

Curriculum policy

Our Mission Statement...

'We believe that all children have the right to experience the wonderment of childhood, to grow and to investigate through rich quality play in a warm and respectful environment which reflects the diversity of our world'.

Our experienced staff team plans the Kindergarten's curriculum using the National Early Years Learning Framework.

The **Early Years Learning Framework for Australia (EYLF)** includes everything that happens at kindergarten. Most important are the positive interactions between teachers, families, children and the environment as we play, talk, rest, eat, and work things out together.

The teaching and support staff at kindergarten work closely with all families and children to share information and to get to know each other so that the curriculum we plan appropriately meets and challenges the strengths and interests of each child. Each day there is a wide variety of planned and spontaneous play experiences to explore within a safe, well organised & supportive environment.

All of these elements of the curriculum framework are important for developing in your child a strong sense of his or herself as a valued, caring community member and a capable, self-regulated and self-motivated learner.

Belonging..... Being..... Becoming underpin this curriculum.

Our program is displayed for all families to view and join in with whenever possible. This Early Years Framework includes everything that happens at Kindergarten.

Most important are the warm and positive interactions between staff, families and children in the Preschool environment as we play, talk, explore, relax and learn together.

The teaching and support staff at Preschool work closely with all families and children to share information and to get to know each other so that the curriculum we plan appropriately meets the challenges, the strengths, needs and interests of each child.

Each day there is a wide variety of planned and spontaneous play experiences to explore within a safe, well organised and supportive environment.

All of these elements in our curriculum are important for developing in your child a strong sense of his or herself as a valued, caring community member and a capable self-motivated learner.

The following principles underpin our practice:

- We develop secure, respectful and reciprocal relationships.
- We work in partnerships with families.
- We hold high expectations for all children's achievements in learning.
- We respect diversity and believe there are many ways of living, being and knowing.
- We are committed to ongoing learning and reflective practice.

At all times we have an 'Open Door' policy and families are welcome to contribute and to join in with and comment upon our curriculum.

What will my child be learning at Preschool?

At Pimpala Kindergarten your child will have opportunities to:

- Develop appropriate social skills to work independently, and as part of a group.
- Develop positive relationships with other children and adults.
- Develop effective communication skills and learning dispositions.
- Develop a positive self-image, a sense of optimism and self-regulation (Executive Function).
- Develop their fine and gross motor skills.
- Be intellectually inquisitive and creative.
- Question, observe and construct their knowledge of the world around them.
- Develop literacy skills.
- Develop mathematical and numeracy skills.

Recording your Child's Learning

Staff use The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia as a basis for planning, assessment for learning and reporting on children's learning.

The 5 Learning Outcomes are:

- Children have a strong sense of identity
- Children are connected with & contribute to their world
- Children have a strong sense of wellbeing
- Children are confident & involved learners
- Children are effective communicators

The staff at Pimpala Kindergarten use a variety of different forms of documentation to assess and report on your child's learning. This may include learning stories, photographs, written observations, child interviews, other child's voice formats, work samples, an Individual Learning Plan's and a summative report upon completion of kindergarten.

At times your child will take some of their work home, staff may use it in a display in the kindergarten, or it may be placed into your child's Learning Folder.

Throughout your child's time at kindergarten please feel free to look at your child's Learning Folder, add learning stories from their home lives (particularly if it relates to what we have been doing at kindergarten) and also enjoy displays of work around the centre.

When your child leaves kindergarten and moves onto school, they take their Learning Folder with them. It may be valuable for you to share this work with your child's school as an introduction for the teacher.