



**DARLINGTON
PRIMARY
SCHOOL**

INITIATIVE • TRUST • TOLERANCE

Kindergarten Information



2017 Darlington Primary School

Welcome to Kindergarten

Kindergarten programs at Darlington Primary School are based on the *Early Learning Framework* 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. The Framework puts children's learning at the core and comprises three inter-related elements.

These elements 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.
- *Respect 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.

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 2017

	RESUME	ENDS
TERM 1	Wednesday 1st February	Friday 7th April
<i>Term Holidays</i>	<i>Saturday 8th April</i>	<i>Tuesday 25th April</i>
TERM 2	Wednesday 26th April	Friday 30th July
<i>Term Holidays</i>	<i>Saturday 1st July</i>	<i>Monday 17th July</i>
TERM 3	Tuesday 18th July	Friday 22nd September
<i>Term Holidays</i>	<i>Saturday 23th September</i>	<i>Monday 9th October</i>
TERM 4	Tuesday 10th October	Thursday 14th December

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

The full complement of 15 hours a week for Kindergarten students must be offered from the start of each school year. If a family feels that the full complement of Kindergarten hours may not suit their child at the start of the school year, a transitioning period can be negotiated. In most cases, the first two weeks of the school year will be sufficient, however individual children may require more time, negotiated on a case by case basis.

At Darlington PS this year our kindergarten groups will undertake a transitional start to kindergarten for the first two weeks of school. This will allow students to become familiar with the routines of school and allow teachers to undertake transition meetings with parents, so if you can avail yourself in this week that would be fantastic. The full Program will commence Week 3 for Group 2 and Week 4 for Group 1.

The outline of attendance arrangements for Groups 1 and 2 for the first three weeks are:

WEEK 1

Group 2 Wednesday/Thursday 8.50-12.15

WEEK 2

Group 1 Monday/Tuesday 8.50-12.15

Group 2 Wednesday/Thursday 8.50-3.00

WEEK 3

Group 1 Monday/Tuesday 8.50-3.00

Group 2 Wednesday/Thursday Friday 8.50-3.00

School Start and Finish

So that your child feels secure and is able to 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 8.35)* At the end of the day children will be handed to the care of an adult. Pick up and drop off 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.
2. Crunch and sip. (Fruit/Vegetables pre-cut individual serve in a snap lock bag or container)
3. A spare change of clothes, including underwear and a plastic bag for soiled items.
4. A clearly labelled wide brim hat, or legionnaires hat. (We encourage use of the school hat)
5. A plastic drink bottle with water each day.
6. Lunch in a labelled container.
7. Small (40cm X 40cm approximately) cushion (labelled) for rest time.
8. A library Bag (we encourage the use of the school edition library bag – 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 – No Play” policy. This means that if your child is not wearing a hat, which protects their face and neck from the sun, they have to stay under the verandah or in other shaded areas. We have compliant hats available at our uniform shop.

Clothing and Footwear

We encourage the kindergarten children to wear the school uniform, and we encourage you to dress your child for an active and energetic day. 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, 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 bags in the classroom, or you can order on Flexi-Schools (An online ordering and payment system).

Booklist Items

Stationery items will be for shared use, so these items do not require labels. Please ensure folders, library bags and scrapbooks are labelled with your child's name. 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.

The following diseases are recognised as being infectious and a doctor's help should be sought: -

CHICKEN POX	INFECTIOUS HEPATITIS
MEASLES	SCARLET FEVER
MUMPS	TRACHOMA
GERMAN MEASLES	WHOOPING COUGH
PEDICULOSIS (Head Lice)	RINGWORM

Please keep in touch with the teacher about matters concerning you child's health and well being.

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; 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. 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 us to spend more quality time with each individual and means a great deal to your child.

A roster will be up on our 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 is a range of ways in which you can help to enrich our program with any special skills, knowledge or interests you may like to share. For example cooking, reading stories, playing an instrument etc. We also are very grateful; for your help with our laundry roster.

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 can work with you regarding appropriate arrangements.

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, blocks and play dough on their first day.

When you arrive 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 are 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 10-20minutes 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 most certainly will 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



