

Kindergarten Information Booklet



2017

Koorana Primary School

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WARNBRO WA 6168

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Principal Ms Margaret Gold

Kindergarten School Hours

Commence: 8.20 Doors Open
8.30 am Start

Recess: 10.40 am – 11am

Lunch: 1.00 pm – 1.30pm

Finish: 2.30 pm

School Terms 2017

Semester 1

Term 1 Wednesday 1 February – Friday 7 April

Term 2 Wednesday 26 April – Friday 30 June

Semester 2

Term 3 Tuesday 18 July – Friday 22 September

Term 4 Tuesday 10 October – Thursday 14 December

EARLY YEARS LEARNING FRAMEWORK

The Early Years Learning Framework describes childhood as a time of belonging, being and becoming.

- **Belonging** is the basis for living a fulfilling life. Children feel they belong because of the relationships they have with their family, community, culture and place.
- **Being** is about living here and now. Childhood is a special time in life and children need time to just be a time to play, try new things and have fun.
- **Becoming** is about the learning and development that young children experience. Children start to form their sense of identity from an early age, which shapes the type of adult they will become.

Play is Learning

Play is very important for children. Through play babies and young children explore and learn to understand the world around them as they come to communicate, discover, imagine and create.

When children play they are showing what they have learned and what they are trying to understand. This is why play is one of the foundations of the Early Years Learning Framework.

By using this Framework educators will guide your child's play by carefully designing learning activities in stimulating indoor and outdoor learning environments.

Relationships are Key

It is well known that children learn best when they have secure relationships with caring adults. When children from a very early age develop trusting relationships they feel more confident and able to explore and learn.

In early childhood settings, when children feel emotionally secure they learn through play to develop the skills and understandings they need to interact positively with others and gradually learn to take responsibility.

Through the Framework's five learning goals educators will assist your child to develop:

- A strong sense of their identity
- Connections with their world
- A strong sense of wellbeing
- Confidence and involvement in their learning; and
- Effective communication skills.

Working Together

By working together parents and educators can enhance a child's learning and wellbeing. As the most important person in your child's life you can make a difference by talking regularly with your child's early childhood educator.



Students are encouraged to be SMART students.

I am SAFE

I am MOTIVATED TO ACHIEVE

I am RESPECTFUL

I am TRUSTWORTHY

If students can show these behaviour expectations they are being

SMART.

THE NATIONAL QUALITY STANDARD

The National Quality Standard sets a national benchmark for early education and care, including kindergartens. This guides our early education practice at Koorana Primary School.

To ensure children enjoy the best possible conditions in their early educational and developmental years, the NQS promotes continuous improvement in quality.

Key benefits include:

- Improved educator to child ratios
- Greater individual care and attention for children
- Educators with increased skills and qualifications
- Better support for children's learning and development
- A national register to help parents assess the quality of education and care services in their area.

The seven quality areas covered by the NQS are:

1. Educational program and practice
2. Children's health and safety
3. Physical environment
4. Staffing arrangements
5. Relationships with children
6. Collaborative partnerships with families and communities
7. Leadership and service management.

Further information can be found at www.acecqa.gov.au/families



Australian Children's
Education & Care
Quality Authority™

ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance provides continuity and is very beneficial for your child's learning and social skills.

*If your child is absent from school please let us know. You will need to provide a written explanation for absences upon your child's return to school. A **'Notification of Absence'** form is available from the office. Additionally if your child is late a **"Late Note"** must first be completed at the front office and handed to the teacher upon arrival to class.*

Playground equipment is out of bounds before and after school.

PERMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The Department of Education and Training specifies that no children shall arrive at, or leave, a Kindergarten classroom unaccompanied by parent or guardian. If anyone different will be collecting your child please advise the school beforehand.

For regular day care pick up, please fill out the information section about childcare located on your child's enrolment form.

Please let us know of any custody arrangements which involve your child.

If you are picking up your child at any time other than the close of the session, you will need a 'Student Release Request' form from the front office.

This helps us to ensure the safety of your child.

Please keep your contact details up to date so that we can contact you. Please inform the front office of any changes.

MEDICAL

If your child is unwell, please keep them at home, as school is not the best place to be when feeling unwell.

Please also note that medication will not be given to children at school without prior arrangement. Please contact the school administration if your child requires medication to be given at school, so that you may fill out the Medication Form. It is the school's policy that no medication is to be left in a child's school bag for the safety of all concerned.

If your child has a specific health need or concern (e.g Asthma, Food Allergies, Bee Stings, Anaphylaxis), it will need to be brought to our attention and also listed on your child's Enrolment Form. This way we can ensure that your child is properly cared for at all times. If you have specific actions that you take to care for your child's needs, please inform us. Action Plans will need to be completed for children suffering from any severe medical condition such as those listed above.

General Health

The School Health Nurse will screen children during their kindergarten year for hearing, vision and general physical conditions.

Dental

Children who turn 5 this year can also benefit from the free service offered by Dental Therapists who are located on the school grounds.

Referrals

Any child who may require Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy or Physiotherapy will be referred with your permission to Rockingham Child Development Services. These services are free, however waiting lists are long. If you have any concerns about your child, please speak to their teacher as soon as possible.

Headlice

Headlice is an ongoing problem at all schools. Koorana has a Headlice Prevention Policy. If your child is found to have live lice in their hair, they will be sent home to be treated.

They must be cleared through the office before returning to their class.

WHAT TO BRING

Food

Your child will need to bring a healthy snack for recess e.g. fresh fruit, vegetables or crackers and a packed lunch. Healthy options are strongly encouraged to help your child achieve their potential at school.

Water Bottle

We encourage students to bring a water bottle with them. This enables them to drink whenever they feel it is needed. Regular water intake helps the brain to function and promotes learning.

Hats

Students are required to wear a hat for outdoor activities which help create sensible 'Sun Safe' habits. Children who forget their hat will play in undercover areas.



Shoes

All students need to wear shoes to school. Children should wear sneakers or closed in shoes that are suitable for running, climbing etc. To avoid any possible accidents children will be unable to participate in many of the gross motor activities if they are wearing unsuitable footwear. Therefore thongs, heels and boots are deemed NOT acceptable at school. It is best for them to wear shoes they can fasten themselves.

School Bag

Please supply your child with a named school bag big enough to hold a lunchbox, change of clothes and schoolwork.

Please ensure all of your child's belongings are labelled including schoolbags, clothing, lunch boxes, drink bottles and hats.

Booklist Requirements

Please supply all the items that are written on the booklist requirements at the start of term.



Library

From Term 2 onwards children will participate in weekly Library sessions. For this they require a cloth library bag.

Any damaged or lost books will need to be paid for.

WHAT TO WEAR

We encourage all students to wear the Koorana school uniform. Please be aware that your child will get paint and glue on them from time to time. Paint can be removed with soap and **cold** water. Please label **ALL** items of clothing with your child's name.

Please leave a change of clothes in your child's bag in case of "little accidents".

PARENT ROSTER

A parent roster will be placed on the notice board every term. Please fill in your name on a day you'll be able to assist.

If you are unable to attend the session you have indicated please let us know in advance.

Your help is greatly appreciated as it enables us to extend the program and provide activities which require an extra pair of hands. This time is also useful for you to observe how your child interacts with their peers and other adults.

Parent helpers will need to maintain confidentiality.



CELEBRATIONS

Throughout the year we may plan activities associated with Easter, ANZAC day and Christmas. If you do not wish for your child to participate in those activities you will need to put your requests, for exclusion, in writing.

REPORTING

At the end of each semester your child's teacher will provide a Kindergarten report. This will provide you with information regarding your child's development and progress throughout the year. You will have the opportunity to meet with your child's teacher to discuss this.

Throughout the year your child will complete work that is placed in a portfolio. This will show a snapshot of activities and themes covered and will show your child's progress and achievements.

COMMUNICATION

Noticeboard

Please check the notice board outside the classroom for information and last minute notices.

School Newsletter

The newsletter will be available on the school website every fortnight (even weeks).



Skoolbag App

Our School has our own Skoolbag iPhone and Android App to help us communicate more effectively with our Parent/Student community.

We are asking parents/students to install our Skoolbag School App.

To install it, just search for our school name Koorana Primary School in either the Apple App Store or Google Play Store.

Class Notes

You will be advised of any significant events through class notes, so please check your child's bag daily.

Parent Meetings

These can be arranged throughout the year.

Please let us know of anything happening at home that may affect your child's behaviour at school.

P & C ASSOCIATION

The school committee will be elected at the Annual General Meeting to give parents the opportunity for additional input into the school.

All parents are invited to attend meetings. Please contact the school office for meeting information. Decisions about activities, fundraising, fund expenditure etc. are decided in this way.

The school's P&C committee will provide information and news throughout the year via "updates" included within the school newsletter during each term.

Uniform Shop

Open Thursday mornings 8.20am – 9.15am

Any further information can be obtained from any member on the P & C Executive.

