

PARENT PARTICIPATION

Family participation

We are committed to working in partnership with families and you are encouraged and welcome to participate in every aspect of kindergarten life. We believe family involvement is important to children for many reasons. We share with families the responsibility of the care and education of their young children, as we believe parents are the primary educators of their children.

Your child will benefit from your interest and participation and by talking and working together. Parents and teachers can help each other to appreciate each child's individual needs, characteristics and interests. As a small centre we are always grateful for any **voluntary help** that you can provide. Possibilities for help include reading stories to children, assisting with small group activities, gardening, preparing materials and resources, cleaning up and repairing equipment. As mentioned earlier all volunteers must have a current relevant history screen.

Working Bees / Washing roster/ cleaning roster

Preschools receive little support to maintain the facilities. To keep our grounds looking neat and tidy, working bees may be held throughout the year. We also have a washing roster and we ask families to help with these jobs generally once or twice per year. The end of term is a busy time for all and we may ask for volunteers to help out during the last week with small cleaning jobs. A notice will be displayed on the parent notice board or placed in your child's note pocket giving details of the date and the jobs to be done.

Fundraising

The state government provides a limited amount of financial support to preschools and to ensure that materials can be purchased we have a main fundraiser each term, with all proceeds going directly towards **new resources to benefit the children**. We ask families using the service provided by the kindergarten (including playgroup families) to actively participate in our fundraising activities.

Governing Council

The Governing Council consists of parents, staff and community members and is responsible for the management of the kindergarten. This includes the development and funding of the annual budget and maintenance of centre. An Annual General Meeting is held in Term 1 every year, with nominations being called for President, Treasurer, Secretary and Committee Members. Committees usually consist of about 5 - 10 parents, caregivers or community members. The Governing Council meets twice per term for approximately 1 hour.

All parents/caregivers are welcome to join the council to assist with the management of the preschool, plan special events, discuss concerns and share ideas and to get to know one another. The Committee also plans fundraising events in order to raise funds for the maintenance of high quality programs for children. All volunteers including Governing Council members must undertake Responding to Abuse and Neglect training for volunteers session (run onsite by the Director).