



Darlington Primary School

2024

KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION BOOK

Welcome to Kindergarten

We're so glad to have you here

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 students' 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 ELYC puts students' learning at the core and communicates the expectations through five learning outcomes.

These outcomes are:

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

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.



Attendance

Term Dates 2024

TERM 1 Wednesday 31 January – Thursday 28 March

TERM 2 Monday 15 April – Friday 28 June

TERM 3 Monday 15 July – Friday 20 September

TERM 4 Monday 7 October – Thursday 12 December

Please Note - Students do not attend School Development Days. These are to be announced in the school newsletter.

Kindergarten Attendance Times and Days

The Kindergarten Program operates over an average of 15 hours per week for each group. Hours of attendance 8:45am – 3:00pm.

This is arranged as follows:

Group 1 (KINDY 1) attends - all day each Monday, Tuesday, and alternate Wednesdays.

Group 2 (KINDY 2) attends - all day each Thursday, Friday, and alternate Wednesdays.

Gradual Start – Week 1, Term 1

The Kindergarten groups will undertake a gradual start to Kindergarten. Please see the dates below for Week 1 and Week 2.

- WEEK 1

Wednesday 31 Jan

Group K1 (YELLOW) attends

Thursday 1 February

Group K2 (GREEN) attends

- WEEK 2

Monday 5 February

Group K1 (YELLOW) attends

Tuesday 6 February

Group K1 (YELLOW) attends

Wednesday 7 February

Group K2 (GREEN) attends

Thursday 8 February

Group K2 (GREEN) attends

Friday 9 February

Group K2 (GREEN) attends

- WEEK 3

Full program in operation as per calendar.

School Start and Finish

So that your child feels secure and can adjust to the routine, punctuality is vital. It is expected that children will be handed over to the teacher at the beginning of the day. (*Doors open at 8:35am*) At the end of the day, children will be handed to the care of an authorised adult. Variations to pick up arrangements will need to be provided in writing. Students will not be released to the care of an older sibling unless the arrangement is made in writing.

General Information

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 container)
3. Morning Tea. (Provided in clearly labelled container)
4. A clearly labelled wide brim hat, or legionnaires hat. (A school hat is encouraged.)
5. A drink bottle with water.
6. Lunch in a clearly labelled container.
7. Small (40cm X 40cm approximately) cushion for rest time.
8. A library Bag (A school edition library bag is encouraged – available from the School Uniform Shop)

NOTE: Please ensure that all belongings are clearly labelled.

Sun Safe Policy

We are a Sun Smart School and **have a “No Hat – Play in the shade” policy.** This means that if your child is not wearing a hat that protects their face and neck from the sun, they will have to play under the verandah or in other shaded areas.

Clothing and Footwear

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

Canteen

Students can order their lunch on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday. There are lunch order bags available at the canteen or you can order on Flexi-Schools.

Items for Personal Use

Please ensure stationery items, folders, library bags and scrapbooks are labelled with your child's name. This includes their personal whiteboard. Please bring all requirements in a sealed, labelled plastic bag or box.

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:

- Whilst suffering from early symptoms, or
- 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 arrangements.
- Change of address or telephone number.
- 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.

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 on the class noticeboard at the commencement of each term. 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.

Your skills, knowledge and interests are valued. We encourage you to share these to enrich our Kindergarten program. We are also very grateful for your help with our laundry roster. We will rotate the laundry throughout the term. This includes picnic cloths and hand towels.

Toys

Students should not bring toys to school, except under special circumstances, for example **when it is their turn for "News/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 staff to help with the 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 discuss the matter. Likewise, if we have any concerns, we will contact you. By working together, **we can ensure your child's year is a happy and successful one.**

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.

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 the mat area 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.



Donations of the following items are
always welcome

- Boxes
- Doll clothes
- Pine off cuts for woodwork
- Wrapping paper
- Greeting cards
- Cardboard cylinders
- Buttons, ribbons, fabric scraps
- Dress-up clothing
- Shells
- Washed bottle tops

HAPPY
...FIRST...
Day



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