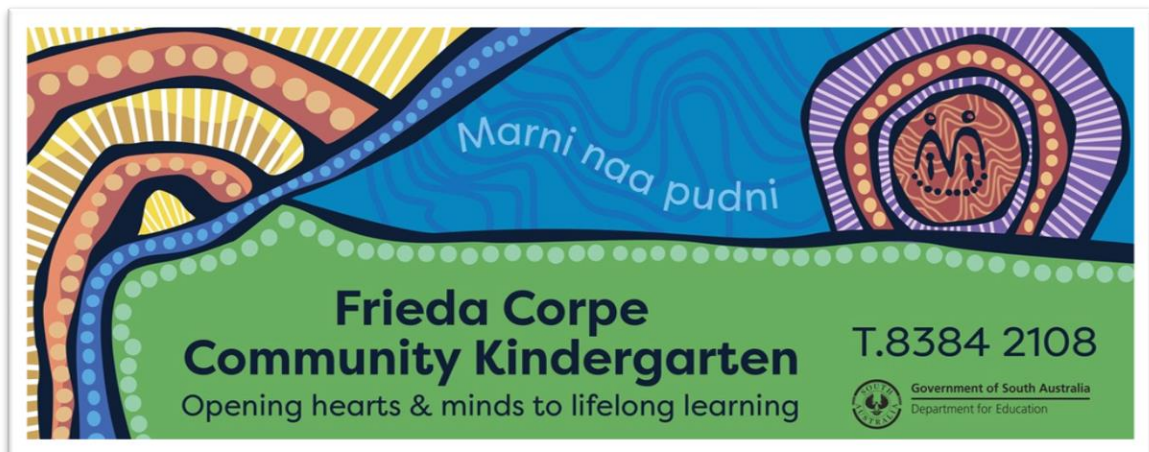


# **PARENT HANDBOOK 2024**

Marni naa pudni, Welcome to the Frieda Corpe Community Kindergarten



42 Benny Ave, PORT NOARLUNGA 5167  
**email:** [dl.3632\\_leaders@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.3632_leaders@schools.sa.edu.au)

## **Our staff team**

Director Kerry Warner

Educators: Monday & Tuesday: Julie Murphy, Cass Martin & Kerry Warner.

Wednesday & Thursday: Kathryn Valamanesh & Fiona Perkins

Early Childhood Worker: Kerily Baker

Support Worker: Amanda Burgess

Finance Officer: Sharon Thompson

## **Our Philosophy**

### ***“Opening hearts and minds to lifelong learning”***

***At Frieda Corpe Community Kindergarten we are committed to “Opening hearts and minds to life-long learning” for children to grow as respectful, responsive, and valued community members. We aspire to develop a sense of belonging, respecting the uniqueness of families and their cultures. Our kindergarten sits proudly on Kurna land and we immerse our community in Kurna culture, history, and language to deepen our connection to Country.***

***We believe that children learn through authentic and meaningful play-based experiences and provocations. Through immersing children in the natural world, we foster a deep connection to the environment, ourselves, and others. We value nature play as a way for children to experience a sense of awe and wonder, to spark imagination and develop a sense of wellbeing.***

***We value children as competent, capable, and unique. We affirm that every child has a right to realize and expand their potential through best practice, quality education and care. We seek to develop the whole child within a community of learners, valuing the child’s voice. We develop secure, respectful, and reciprocal relationships to support the children’s sense of agency and ability to express themselves confidently.***

*Educators provide a supportive and inclusive environment that is responsive to individual children's strengths, abilities, and interests. We implement the Early Years Learning Framework in our cycle of planning. It guides our practice to enrich and extend children's learning. Educators work alongside children co-constructing knowledge to build on children's working theories and understandings. We support children to develop positive learning dispositions and a growth mindset.*

*Educators create a welcoming environment for families. We develop respectful partnerships and acknowledge parents as the child's first educators. We are a learning community where children, parents and educators learn together, sharing knowledge and understanding.*

### **Preschool Term Dates 2024:**

**Term 1      29 January to 12 April**

**Term 2      29 April to 5 July**

**Term 3      22 July to 27 September**

**Term 4      14 October to 13 December**



**STARTING PRESCHOOL:** from 2023 children who turn 4 years old

**\*before 1 May** continue to start preschool at the beginning of the year.

**\*from 1 May to 31<sup>st</sup> October** start preschool through the mid-year intake at the start of term 3 of that year.

Please chat with the Director if your preference is that your child starts at the beginning of the following year.

**\*after 31<sup>st</sup> October** start preschool at the beginning of the following year.

Children will undertake 4 terms (1 year) of preschool, regardless of whether they are at the beginning of the year or through a mid-year intake.

## **Services we provide**

### **Transition visit/s:**

As arranged by the kindergarten. Orientation and transition visits are offered during the term before starting full time kindergarten.

### **Cost**

\$40.00 – includes enrolment, kindergarten hat and kindergarten T shirt, sunscreen. Extra kindergarten t-shirts are available to purchase at kindergarten as well as kindergarten windcheaters.

### **Preschool (Kindergarten)**

This is the priority program for all children in the year before attending school. Session days and times may vary from year to year so please check with the Director for session availability.

Kindergarten starts on Monday 29th January 2024 or for the Mid-Year intake the 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2024.

### **Sessions**

**Mondays and Tuesdays (Kurraaka group)** 8.25am to 3.30pm plus in term 1: Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 8.25am to 1.25pm and Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 8.25am to 3.30pm. Term 2 additional Friday: 21<sup>st</sup> June 8.25am to 3.30pm. Term 3 additional Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September 8.25am to 3.30pm. Term 4 additional Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 8.25am to 3.30pm.



**Kurraaka**

Or

**Wednesdays and Thursdays (Yarlu group)** 8.25am to 3.30pm plus in term 1: Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 8.25am to 1.25pm and Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> 8.25am to 3.30pm. Term 2 additional Friday: 28<sup>th</sup> June 8.25am to 3.30pm. Term 3 additional Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September 8.25am to 3.30pm. Term 4 additional Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November 8.25am to 3.30pm.



**Yarlu**

### **Kindergarten fees/ Cost**

\$200 per term (10 weeks) which includes \$20 levy for the musical muscles program with Caleb. \$20 is also a fundraising levy as supported by our Governing Council. Payment plans are available- please see the Director (Kerry) if this is required. Payment is required by the Friday of week 1 of each term.

### **Fees**

**Fees are paid by the Friday of the first week of each term to continue with your child sessions.**

Payments are made by online banking please see below:  
Bank details for EFTPOS payments:

Bank SA- Christies Beach

BSB: 105 119

Acc No: 435001140

Acc Name: Frieda Corpe Community Kindergarten

\*Please type in your child's full name as the reference so we know which child the payment is for.

If you prefer to pay in cash please see Kerry(Director) with the exact amount as we do not have change. Thankyou

Our finance officer verifies payment of fees each term.



*Please have a look through our Frieda Corpe Kindergarten website  
<https://www.preschools.sa.gov.au/frieda-corpe-community-kindergarten>  
for a wealth of information about kindergarten before attending. Thankyou ☺*

**National Law and Regulations:** The National Law and National Regulations outline the legal obligations of approved providers, nominated supervisors, and educators and explain the powers and functions of the state and territory regulatory authorities and ACECQA.

<https://www.acecqa.gov.au/nqf/national-law-regulations>

## **Volunteering at kindergarten**

We encourage parents to come in and enjoy the vegetable garden with the children, share a cooking experience, share cultures and language or a hobby or talent, participate on excursions & collaborate on community & kindergarten projects. Please chat with the director or staff to see how you can get involved.

If you are a full-time working parent, you may like to attend an out of hours kindergarten event or join our Parent Voice which meets after hours or share your ideas via email or Class Dojo. We value parents/caregivers enriching the program with their ideas and encourage families to share their voices.



## **PARENT VOICE (GOVERNING COUNCIL)**

We value parent's involvement in the Governing Council. This group of parents and staff are responsible for making decisions; planning and monitoring the budget, developing & reviewing policies, sharing parent ideas and ensuring that the centre complies with Government regulations. It is a great way to get to know other parents and get more of an insight into how the kindergarten operates. Please see staff if you would like to be involved. Although we have formalities to follow, we enjoy making decisions over a friendly cuppa.

**This year we are meeting on Tuesday evenings twice a term from 7.00pm to approx. 8.30pm**



## **What to bring to kindergarten**

- **A named bag (on the back of the bag please)** which your child recognizes and can open independently
- A piece of fruit or veg - for morning & afternoon snack (please put your child's morning fruit (named) into the fruit basket at the beginning of the session).
- Healthy lunch that is in a lunch box with an ice pack (named).

To support our recycling & sustainable practices please no glad wrap-or non-recyclable plastic bags.

- A water bottle containing water only (named)
- Some spare clothes in their bag (named) –knickers/jocks/socks/shorts/t-shirt / windcheater if cold weather, a recyclable or plastic bag to put their soiled clothes into.
- A named hat for your child will be provided at kindergarten and stays at kindergarten so it is always available.

**Please apply sunscreen to your child before they come to kindergarten as per our Sunsmart policy provided** i.e., January through to end of April and then August through to December or when U.V rays are rated as 3 and above. Staff will help children reapply sunscreen in the middle of the day at kindergarten with our 50+ sensitive skin sunscreen. If your child has an allergy to sunscreen, please let staff know and provide a roll-on sunscreen to leave at kindergarten for your child. Thankyou

Ensure your child is wearing suitable shoes for climbing (not thongs, slip-ons, or heels)

Children need to wear clothing that they can manage themselves for toileting purposes.

If your child has long hair, please tie it back or up for safety on the swings and to help prevent the spread of head lice.

## **Dropping Off and Picking up** (Thank you for using the hand sanitiser upon entry)

**8.25am to 3.30pm**



Please encourage your child to carry their own kindergarten bag in and they can put it in their locker under the veranda.

They can put their named fruit into the fruit basket and their water bottle and lunch box inside onto the wooden shelf by the door.

### **Sign your child in on the sign in sheet under the veranda each day as well as when picking up.**

If someone other than yourself or partner is collecting your child, please notify staff and write it onto the sign in sheet. If the person collecting your child is not known to staff, they will be required to show a form of photograph I.D. e.g., drivers licence.

If the person is not listed on your enrolment form as an emergency contact, you will need to phone the kindergarten to let us know the full name of the person collecting, their relationship to your child and their telephone number.

Once the doors are open at 8.25am come and say hello to staff. Children can put up their photo/name on the board. They might like to have a go at recognising or copying their name on their sign in table inside. Enjoy sharing an activity with your child and then say goodbye either before or by 9am. Please speak with a staff member if you have concerns about leaving your child.

When collecting your child at the end of the day please **sign your child out** (*on the attendance sheet on the wooden table by the parent information area*) An educator will say goodbye to your child from the gathering time on the mat when the appropriate parent/carer is seen. Children can only be released to an adult stated on your enrolment form.

## **Early and Late Arrivals**

We ask that families both arrive and collect at the appropriate times. Our gate opens at 8.25am. The time before this is an important time for staff to make sure that the outdoor and indoor play areas are safe and ready for your child to engage in.

The kindergarten gate is locked until that time so that we can ensure the safety of your child and give him/her our full attention within the learning environment..

Collection of children: (your child can be collected before 3.30pm if you find this helps with school pick up, but no later than 3.30pm)

If you are running late to collect, please phone us and arrange for your emergency contact person to collect your child from kindergarten no later than 3.30pm.

If a family is late more than once the Director will charge a late fee of \$10 per 10 minutes after session finish time. **Kindergarten finishes at 3.30pm.**



## **POLICIES**

### **Sun Smart**



We are a Sun Smart centre and promote sun smart activities, checking the Bureau of Meteorology website daily as part of our weather discussions with children.

On days of 3 or higher UV reading, kindergarten hats must be worn and sunscreen. (No hat, NO outside play on these days.)

No play in direct sunshine on very hot days.

Children must wear shirts/tops which cover their shoulders at all times.

Children can access their water bottle at any time.



### **Nutrition & Food Policy**

Working with S. A's Healthy Eating Guidelines "Right bite", we have a "Munch and Crunch" program which encourages children to choose healthy snack choices. Chewing harder foods also assists with speech development.

E.g., sultanas, raisins, carrots, cucumber, celery with dip, pitted olives, dried fruits, cooked or raw fruits and vegetables, a little bit of cheese.

Please save sandwiches, yoghurt, cracker biscuits for lunch time.

Lunch: Please provide what you would usually have with your child at home e.g., sandwiches, leftovers from dinner in a thermos, fresh whole foods and salad.

**Please no: confectionery, lollies, chips, twisties, chocolate, cordial, or soft drinks etc.**

In packaged foods there can be high levels of salt and sugar which is indicated on the back of the labels. We encourage families to have a read through the Australian Rite Bite Strategy for its recommended daily food consumption for children.

The children enjoy staying with their friends for lunch so instead of sending sweet treats perhaps try writing a special message and put it in their lunch box. E.g., Have a happy day. Love Mummy xox

Check out the fantastic website <http://raisingchildren.net.au/> for some great healthy lunch ideas.

**We have our Peanut FREE POLICY in place for 2024 in the MONDAY/TUESDAY group as we have a child that has an anaphylactic reaction to peanuts.**

**No peanuts or products containing peanuts.**

**We thank you for reading the back of any packaging to see if it contains peanuts before putting it in your child's lunch box.**

### **Birthdays**

As part of our healthy eating guidelines and with an increased number of children with allergies we ask families to not bring in cake or lollies to kindergarten. Educators make their day special and sing happy birthday with their friends at kindy.

Staff respect cultural differences, so if your family celebrates birthdays in a different way or not at all, please let staff know during your enrolment. Thankyou

## **Behaviour Management**

We aim to provide a safe, secure and supportive environment in which all children are successful in learning appropriate behaviours. We use a positive approach to behaviour management that takes into account the child, their age and their experience in the kindergarten. Challenging behaviours are addressed in an age-appropriate manner. To do this, we involve children in discussions about keeping themselves safe, how they can seek support from staff and some strategies that they can follow. We have a no tolerance to bullying approach and support children to accept responsibility for their behaviour. We support children by learning about appropriate behaviours, being respectful of others, learning about emotions and empathy towards others. We appreciate working together with families with strategies that support all children's learning and wellbeing.

## **Other Policies on site include**

**(but are not limited to)**

Healthy food supply and nutrition policy  
SunSmart policy  
Hot weather policy  
Behaviour Management  
Complaints Management  
Code of Conduct  
Allergy Aware  
Excursion  
Health, hygiene & infectious diseases  
Supervision  
Rest time  
Illness Management  
Incident, injury, trauma and illness

Confidentiality

Transport

Duty of care

Fees

Administering Medication

Anaphylaxis Management

Allergic Reaction

Volunteer

Asthma Management

First Aid in schools and preschools

Payment of fees

Our policies & procedures can be accessed via the following link

<https://www.preschools.sa.gov.au/frieda-corpe-community-kindergarten/our-centre/things-to-know>

Our policy and procedure folder is located by the entrance door for families and visitors to access at any time. Please ask staff if you would prefer a hard copy to take home.

**Department for Education policies** that we adhere to can also be found at the following link

<https://www.education.sa.gov.au/department/policies-and-legislation>

We also have risk assessments that are documented and reviewed as part of scheduled practices in supporting our policies and procedure development. These can be viewed on site at any time. Please see staff.

## **Parent notice board**

Please have a look at the resources and information provided on the parent notice board and entrance notice boards. You will find helpful brochures and contact numbers for various community services that may be of support or interest for your child or family. Please feel free to take a copy or see staff for further information with questions or concerns that you may have so that we can help direct you to a service to support you or your child's needs. We also have some fabulous parenting books by Steve Biddulph Parenting boys, Maggie Dent Mothering our boys, Raising girls Steve Biddulph, Ten things every child with autism wishes you knew Ellen Notbohm, First year at school.

## **Duty of Care**

To ensure that the staff team can take the best possible care of your child, we ask that you help us by:

- The person bringing your child to kindergarten and collecting your child, MUST sign the child in and out on BOTH arrival and departure. If there is a **red letter S** next to your child's name when collecting them, it is important that you please see a staff member regarding a possible Health, Safety or Wellbeing issue for your child for that day. It might be necessary for the adult collecting the child to sign an Injury or illness form regarding the information the staff member shares about your child.
- Should a person other than those listed on your enrolment form be collecting your child please phone the kindergarten to let a staff member know. They will need to bring photo I.D with them if they are not known to staff.
- Always bring your child inside to be greeted by a staff member.
- Make sure that your contact details: contact people + contact telephone numbers are always correct. If any information changes, please see the Director for an appropriate form to fill out which is then added to your original enrolment information.
- Make sure that all information about custody issues or health issues are current and that photocopies of all documentation are given to the Director. This is your responsibility.
- First Aid - All staff have been trained as per DFE requirements and use standard precautions for first aid and/or dealing with blood or body fluid spills. In the event of a minor injury, ice and band aids and /or tender loving care will be given. In the event of a major incident or emergency, the staff would call an ambulance and contact you as soon as possible. A staff member will accompany any child taken to hospital in an ambulance and stay with the child until you arrive.

### **Other Health issues:**

- A child should be at home when running a temperature or showing any signs of being unwell and must not attend kindergarten. No coughs and colds at kindergarten.
- Children who have had vomiting or diarrhoea should be kept at home for 24hours.
- Staff will contact parents immediately if your child is unwell and you will need to make arrangements for him/her to be collected immediately.
- If your child has a contagious illness/disease e.g., chicken pox, measles, conjunctivitis, foot and mouth, whooping cough, Covid or viral infections please notify staff. Children must not attend kindergarten until the incubation period is over as stated in (Staying Healthy in Child Care, Fourth Edition) and / or by your doctor.
- Medications - staff are unable to give children medications other than an epi pen, asthma puffer or eczema cream

All epi pen, eczema or asthma medication must be with [ASCIA action plans](#) that has been completed by a medical or nurse practitioner.

A [health support agreement \(DOC 128KB\)](#) and [safety and risk management plan \(DOC 140KB\)](#) will be developed at kindergarten in consultation with the parent or carer prior to the child attending kindergarten.

Medication provided must be well within its use by date, in its original packaging, and must bear the child's name and come with their current asthma or anaphylaxis plan filled in by your doctor.

Please speak with the Kindergarten Director if your child does require ongoing medication/medical intervention so that we can support your child at kindergarten with a medication agreement, health support plan and safety and risk management plan prior to attending.

**Children that have asthma or require an epi pen are not able to attend kindergarten without their relevant medication and the appropriate asthma /anaphylaxis medical plan signed by their practitioner.**

- If your child is going to be away e.g., holidays or due to illness we appreciate you letting us know. A quick phone call or Dojo message is fine. Some illnesses we may need to alert other families to. (no names shared)

## **Community Services**

Support services are available through the Department for Education (at kindergarten) – Speech Pathologist, Special Educator, Psychologist, CAFHS. Please feel free to enquire with us about this. If you have any concerns or wonderings about your child's learning, behaviour or development please reach out to us. There are wonderful support organisations not only for children but for our parents and caregivers too.

### **External Community Support Services:**

- Immunizations against various diseases are free through ... **GP Plus Super Clinic Noarlunga - Immunisation** service. Ph: 08 8384 0666.
- [Child and Family Health Service \(CaFHS\)](#) provide free Developmental Health Checks for all children when they reach 4.3 years. This includes vision and hearing checks along with general development questions. – phone 1300 733 606. We also have this service at kindergarten each term.
- [SA Dental Service Noarlunga](#) is a free service available to children attending preschool. It is located at the GP Plus Super Clinic Noarlunga, 2 Alexander Kelly Drive, Noarlunga Centre. Open Monday to Friday Ph: 8382 9244
- [Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service \(CAMHS\)](#)
- [Kids Helpline](#) – phone 1800 551 800
- [Lifeline](#) – phone 13 11 14
- [Beyond Blue](#) – phone 1300 224 636
- [Headspace](#) – for young people 12 to 25 years of age, phone 1800 063 267
- [Youth Mental Health Service](#) – for young people over 16 to 24 years of age
- [Women's and Children's Hospital](#) – phone 8161 7000
- [Multicultural Youth SA](#) – phone 8212 0085.
- [Aboriginal Education Directorate](#) education.aboriginalservices@sa.gov.au
- phone 8226 1214
- [For Aboriginal interpreter services](#), phone 8999 2062 or email ais@nt.gov.au.
- [Parenting SA](#) health.parentingsa@sa.gov.au Phone 8303 1660
- For people who don't speak English, contact [Translating and Interpreting Service \(TIS\)](#) on 1800 280 203 (free call)
- [The National Relay Service](#) is available for customers that are deaf, hard of hearing or have a speech impairment. Call 133 677 (TTY or voice calls) or 1300 555 727 (speak and listen) at no extra charge
- [Noarlunga Health Village](#). Ph 8384 9266 The Early Childhood and Family team also includes: Speech pathologists, Psychologists, Community Health Nurses, Social Workers, Occupational Therapists, Nutritionists
- <https://www.healthdirect.gov.au>

**Services available at greatly reduced costs:**

**Flinders University Psychology clinic** – assessment and treatment of anxiety and stress & behavioural difficulties in children ph. 8201 2311 (self-referral)

**Flinders Health 2Go: Flinders University Paediatric Occupational Therapy ph 7221 8700 or Paediatric Nurse or Speech Pathology 18mths to 6 years of age.**

## **Parent resources**

We have a range of parent pamphlets (please help yourself) and books that are available for borrowing. You will find some of these resources next to the parent information board and others are stored inside. There are children's picture books (to help with tricky topics) and adult reference books about parenting. To borrow books & resources please write the name of the book in the borrowing folder, your name and contact phone number and your child's name. If you cannot find what you are looking for please ask staff.

We thank you for returning items to staff.

Items can be borrowed for up to 4 weeks at a time.

Our local Noarlunga Library is also another fabulous place for a myriad of books and resources and its free! Ph: 8384 0655 Email: libraries@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au

Other great resources/websites include:

<https://parenting.sa.gov.au/>

<https://raisingchildren.net.au/grown-ups/services-support/local-services/sa-services>

<https://raisingchildren.net.au/>

<https://dhs.sa.gov.au/families-growing-together>

<https://emergingminds.com.au/resources/parenting-sa/>

<https://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/public+content/sa+health+internet/services/health+services+for/parenting+and+child+health+services/parenting+and+child+health+services>

<https://autismsa.org.au/>

<https://suelarkey.com.au/> (ASD & sensory resources)

## **How do I enrol my child into Primary School?**

Enrolment into school does not happen from kindergarten. Parents need to contact their school of preference and register their child's name to enrol. *(Attending Frieda Corpe Kindergarten does not give you an automatic place into the Port Noarlunga School, please contact the school to find out your options.* Chat with the school if you are unsure where your address fits in with their zone of Port Noarlunga. Ph: 83822455. You will be asked to fill out a formal enrolment into school later in the year by the school so please make sure they have your correct details early in the year.

We are closely linked with both public and private schools in the area and our local schools arrange the children's transition programs to school.

Enrolment into any school needs to be done at your chosen school (including Port Noarlunga Primary School) before your child attends. It is recommended to do this a year before they are expected to attend school.

**If you change your school preference that you have listed on your kindergarten enrolment form, please notify the kindergarten in writing and phone the school to let them know that your child will no longer be attending.** Thankyou.

## **Information**

*We do expect parents to be responsible for reading their newsletter on Class Dojo as well as Class Dojo posts to keep updated and informed about what is happening at kindergarten. Thank you.*

*If you require a different means of sharing information, please chat with the Director so that I can ensure this happens. Thankyou*

A kindergarten program and Class Dojo planner will be provided each term to keep track of up-and-coming diary dates and know what we are learning about at kindergarten.

Unless you inform us otherwise, information will be sent to you directly through Class Dojo. Thank you for helping us with our sustainability practices.

The notice board above your sign in sheet also has general parent information and resources.

The parent information shelf has a folder which contains a list of local services available to assist families. Please feel free to take pamphlets that you find relevant.

Please chat to the director if you find yourself requiring other information or services that we may be able to help you with. (E.g., special needs, behaviour management, speech pathologist, child psychologist, occupational therapist.)

*Look out for the parent information board under the veranda and information on the parent info shelf which has handy brochures, information books and policies.*

We encourage recycling at kindergarten and can usually utilise a variety of recyclable materials e.g., boxes, containers, buttons, ribbon, wool, wrapping paper. **Please no toilet rolls, glass or medicine containers.** We also appreciate natural materials e.g., shells, bark, leaves flowers etc. to create with and explore.

Information about children's learning, our Child Initiated Curriculum and The Early Years Framework are displayed around the centre and on Class Dojo. We love to incorporate your family and child's interests; culture and ideas so please share them with us over the kindergarten year.

Staff are extremely friendly and helpful so if you have any suggestions, ideas or have an issue please come and chat with us or give us a call.

We also have parent questionnaires from time to time which help us to make continual improvements. We value your ideas, thoughts and feedback throughout the year to help with this. We encourage you to chat with staff, send a dojo post or share your feedback anonymously via the yellow post its on the parent sign in table.

## **Curriculum**

### **Child Initiated Learning**

Our program provides a wide variety of stimulating and challenging experiences. Through play-based experiences we support children to develop learning dispositions which enable them to be confident and successful lifelong learners.

Our program incorporates **The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia** "Belonging, Being & Becoming" which is interwoven into our Child Initiated Curriculum focusing on your child's interests. We encourage the children to share their ideas and invite them to tell us what they would like to learn about. Their interests help to formulate a very relevant and meaningful curriculum that the children have ownership of and a deep level of engagement in.



### **Early Years Learning Framework**

"Belonging, Being & Becoming" is Australia's National Early Years Learning Framework for educators. The framework aims to extend and enrich children's learning from birth to five years and through transition 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 guides educators in curriculum decision making and assists in planning, implementing, and evaluating quality in early childhood settings. It also underpins the implementation of more specific curriculum relevant to each local community and early childhood setting. It has specific emphasis on play-based learning and recognises the importance of communication and language (including early literacy and numeracy) and social and emotional development.

We value developing positive relationships with children and families which enable us to build on the children's prior knowledge, experience, and strengths and be inclusive of our diverse cultural backgrounds.

I am an oceanographer,  
using my enquiring mind,  
observational skills, numeracy  
skills and technology skills.





I am a research scientist, using my maths and literacy skills.

I am an engineer using my problem-solving skills, creativity and innovation and positive interpersonal skills.



Professor Guy Claxton, one of the world's leading experts in education states that "The traditional approach to teaching was for teachers to deliver the content of the curriculum, leaving little time for the students to think about what and how they were learning." Then praise and success went to the student who could remember the most content.

For a "good education" these days he says-

"We should be placing less emphasis on content and qualifications and more emphasis on facilitating children's learning."

This means helping children understand how they can learn. He says it is important to encourage children to develop their inquiring minds by asking questions and to be encouraged and nurtured to become confident, independent learners. This way they become "better learners."



I am a designer using my artistic skills, creativity, patience, confidence and positive communication skills.



I am an environmentalist, using my communication skills, problem solving skills and analytical skills.

## **Building Learning Power** (Professor Guy Claxton)

**Kindergarten is not about learning the ABC's. It is far more involved and important than that.**

**Providing learning experiences which enable children to develop positive learning dispositions is crucial for lifelong learning.**

*I am a curious learner..I want to know more about things.*

*I am a creative learner and enjoy making sense of the world and expressing myself creatively through music, movement, arts.*

*I am a persistent learner... I keep trying even when things get tough.*

*I am a resilient learner...I don't give up I learn from all experiences.*

*I am a confident learner.. I have a go even when I haven't tried it before because I know that I can learn through being actively involved.*

*I am a social learner and use positive self-talk.*

*I am an organised learner and set learning goals, take care of things, listen carefully and plan my time.*



### **Connecting to country through nature play.**

We acknowledge that we are on Kurna land and learn about our First Nations people and culture through connecting with Elders and learning more about country. Through connecting to country and learning in and through nature we support children's wellbeing and help develop lifelong learning skills and dispositions.

We value learning in and with nature to explore with our senses, develop empathy and appreciation of all living things, to deepen our curiosity and wonderment, to problem solve, investigate and explore. In nature we can be mathematicians, scientists, singers, artists, conservationists.....the learning is endless and we can simply be! (Mindfulness)

Further information is available at the kindergarten.



### **Reporting on your child's development and learning journey**



Class Dojo

Every child has a special folder on the Class Dojo app where educators document children's individual learning. Photographs of your child engaged in learning through play with documentation provides clear evidence of the learning that has occurred through that play experience in reference to the National Curriculum.

An individual learning plan is also devised with parents, the child and his or her teachers to support learning goals and interests.

When browsing through your child's folder on Class Dojo you could use it as a time to encourage language and communication by asking your child to tell you about the pictures and what they were doing at kindergarten. We love to get your feedback too. This helps connect teachers, children and families as we share in our kindergarten time together. Teaching staff document and assess individual children's learning to provide experiences that continually stimulate, challenge, stretch and support their learning. Learning conversations with families are shared throughout your child's learning journey at kindergarten as a way of working together to meet your child's needs. A final Statement of Learning is later written in your child's last term of kindergarten which captures their learning journey. This is shared with families and then a copy with your permission is sent to your child's school to support a positive transition into the early years of schooling.

You are welcome to chat with staff during the first part of the session about your child or if a more in-depth or confidential chat is required please make an appointment to discuss your child's development so that we can give you our full attention. Phone calls can also be arranged if you are unable to come into the centre.

Your child's educator will keep you informed about your child's learning and development at kindergarten over the year through Class Dojo posts, informal chats and individual family discussions/sharing. We value working together with our families and children so that everyone has a voice and children's thoughts, and ideas are valued and built upon. We really appreciate your conversations with us to deepen our connection and learning about your family and child and to plan for your child's individual learning.

When we (educators and parents) collaborate it gives the opportunity to plan together for your child's learning through kindergarten. "It takes a village to raise a child" African proverb.

A wondering.....How do our brains work?



***We wholeheartedly welcome you and your family to the Frieda Corpe Community Kindergarten and an exciting journey of learning together.***

