

Attendance:

Please note: Attendance data is collected by the Department. This data is used to allocate staffing to the kindergarten. If children are absent this could result in a reduction in staffing levels for the kindergarten; this may have a flow on effect to the hours and sessions we are able to offer.

The importance of regular attendance at preschool and school cannot be overstated. The likelihood of success in learning is strongly linked to regular attendance and appropriate participation in educational programs. It is crucial that children and students develop habits of regular attendance at an early age. **When you enrol your child at kindergarten you are making a commitment to attend.**

Regular attendance has significant benefits for children/students, parents and the community.

Regular attendance can result in the following benefits:

- Opportunities to make friends and maintain relationships.
- Development of social skills.
- An increased likelihood of success at school.
- Getting the maximum benefit from school will help optimise life choices.
- Supports the development of skills and attitudes that will support later success; such as, self-discipline, punctuality, being organised and sticking to routines.

The more a child attends preschool/school the more they will learn. This will probably mean that they enjoy preschool/school more! Children and students who have poor patterns of attendance are at risk of not achieving their educational, social or psychological potential and are disadvantaged in the quality of choices they are able to make in later life.

These learners may:

- feel insecure at preschool or school
- have gaps in their knowledge and understanding of basic concepts
- be socially isolated
- place themselves at risk of harm during absence
- be more likely to be involved in socially unacceptable and/or illegal activities
- be more likely to leave school early
- be over-represented in the juvenile justice system
- be the victims of bullying or harassment.

Parents who make regular attendance a priority are also helping their children to value learning and to accept responsibility. These are important lessons for life. Attendance patterns and attitudes to school and learning are formed early. Children who develop good attendance habits in the early years are more likely to maintain them throughout their school years. This is vitally important because students who do not attend regularly miss out on carefully planned sequences of instruction and on active learning experiences and class participation.

At Paralowie Kindergarten we work hard to:

- develop and maintain strong relationships with all of our families
- ensure the learning program is accessible for all children
- provide a safe and welcoming learning environment
- support families who may be experiencing issues regarding attendance.

If your child is going to be absent for any reason please advise the kindergarten as soon as possible by phone call, text message or email.