



3 Gladigau Rd
Mount Gambier 5290
☎ 8725 9689
email: Jane.hetherington116@schools.sa.edu.au

Kindy Information Booklet



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

Belonging, Being and Becoming.



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email: Jane.hetherington116@schools.sa.edu.au

Director: Jane Hetherington
Teachers: Louise Hennessy, Kate Ellis & Nicole Forrest.
Occasional Care Co-Ordinator: Alison Marks-Newton
ECW & Assisted Play Group: Alisha Axleby

Acknowledgement of Country:

Here at Gladigau Park Kindergarten, we like to say thank you to the Boandik People who care for the land on which we learn and play. We pay our respects to the Elders of the past, present and future. Hello Land, Hello Sky, Hello Me, Hello Friends.

Our Kindergarten provides the following programs:

Pre-School

Your child is eligible for up to 15 hours of Preschool per week for the year prior to starting school. We run the 15 hours over a two-week cycle of 2 days one week, three the next week. We have two start dates which are the beginning of Term 1 & the beginning of Term 3 each year.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:45AM - 3PM	8:45AM - 3PM	8:45AM - 1:45PM	8:45AM - 3PM	8:45AM - 3PM

Occasional Care

This program runs alongside the preschool day. The Occasional Care Co-Ordinator provides the children with support and assistance, encouraging positive interactions with other children and adults. The fee for this service varies between \$1.50 and \$5.00. This program is offered to families who DO NOT access any other forms of childcare.

Curriculum

The Early Years Learning Framework supports staff in our observation, assessment, planning, implementation & evaluation of the learning program we provide. The following Learning Outcomes describe the framework we use for documenting children's learning.

- 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 effective communicators



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Digital Learning Journal

Each child has a Digital Learning Journal (through the Seesaw App) in which you will find samples of their work, learning stories, photographs, written observations, anecdotes, and summaries of learning experiences in which the child has participated. The Seesaw App will give you a glimpse of your child's learning experiences during his/her time at kindergarten.

Learning Conversations

In terms 1 & 3 Families are invited to have a Learning Conversation with their child's Key Educator. It is an expectation at Gladigau, that parents attend these conversations.

In term 2, parents can opt to have a Learning Conversation if they wish.

In term 4 you will receive a Statement of Learning for their full Preschool year.

Please know you are ALWAYS welcome to discuss your child's learning at any time. The times above are the designated times we have for families to learn more about their child's educational journey.

Support is available for children who require specialised programs. Please let us know if you have any concerns about your child's development, behaviour, sight, hearing, communication, speech etcetera, at any time. We are here to support children AND their family.

Parent Involvement

Parents / guardians / carers are encouraged to:

- Help out at the beginning or end of session to get the inside or outside area set up or cleaned up.
- Help out in practical ways by helping with activities, excursions or at working bees.
- Help out with the washing roster through the year.
- Become a member of the Governing Council (see below for more information)
- Pay fees on time and support fundraising organised by the Governing Council.
- Visit and spend time in the Kindy at times convenient to you
- Bring skills and interests to share with the children.

Governing Council

All parents and interested community members are encouraged to participate in Governing Council activities. This group:

- manages maintenance and improvements to the Kindergarten,
- manages, organise & run fundraising activities,
- assists in planning the budget



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- Contributes to the development of the education program for the children.
- Together with staff, plans future directions to meet the needs of the families using the Kindergarten.

Meetings are held twice each term in weeks 3 & 7, at the Kindergarten. All parents are welcome to attend meetings.

Delivery and Collection of Children

Parents or adults must bring the child into the Kindergarten and record on the attendance sheet the name of the person who will be coming to collect the child at the end of the day. If your plans change, please ring us to tell us who will be collecting the child instead.

If a child is not collected, the staff will endeavour to contact the people nominated on the enrolment form as emergency contacts.

Health Procedures

You must keep your child home if they are unwell.

We aim to maintain an environment that is safe and also minimises the risk of contracting or spreading illness.

The Kindergarten cannot provide care for children who are ill or who are suffering from any contagious disease.

Information about illnesses and associated exclusion times are available on request.

- If your child becomes ill at Kindy, you will be contacted as soon as possible.
- In emergency situations of illness or injury, ambulance, medical or hospital services will be enlisted as deemed necessary.

The kindergarten is not responsible for medical, ambulance or hospital costs.

It is not our responsibility to administer medication, except in the situation of the child having a long-term medical condition that requires medication e.g. Asthma. Medication would only be given on the **written consent of a doctor and a parent**. A health care plan will need to be prepared.

Keeping Informed

Each family is allocated a newsletter pocket. Please check regularly for information or children's paintings and information regarding excursions or other news you need to know. Information is also displayed near the sign in sheets or on the kindergarten window &/or in the display case in the walkway.

OUR MAIN COMMUNICATION SOURCE IS THROUGH SEESAW.

However, you are always welcome to speak to any one of our team.



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Kindy clothes/Uniforms

Please send your child to kindergarten in clothes that they can manage on their own in the toilet and that you don't mind if they get dirty.

We sell Polo Shirts in many colours & sizes (\$30) at Kindy.

You are able to get our kindy logo printed onto jumpers at Hip Pocket for approx. \$10.00.

If children have to worry about keeping clean they tend to be limited in their freedom to explore and discover, which we believe are important learning dispositions. Please send a named spare set of clothes to be used should your child get wet from play or a toileting accident.

Sunsmart Procedures

Hats

Please provide a brimmed hat for play outside in the 1st and 4th terms. Hats **MUST NOT** have cords (even with a safety latch) We expect your child to have sunscreen applied before coming to kindy. We can reapply sunscreen again at lunch time. You will need to provide the sunscreen if your child has a reaction to the Kindy sunscreen.

Please label your child's belongings eg clothing, hat & water bottle with their name.

Food and Drinks

Please pack something healthy for your child to eat at snack time. **No nuts or nut products are allowed, including Nutella and Peanut Butter.** A healthy snack can be: fruit, vegetable, cheese, savory biscuits, plain popcorn, rice or corn cakes. Avoid packaged snacks eg muesli bars, fruit bars, chips - these are not a healthy alternative. You will also need to provide a packed lunch. Please bring a sandwich (no Hundreds n Thousands in sandwiches please) or similar for lunch as well as anything else you think your child will eat. We expect children will have their own named Water bottle. Water is the healthiest option so please only provide water in their water bottle.

Money and Fees

Fee payments can be made in full or each term by EFTPOS, direct credit or cash.

EFTPOS & Direct Credit are our preferred options however cash can be paid to kindy by placing in an envelope with your child's name, the amount and what it is for. It then goes in the wooden fees box. Money for excursions, fundraisers, etc. can also be paid this way. The BSB & account numbers are always in the Newsletter.

We also provide Centrepay as an easy way to pay fees. Please see Jane for further details.



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Toys

Please ask your child to keep their own toys safe at home. Sometimes it may be appropriate to bring something special to show us but then it needs to be taken home by the parent and not left at kindergarten.

Staff

Our staff are a dedicated team of caring professionals who aim to provide quality education and care for all children, in consultation with parents. We aim to provide a partnership with families, enabling us to provide the best possible care for each individual child. Staff photographs are displayed for you to become familiar with and identify us. There will be several staff working in the Kindy, and these consist of Teachers, Early Childhood Workers, and Support Workers, working on a full or part-time basis. Each team member brings with them a rich variety of educational experiences and levels of Qualifications. The Kindy actively promotes ongoing staff training and development opportunities. Our staff have undertaken training in First Aid for Preschools. All staff and volunteers are trained in Mandatory Notification, and as such are required by law to report any suspicion of child abuse to the relevant agency. All staff and volunteers are required to undertake a Criminal History Check.

From time to time the Kindy hosts students who may be taking the Children's Services Diploma or a Bachelor of Teaching in Early Childhood and will be under staff supervision during their placements. Responsibility of the children always remains with the staff team.

We welcome you and your child to our Kindergarten, and we hope you enjoy your kindergarten experience.

Updated December 2023.



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