

Health & safety

We have some basic rules at kindy for being happy and safe. Children help develop these rules, so that they “own” them. Some are non-negotiable. Children may not play outside without a teacher so please bring your child into the building, and make sure one staff member knows you are leaving if you think your child may be upset. Don’t worry it is usually a very temporary situation, but we are more than happy to “smooth” the separation as long as is needed. If someone other than the regular person is going to collect your child you must either ring us, or tell us so it is written in the day book on the kitchen bench. If you are delayed at the end of the session, please try to phone, but rest assured we will care for your child in any case.

Please also let us know if your child is not going to be at kindergarten, whether it is holidays or ill-health. It is the parent’s, not the four year old’s decision as to whether they are well enough for kindy, and we have all the Australian Health Commission Guidelines for contagious infections/viruses, eg with gastro, no attendance until 24 hrs after the last vomit/loose bowels. Exclusion periods apply for all infectious diseases. Please ring us if you have any queries.

Medication at kindy will only be administered with signed forms from you and your doctor – please see us if this situation arises. We ask that families do have ambulance cover if possible, and please keep home/work/emergency contact person phone numbers up to date so staff have maximum chance of contacting you if an accident/illness does occur.

All of our equipment is checked and maintained to keep it as safe as possible. Staff do have First Aid training and update regularly, and practise regular safety drills with the children.

Child and Youth Health nurses conduct a developmental screening for all children aged between 4 years 3 months and 5 years at kindy termly which is very valuable, and children enrolled at kindy are entitled to dental care through the school dental clinic system– staff will give you an enrolment form for this. You can access immunisation clinics at the TTG Council chambers (free) or your doctor. Kindy staff must sight immunisation records prior to enrolment now.

Sandals, hats and any spare clothes in bags must also be named (Please Note: thongs are not safe for climbing so we ask not to send children in these for kindy). A lost property basket is inside the door above the lockers, so check this regularly or phone us if something is missing.

The children are also given expectations about caring for our equipment and the environment: packing away before starting something new, and helping clean up after themselves and others.

DECD and staff, have a strong commitment to the Keeping Safe/ Child Protection Curriculum. “Children have a right to be safe all the time” and “Nothing is so terrible that you can’t talk about it”. Children learn to identify & verbalise feelings, concepts of trust and safety, body awareness & discussing how they feel in all sorts of situations. This is the beginning of a program they will follow all through their schooling, and meeting our legal requirements and moral obligations that we all have, to make this world a safe place for our children.