## WHY IS PRESCHOOL IMPORTANT FOR YOUR CHILD?

Preschool is a stepping stone from the home environment before the child starts school and provides the child with a new sense of independence. Staff at Eudunda Preschool aim to provide a happy, warm and secure environment, rich in many play and learning activities which will stimulate and nurture each child's social, emotional, creative, physical and intellectual development.

In a happy, secure preschool environment, children have additional opportunities to:

- Be independent
- Develop positive self esteem
- Communicate with other children and adults
- Separate from parents
- Follow instructions
- Ask for help
- Understand and express needs, feelings and ideas
- Share adult attention
- Take turns and share
- Listen for longer periods- stories etc
- Concentrate for longer periods
- Remember and follow rules and routines
- Develop an appreciation of expressive arts- music, singing, drama, etc
- Observe, question, reason and begin to organise knowledge and solve problems
- Extend their interest, knowledge and understanding of basic concepts (colour, shape, etc) numbers, words and letters through relevant and meaningful activities
- Develop coordination skills
- Play cooperatively
- Learn to accept rules happily, and to handle feelings of hostility and aggression in a positive manner
- Solve problems peacefully
- Work alone and in a group
- Make friends
- Be involved
- Be eager for new experiences

- Be happy, have fun and develop a sense of humour
- Listen and take turns to talk
- Develop speech and language skills
- Respect other people-their ideas, their feelings and their property
- Develop an awareness of and respect for the environment
- Develop an awareness and understanding of other cultures

## THINGS YOU CAN DO TO HELP YOUR CHILD

- Loving, giving reassurance and listening to your child;
- Reading to and with your child;
- Talking with your child;
- Allowing them to use pencils, crayons, chalk, scissors, paste and paint;
- Having scrap paper readily available;
- Encouraging your child to dress themselves, to cope with toileting and nose wiping;
- Showing positive interest in the things your child does;
- Showing an interest in Eudunda Community Preschool Centre and helping in any way you are able.