



**DARLINGTON  
PRIMARY  
SCHOOL**

**INITIATIVE · TRUST · TOLERANCE**

## Kindergarten Information 2018



## Welcome to Kindergarten

Kindergarten programs at Darlington Primary School are based on the *Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF)* developed by the Council of Australian Governments to extend and enrich children's learning from birth to five years and through the transition to school. It underpins the implementation of specific curriculum relevant to each local community and early childhood setting. At Darlington, we place value and emphasis on early literacy and numeracy skills in a supportive and fun environment. The *EYLF* puts children's learning at the core and communicates the expectations through five learning outcomes.

### These outcomes are:

- Children have a strong sense of identity
- Children are connected with and contribute to their world
- Children have a strong sense of wellbeing
- Children are confident and involved learners
- Children are effective communicators

### Principles

- *Secure, respectful and reciprocal relationships*
- *Partnerships* - Teachers work in partnership with families.
- *High Expectations and Equity* - Teachers and parents believe in all children's capacities to succeed regardless of diverse circumstances and abilities.
- *Respects for Diversity* - Teachers provide opportunities for children to learn about similarities and difference, about interdependence and how we can learn to live together.
- *Ongoing learning and reflective practice* - Teachers continually seek to develop learning communities, critically reflecting on what happens in their class setting and making appropriate changes.

We are also bound and directed by the Government of Western Australia's School Curriculum and Standards Authority. Our teachers utilise the Kindergarten Curriculum Guidelines to guide their programs and assessment practices throughout the Kindergarten Year to set them up for a successful primary school experience.

## OUR VISION

*Darlington Primary School will provide a caring, holistic and challenging learning environment that nurtures and celebrates individual potential.*

## WE VALUE

- *Our strong sense of community*
- *Our Environment*
- *Being a welcoming and inclusive school*
- *Having High Expectations*
- *Having a healthy body and mind*

## Term Dates 2018

	RESUME	ENDS
<b>TERM 1</b>	<b>Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January</b>	<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April</b>
<i>Term Holidays</i>	<i>Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> April</i>	<i>Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> April</i>
<b>TERM 2</b>	<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June</b>
<i>School Development Day</i>	<i>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June</i>	<i>School is closed to students</i>
<i>Term Holidays</i>	<i>Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June</i>	<i>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> July</i>
<b>TERM 3</b>	<b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Friday 21<sup>st</sup> September</b>
<i>Term Holidays</i>	<i>Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September</i>	<i>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October</i>
<b>TERM 4</b>	<b>Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December</b>

## Kindergarten Attendance Times and Days

The Kindergarten Program operates over an average of 15 hours per week for each group. Hours of attendance 8.50am – 3.00pm. *This is arranged as follows:*

**Group 1** attends all day each Monday and Tuesday and alternate Fridays

**Group 2** attends all day each Wednesday and Thursdays and alternate Fridays

### Gradual Start

This year the kindergarten groups will undertake a gradual start to kindergarten. This will mean, half a group will attend on the first attendance day, half the group attends on the second day and on the third kindy day the whole group will attend together. The K/P class will all attend on one of those days.

### **WEEK 1**

**Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January – Group 2(a)**

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February – Group 2 (b)**

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February – Group 1 (a)**

### **WEEK 2**

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February – Group 1(b)**

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February – Group 1 (Full group attends)**

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February – Group 2 (Full Group attends)**

**WEEK 3** Full program in operation, as per calendar

## **School Start and Finish**

So that your child feels secure and is able to adjust to the routine, punctuality is vital. At kindergarten is expected that children will be handed over to the teacher at the beginning of the day. *(Doors open at 8.35)* At the end of the day children will be handed to the care of an adult. Variations to pick up arrangements will need to be provided in writing. Children will not be released to the care of an older sibling unless the arrangement is made in writing. *(Forms will be provided to record these arrangements)*

## **Please Send Your Child with these Items Everyday**

1. Backpack or school bag.
2. Crunch and sip. (Fruit/Vegetables pre-cut individual serve in a snap lock bag or container *CLEARLY LABELLED*)
3. Morning Tea/Snack - (*CLEARLY LABELLED* in snap lock bag or container)
4. Lunch – in a separate labelled container. A spare change of clothes, including underwear and a plastic bag for soiled items.
5. A plastic drink bottle with water each day..
6. A clearly labelled wide brim hat, or legionnaires hat. (We encourage use of the school hat)
7. Small (40cm X 40cm approximately) cushion (labelled) for rest time.
8. A library Bag (we encourage the use of the school library/reading bag – available from the School Uniform Shop)

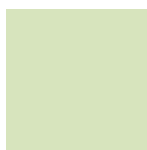
**NOTE:** Please ensure that **ALL** belongings are clearly labelled with your child's name.

## **Sun Safe Policy**

We have a “No Hat – Play in the Shade” policy. This means that, if your child is not wearing a hat which protects their face and neck from the sun, they will have to stay under the verandah or in other shaded areas. We have compliant hats available at our uniform shop.

## **Clothing and Footwear**

Please dress your child for an active and energetic day. School uniform is available, but not compulsory, for kindergarten students. We do venture around the school, so suitable footwear for active play and walking should be worn. Children are encouraged to remove their shoes for outdoor play to enhance sensory and motor development. We are also encouraging independence, so sending your child in footwear that they can manage independently is appreciated.



## **Canteen**

Children have the opportunity to order their lunch on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday. We have lunch bags in the classroom, or you can order on Flexi-Schools.

## **Items for Students Personal Use (Stationery List)**

Stationery items will be for *shared use*, so these items do not require name labels. Please ensure folders, library bags and scrapbooks are labelled with your child's name. This includes their personal whiteboard. *Please bring all requirements in a sealed plastic bag, with your child's name on it.*

## **Illness**

Good health is vital to your child's progress. It is probable that at some time during your child's school days, he/she will contract one of the diseases of childhood. Children should not attend the early childhood centre:

- (i) whilst suffering from early symptoms, or
- (ii) when convalescing from the disease, but still contagious.

*PLEASE SEE THE SCHOOL HANDBOOK FOR DETAILED INFORMATION.*

## **Parent Responsibilities**

Please keep in touch with us on matters concerning the following:

- Your child's health, and whether they have any allergies;
- Any changes in parenting or housing arrangements;
- Change of address or telephone number; and
- Any concerns you may have regarding your child's development or behaviour.

## **Accidents**

We have basic first aid facilities for the minor bumps and bruises that occur in an Early Learning Centre. In the case of accident or emergency we will contact you. In urgent situations, an ambulance may be called. Parents are responsible for paying any medical costs associated with an ambulance. We will inform parents at the end of the day or any minor incidents.





## **Parent Help and Involvement**

The parent roster enables you to: be more involved in your child's education; spend special time with your child; and help the teacher and the assistant to implement the learning program. It also enables staff to spend more quality time with each individual and means a great deal to your child.

A roster will be placed on the class noticeboard as each term begins. Please sign up on a day that is convenient to you. We prefer to have one or more parents per session if possible. Please make alternative arrangements for younger children so that you will be free to help and spend time with your child at school.

There are a range of ways in which you can help to enrich our program such as, any special skills, knowledge or interests connecting to home is such an important aspect of kindergarten. We also are very grateful for your help with our laundry roster. We will rotate the laundry to parents throughout the term. (This includes picnic cloths and hand towels)

## **Toys**

Children should **not** bring toys to school, except under special circumstances, for example when it is their turn for "Show and Tell". We do recognise that some children have a special attachment to a toy or object. If this is the case you may want to work with your child regarding this attachment (or discuss it with us and we can help this transition).

## **Parent Teacher Communication**

Please don't hesitate to let the teacher know if you have concerns or queries relating to your child so that we can have a chat about the matter. Likewise, if we have any concerns, we will talk to you. By working together, we can ensure your child's year is a happy and successful one.

[In Week 3, your child's teacher will offer a parent information session applicable to their classroom and provide more insight into the classroom program and routines.](#)

## **First Day and Transition Tips**

Before your child attends on their first day, it is a great idea to come to the school in the holiday period and introduce them to the car park and the gate. You can definitely talk to them about painting, block play and play dough on their first day.

Then, when you arrive on the first day of school sit down quietly with your child and do a puzzle or activity set out, or quietly read a book. Introduce your child to a staff member. When the bell or shaker is sounded, take your child to sit down on the mat and say a prompt 'goodbye'. Some children find the initial separation upsetting. Prolonging the moment can make it worse and impacts on the other children in the class. If your child is upset, take them to a staff member and leave promptly. Please don't linger at the windows as this, too, can prolong the upset. We will contact you if your child does not settle within the first 10-20 minutes of you leaving.

## Things We Need in Kindergarten

***WE ARE ALWAYS APPRECIATIVE OF RECYCLED MATERIALS***

**Please bring in any of the following types of things, which you may not want – we may find them useful!**

- **Boxes (especially smaller ones)**
- **Cardboard cylinders (not toilet rolls)**
- **Dolls clothes**
- **Buttons, ribbon, material scraps**
- **Pine off cuts for woodwork**
- **Dress-up clothes**
- **Wrapping paper**
- **Plastic containers**
- **Containers**
- **Shells**
- **Greeting Cards**
- **Washed bottle tops**

