

PARENT/CARER ROSTER

Parents/carers play an important role in the day to day operation of the kindergarten centre. A roster will be prepared for parents/carers to assist in the classroom. You will be advised of these arrangements at a later date.

DROPPING OFF & COLLECTING STUDENTS

Parents/carers are asked to bring students to the door and pick them up from the verandah. They are **NOT** permitted to walk home by themselves. For your child's protection, it is essential to let us know if you arrange for someone other than yourself to collect them. This information should be in writing and can be entered into the Parent Communication Book. Please ask a staff member for help.

If you find yourself unavoidably detained or you have not advised staff earlier that your child is to be picked up by someone else, please contact the school on 6207 3200.

DUTY OF CARE

When your child is attending our kindergarten centres, parents/carers must stay with them until the teacher or education assistant asks them to enter the classroom.

Please ensure your child does not play on or use the playground equipment before or after school due to safety concerns.

SCHOOL FINANCES

Voluntary contributions have been set by the School Board at **\$60 per student for the year**.

Further funds to provide extra facilities are provided by the P&C through specific fundraising events, and from parents/carers via the **P&C Voluntary Contribution**, which is **\$40 per family for the year**. These contributions may be paid with the Personal Items List (Booklist) or at the school office.

Online payments can be made to: BSB: 016 494 Account: 340968448 Narration: (child's name): Amount

If accounts are paid online please email our Manager of Corporate Services to confirm the payment -

Kathy.Dean@education.wa.edu.au.

INDEPENDENCE

We will be encouraging students to take care of their own belongings and to attempt to put on their own shoes and socks. Please send them in easy to fasten slip-on shoes with Velcro which they can do themselves. **Thongs, Ugg boots, Crocs and backless shoes are not permitted for safety reasons.**

A LARGE school bag is highly recommended.

UNIFORM

School uniform items are available from Uniform Concepts – Shop 5/7 Delage Street Joondalup Ph 9270 4660

Email joondalup@uc.nellgray.com.au. Opening times are below.

Monday	9.00am - 5.00pm	Tuesday	9.00am - 5.00pm	Wednesday	9.00am - 5.00pm
Thursday	9.00am - 6.00pm	Friday	9.00am - 5.00pm	Saturday	9.00am - 1.00pm

Please mark **everything** with your child's name and send along a spare set of clothes to be kept in their bag to be used for emergencies such as over enthusiasm during water play!

WEARING OF HATS

The school rule is that students are to wear hats during outside play every day - **'NO HAT NO PLAY!'** is our motto.

Please ensure that your child brings a royal blue bucket style school hat, clearly marked with their name. School bucket hats can be purchased from the uniform supplier (see above) or the school office for \$10. Royal blue broad brim and Legionnaire style hats are also acceptable.

SUNSCREEN

It is a good idea to apply sunscreen to your child before they come to school. There is sunscreen available in classrooms to top up during the day.

BAGS

Each child is asked to bring a backpack daily. Please make sure that it is a **large** size, durable and waterproof and has your child's name easily visible on it.

TOYS

Students are **NOT** to bring toys to the kindergarten centres as we have plenty of equipment for students to play with.

SNACK & WATER

Each child is asked to bring a small snack box containing a healthy snack to eat during snack time. Some ideas are cut fruit, a small sandwich, crackers, etc. Please avoid biscuits, muesli bars, cakes, etc. A reminder that lunch time is at 1.05pm, so a good healthy snack will keep the students going until then. A water bottle each day is also required. Please label all containers. Thank you.

LUNCH

Your child can either bring a packed lunch or purchase lunch from the school canteen – ordering details are on the school website. Students will need to have a named lunch box as well as a drink bottle containing water only. The canteen menu is available online on the school website -www.edgewaterps.wa.edu.au. The canteen is open from Monday to Friday.

Please avoid packing chocolates and lollies in your child's lunch box.

HEALTH & ABSENCES

If your child is absent parents/carers should provide an explanation by either sending a written note to the teacher, completing the online absentee form on our website, sending an email to the school (edgewater.ps@education.wa.edu.au) or by contacting the school office in person or by phone. It is essential that you notify the teacher, particularly if they have been unwell, or if there are other concerns - especially if the absence is due to an infectious disease. Please refer to the office for details about infectious diseases.

If your child is unwell, please keep them at home, even if they are keen to attend. Viral complaints such as vomiting, diarrhoea, etc can spread easily in a school setting.

Head lice are an ongoing problem in all schools. Please check your child's hair regularly. For further information please contact the school or access the Health Department website at www.health.wa.gov.au/headlice.

HEALTH CHECKS

The School Nurse will check your child's sight and hearing as the year progresses. More information regarding this will be provided in 2021.

MONEY

All money sent for excursions etc. should be in a sealed envelope labelled with your child's name, their class details and the event.

STUDENTS' BIRTHDAYS

Parents/carers may wish to send along cakes to share with other students, although this is not compulsory and you only need to participate if you wish to do so. This can be done on the nearest school day to a child's birthday. Small individual cakes are a great idea as they are easier to share and distribute. Cakes are quite sufficient and parents are asked **NOT** to send extra lollies or drinks. If your child has any food allergies, this will be considered as part of a health care plan. Please inform their teacher promptly if your child has a food allergy.

NEWSLETTER

The newsletter is sent to parents via email in Weeks 3, 6 and 9. Please ensure the school has your current email address. Notes and newsletters are also available on the school website at www.edgewaterps.wa.edu.au.

COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS/CARERS

In order to communicate with our parent/carer community, the school has adopted several means of communication. Connect (with it's app, Connect Now) is used by teachers to keep you up to date with class notices and happenings. School Star, our official app, is used for important whole school communication and allows us to contact all of our parents. It's design also lets you message the school at any time. More details can be obtained by contacting our office on 6207 3200.

Thank you for your support in these matters. We look forward to a fun and exciting year.

Please note that further important school information is contained in the School Information Booklet which will be distributed at the beginning of the new school year.