WELCOME! KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION

| Welcome! we are very excited t | to have you with |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| us! | |

The educators in this room are

We are always available to discuss any questions, matters or concerns with you.

'PLAY GIVES CHILDREN A CHANCE TO PRACTICE WHAT THEY ARE LEARNING'

About our room...

Settling into a new environment can be an emotional process. Whether it is transitioning from another room or being your first time within our service, our educators are here to support you through this process. Through transitions and 'play' time before enrolment, allows children to familiarise themselves with their new surroundings.

Our Kindergarten room allows children to become more independent and make decisions about their own learning. We explore and investigate through a range of different activities and experiences based on children's learning, development and interests that help's prepare for school. Sometimes we may get a little messy, but please know we are learning valuable skills through this!

Our room is divided into two rooms, which flow into each other and into our outdoor environment. This allows our educators to create their environments to support children's learning and development. This also allows indoor / outdoor play giving children a choice in their play throughout the day.

We encourage children to develop their self-help skills and independence which includes, serving at mealtimes, pouring our own water and dressing ourselves. During mealtimes we sit on chairs at the table, sleep on mattresses that we make ourselves,

Communication

Communication between educators and families is vital for children's education and development. Each day we will communicate with families about what has happened within our room, and share a story about our day through our Storypark app. We welcome family input in many ways and value this input towards children's learning and development. If you would like to give your ideas or input towards our educational program or overall room, please speak to our educators. Our room has a daily communication board that outlines meals eaten, sleep times and any follow ups from educators. If you have any questions or concerns about your child, please come and see us.

Sun Safety

We are a SunSmart service and We endeavour to allow children to play outside every day. Sunscreen will be applied 20 minutes before going outside. It is extremely important that you pack a hat <u>every day</u> in your child's bag. We recommend that all children have t-shirts with sleeves. If your child has sensitive skin, you may wish to provide your own sunscreen. Upon arrival to the service please ensure you apply sunscreen on your child before entering the room with the sunscreen provided so they can play outside as quickly as possible

Medication and illnesses

If your child requires medication during the day, please see an educator, fill in a medication form physically hand the medication to an educator. Please remember that if your child is on medication, as per our 'Administration of Authorised Medication' policy your child will need to stay at home for at least 24hrs from starting medication. This gives the medication time to sink in, even if your child has been on this kind of medication before each batch made is different. Please familiarise yourself with our centres illness policy as we do have exclusion periods for certain illnesses.

What to bring

We ask that all families bring with their child in their bag;

- A water bottle
- A hat
- Nappies (if still required)
- Bedding (if your child still has a sleep)
- A few changes of clothes

Please ensure ALL items are clearly labelled.

Educational program

Our program is specifically designed for our children who are preparing for school and those children who are already attending kindergarten programs within a school setting. Our educators create exciting and educational programs that involves careful planning and critical reflection to further their development and learning to prepare your child for school. We create a warm-welcoming learning environment that supports and promotes learning. We create different learning centres that are based around children's interests that will promote play and inquiry through intentional and unintentional teaching.

We explore visual arts and crafts, music and dance, science, maths, phonics and early writing through a range of activities and play. We aim to prepare your child for future schooling and work alongside schools that children already attend to keep consistency between us and your child's school program. Through communication with families, constant observation and assessment of our own teachings we can provide a programme to children that will best further their skills and development as they continue to grow and learn.

You as a family are children's first teacher and know your child best, it is important that you share information with us which we could use and include into our program and your child's individual learning. We value family involvement within our service, if you have any special talents or skills that you would like to come in and share with the children please let us know.

School Readiness

School readiness is a measure of the knowledge, skills and behaviours that enable children to participate and succeed in school. This is about the development of the whole child such as their social and emotional skills, physical skills, communication skills and cognitive skills. Through our kindergarten program, our educators work with the children to develop these skills through a range of different experiences and activities that prepare them for their future schooling. If you would like to know more about this please speak to the educators in the room.

Storypark

During your child's time with us, we use a range of different methods of documenting your child's learning journey. This includes Storypark, an online observation website for educators and families to interact with and document children's learning and experiences. We also create a portfolio for your child throughout the year and will be sent home at the end of the year or if you choose to leave the service.



The Families Storypark app can be downloaded from your mobile app store.

Be more involved in your child's learning

Storypark creates a secure online network of the people that matter most for your child. It helps working parents, far-away family, educators and specialists ensure children receive the best opportunities possible.

How does Storypark help my child?

- Deeper insights into your child's unique interests, needs and abilities allows better support and <u>improved outcomes</u>.
- Improves communication between educators and families.
- Enables educators to spend their time with your child more effectively.
- Helps your child define 'what's next' in their learning.
- Share movement, song, and creative expression through <u>audio</u> and <u>video</u>.
- Actively involves grandparents, family and close friends.

1 Sign up and log in

Once you accept the <u>email invitation</u> from your child's teacher you'll be taken to a <u>sign-up</u> page where you can enter your name and <u>choose a password</u>. Storypark is an online service, so you can <u>log in</u> without installing software on your computer.

2 Invite family

Share your children's stories by <u>inviting family members</u> and close friends. Create a private network of people to share and support your child's learning journey.

3 Comment and create

Parents, teachers and family can write <u>stories</u> and <u>comments</u>, add <u>pictures</u> and <u>videos</u>, and <u>select the children</u> who feature. Published stories will show up in your <u>child's profile</u>. Family members you have invited will get an email to say a new story has been added.

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Safe and private

- You <u>own all content</u> and control your child's digital footprint
- You manage who's invited to your child's storypark community
- In line with international online security <u>best practices</u>.



Free access for families



Access is free, for as long as you wish. Storypark <u>travels with your child</u> throughout their learning journey.



Need help?

Explore our <u>help centre</u> to find the answer for *almost* everything.



Got feedback?

Storypark is being developed with the support and feedback of teachers and families. <u>Email us</u> with how you think we could do better.



Find us at storypark.com



66 It keeps me in touch with my children and family. I can spend long hours in the office, so it brightens my day to click and see my children's smiles and day-to-day activities. 99 - Storypark Dad

NEXT STEPS

A little bit about

Name _____

D.O.B _____

| I am fully toilet trained | Yes / no / toilet training | |
|--|----------------------------|--|
| I have a day sleep | Yes / no | |
| Sleep nappy | Yes / no | |
| I am allergic to | | |
| l speak | _ (language) at home. | |
| Some words in my la | nguage that I know | |
| | | |
| My favourite things to do are | | |
| | | |
| But I dor | ı't like | |
| | | |
| At home | ·I love | |
| | | |
| Is there anything you would like to contribute learning and c | | |
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