

Bridgewater Kindergarten 2022

Useful things to know!

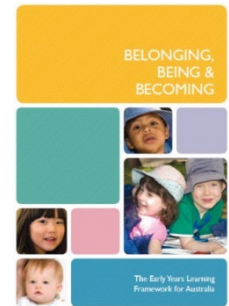
Our Curriculum

Early Years Learning Framework

The Framework conveys the highest expectations for all children's learning from birth to five years and through the transitions to school. It communicates these expectations through the following five

Learning Outcomes:

- 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.



The Framework provides broad direction for early childhood educators in early childhood settings to facilitate children's learning.

Numeracy and Literacy Indicators



The Numeracy and Literacy indicators inform our planning and teaching, support us to monitor the children's numeracy and literacy development, and inform the Mid-Year assessment and end of year Statement of Learning for discussion with and reporting to families and schools.

STEM

Curiosity, Problem Solving, Resilience, Confidence, Resourcefulness, Purposefulness, Risk Taking, Communication, Persistence, Co-operation, Creativity, Imagination, Enthusiasm.

National Quality Framework and Standards

The NQF includes:
the [National Law and National Regulations](#)
the [National Quality Standard](#)
an [assessment and quality rating process](#)
[national learning frameworks](#).

Quality Improvement Goal 2022

To strengthen children's resilience and capacity in dealing with day to day stresses, challenges and experiences.

Children's Voice in Planning

At Bridgewater Kindergarten most of our learning programme is planned with the children.

As you know, children have wonderings. These wonderings along with our professional knowledge develop our curriculum. We document these to follow them up, referring to EYLF, Numeracy Indicators, the Child Protection Curriculum, NQS requirements. Combining these creates a rich and exciting learning programme.

Parents, grandparents and families friends often get involved with these topics too. We love to have families share their skills with the children and staff.

Have a look!

Our Learning Programme is documented and on display for parents to view.

Our Quality Improvement Plan, Bushfire Action Plan, Policies and Risk Assessments are also available for parents to view.



Embed Philosophy			Embed Critical reflection			Embed Families & Community		
Question/Observe Why?	Plan	Implementing	What?/How?	Implementing	Reflection & Review	Success	Consider this:	Consider this:
Supporting learning about Aboriginal culture	Group members to learn about the history of the area and the importance of the land.	Group members to learn about the history of the area and the importance of the land.	Group members to learn about the history of the area and the importance of the land.	Group members to learn about the history of the area and the importance of the land.	Group members to learn about the history of the area and the importance of the land.	Group members to learn about the history of the area and the importance of the land.	Group members to learn about the history of the area and the importance of the land.	Group members to learn about the history of the area and the importance of the land.
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Play-based learning:
a context for learning through which children organise and make sense of their social worlds, as they engage actively with people, objects and representations.

Aboriginal Culture

Every week at kindy we include some learning about Aboriginal Culture. Our strong focus on the outdoors and sustainability closely links with Aboriginal culture.

In 2022 we will be engaging with Deanne Hanchant-Nichols a local Aboriginal woman.

She has been booked to join children and staff at kindy each term to broaden our knowledge.

We are learning some Kurna words and also excitedly watching as our new Bush Tucker garden grows.



Street Library, Taikkurringka Pirrku and Paintyi-illa Ngangkiparri

Situated at the top of Paintyi-illa Ngangkiparri our Bushland block, our Street Library is available to the community for children and adults to swap books. Be sure to visit with your child and take a book home.

While you are there have a wander through our Bushland and engage with the interpretative signs.

Sustainability

We have a focus on Sustainability, believing that by starting to explore this at an early age it will become a positive habit for the future. The children are involved in developing our frog bog and butterfly garden; exploring and caring for our Bushland block and playground; vegetable gardening; planting native plants; composting; worm farming; caring for animals, ourselves, insects and plants; recycling and reusing. We encourage no waste wrappings for lunches and snacks- nude food.

Communication



The Seesaw App is used to communicate daily happenings and curriculum information.

Sharing Books

Sharing books will be sent home to share with your family once a term.



A parent communication tool used to communicate with the kindy families.

Your child has a news pocket hanging just inside the verandah door. Please check it daily when the playroom is open to families.



We love to chat with parents and carers. Often in the mornings and straight after sessions our conversations will be interrupted by the busyness around us. If you would like a longer conversation, **please book a time with us**. After sessions is often a good time.

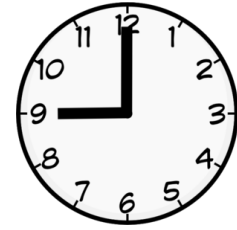
You can also contact us -**83382681; 0437133725** or

dl.4606.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au

During kindy sessions the best contact is 83392681 as we do not carry the mobile phone with us.

We will also invite you in for a chat if we want to celebrate or clarify some things with you.

Session Times



Session Times

Our session times are **9:00am to 3:00pm Tuesday and Wednesdays**
and **9:00am to 12:00pm Thursdays.**

Please adhere to these times. Time before and after sessions is used for preparation, tidying up, planning, reflections about children and practises, administration tasks etc.

The gate will open at 8:55 in the mornings. If the gate is not open please wait in the car, under the shelter or explore our Bushland block.

Clothes

Kindy can be a messy place. Please send your children in comfortable clothes that can get messy. It is also important that they wear shoes that are safe for running, climbing, dancing, sliding and all the physical activities that occur in a child's day. **Please no thongs, crocks or loose sandals and ballet slippers.**

Shade protecting hats have been provided. Shirts and dresses with sleeves are required in terms 1 and 4.

Uniform- Kindy t-shirts are available for sale, currently \$10 per shirt.



Sun safe

We are a registered sun safe centre. Please apply sunscreen before your child comes to kindy. We will help the children to reapply at lunch time. The kindy sunscreen is specifically for sensitive skin. Thankyou to those who have supplied a specific sunscreen for their child.

Snacks/ Water

We adhere to a Healthy Food Policy at Bridgewater Kindergarten. (see Policy Booklet). If children bring unsuitable snacks we ask the children to leave them in their bags. Please see attached policy.

Children need to bring a drink bottle with water only each day.

A cooler block is useful with lunch boxes, ensuring that food stays fresh.

Please remember snacks stay in their kindy bags and lunches are given to the greeting educator.

Daily Schedule

Our daily schedule is flexible but is based on a plan!

Tuesday and Wednesday

9-00 Start of day. Outside play.

9-20 Yoga and Yarning time-planning meeting with children

9:45 Snack time.

10:00 Indoor/Outside play

11-50 Literacy groups

12-00 Lunch, seated at our tables.

“Rest” in the Rainbow Room

1-00 Indoor/Outside play

2-30 Pack up and songs and games.

3-00 Home time

Thursday

As per Tuesday and Wednesday morning programme.

When the weather permits we include Bushland exploration each week.



Bridgewater Kindergarten Healthy Eating Policy

Early childhood is an important time for establishing lifelong, healthy eating habits. Benefits include maximizing growth, development, activity levels and good health and minimizing the risk of diet related diseases later in life, such as heart disease, strokes, some cancers and diabetes. Good nutrition contributes to good health and wellbeing and this is vital for positive engagement in learning activities.

This policy and curriculum is informed by:
Bridgewater Kindergarten Nutrition, Food, Beverages and Dietary Requirements Policy
Right Bite "Healthy food and Drink Supply Strategy for South Australian School and Preschools"
The Australian Guide to Healthy Eating
"Eat Well SA School and Preschools: Healthy Eating Guidelines" Department for Education

Curriculum

Our Preschool's food and nutrition curriculum: is consistent with the *Australian Dietary Guidelines for Children and Adolescents in Australia*, and the *Australian Guide to Healthy Eating*.

PRESCHOOL EATING TIMES

Fruit snack times—usually around 10:30am

Fresh fruits, vegetables or a slice of cheese are recommended as these foods:

- Provide children with important minerals and vitamins.
- Encourages taste for healthy foods.
- Encourages chewing which promotes oral muscle development.
- Encourages ongoing good food choices.

Lunch times—usually around 12:00

A healthy lunch box might include a sandwich, fruit, yoghurt, veggie sticks, cheese, crackers etc.

Packaged food. Foods with high sugar or salt content e.g.:

muesli bars, fruit bars, roll ups, chips, chocolate, lollies, sweet biscuits, biscuit and dip packs, cake and muffins, custards and jellies, sweet sandwiches, crisps are discouraged. Educators will talk with children about this food and ask them to return it to their bags. If the child has no other food staff will provide them with savoury biscuits.

The Learning Environment

Families are asked to provide a named drink bottle filled with water only to kindy. Children are encouraged to drink water regularly through the day. Children and educators wash hands with soap and water before eating and cooking at kindergarten. Staff model healthy eating behaviours. The importance of healthy meals and snacks is experienced as part of the curriculum. Cultural needs are considered, supported and included in the curriculum. Bridgewater Kindergarten is a breastfeeding friendly site.

Working with families

We liaise with families to ensure a suitable food supply for children with health support plans that are related to food issues. We provide information from health professionals to families and caregivers on the *Healthy Eating Guidelines* through a variety of media such as: Newsletters, Policy development/review, Information at new families' orientation meetings, Pamphlet/Poster displays.

During Preschool Special Activities

Our Kindergarten ensures a healthy food supply for kindergarten activities, celebrations and events. Two celebrations a year may include sometimes foods also in accordance with the Right Bite Healthy Eating Guidelines.

Families will be advised if we have children with food allergies and will be asked not to send these foods.



School visits

Once a term, (terms 1-3) we hold our session at Bridgewater Primary School. This is always on a Thursday morning so that children can be dropped off and collected at school.

The purpose of this visit is to give all children an experience of what a school feels like and how it is different to kindergarten, whilst they are with familiar adults.

School visit dates in 2022 are, Thurs 7th April; Thurs 23rd June; Thurs 15th Sept

Meet the community mornings.

Once a term, on a Thursday morning, (terms 1-3) our session will start at the Bridgewater Uniting church. From here we will head out into the community. We might shop at Coles, visit the Post Office or walk part of the Heysen trail. We will be looking for some parent help on these mornings, more information soon.

These dates will be Thurs 14th April; Thurs 16th June; Thurs 8th Sept.

Helpers roster

Families are asked to help with clean up at the end of session and at the beginning of session on Tuesdays. You will be placed on a roster to help with this. This is usually 15 to 20 minutes before the end of session. On Tuesdays we also roster parents to blow or sweep the sticks and leaves off our verandah and sandpit. Thankyou, this help allows staff to prepare for the next day, discuss and write reflections from the day and catch up with some administration.

If you need to swap a shift please use the contact book information to organise this. Please let me know if there are certain days that you cannot help.

Car Park



Car parking at kindy can be a real source of frustration. Governing Councils have looked at trying to include more car parks but we cannot find a successful solution.

There is an **in and out drive** please keep these clear. There is some parking on the lower level.

Perhaps consider parking away from the kindy and walking a little. Adelaide Hills Council have upgraded our footpaths for this purpose. When parking please be considerate of our neighbours, **do not block their driveways** even if you intend to be quick.

Out of School Hours Care

Unfortunately we are unable to offer Occasional Care for our kindergarten children.

Our children are able to access **Out of School Hours Care** after our Tuesday and Wednesday sessions at **Bridgewater Primary School**. Parents will need to arrange transport to the school for their child. There are a number of families in our group who go to the school to collect their older child each day. You are able to register for OHSC by going to the Camp Australia website and using the search bar to find "Bridgewater Primary School".



Bushfire/ Emergencies

Being in the Adelaide Hills Bushfire is a possibility. We have a well-documented Bushfire Action and Emergency Plan. Department for Education has ensured that the building has been well prepared to protect us from Bushfire.

In the event of a bushfire we follow our BAP. Where possible we will contact you to collect your child early. In the event that this cannot happen, please do not drive through dangerous areas to collect your children. We will care for them.

We will be closed on Catastrophic days. You will be notified of this by SMS as soon as we know, which will be after 4:00pm.

Governing Council

Governing Council is the committee who support staff and activities at kindy. They meet twice a term at night. Some of the areas that they support include

Fundraising

Social Events

Grounds Maintenance

Policy making

Curriculum

Decision making

This is not an onerous task , please consider joining our Governing Council.

This years Annual General meeting will be held on Thursday 24th March following our Family Night.