

PINNAROO KINDERGARTEN



General information

Active learners through play



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Government of South Australia
Department for Education

Welcome to our Kindergarten. We hope your time with us is enjoyable, educational and fulfilling.

Early Intervention Support Services

At Pinnaroo Kindergarten, we are committed to providing all children with the best possible start in life. We are able to provide access to a number of DECD and specialist agencies support services. These may include;

- Disability Co-ordinator
- Speech Pathologist
- Occupational Therapist
- Psychologist
- Murray Mallee Community Health Families and Children Team
- CAMHS and CAFHS

If your child has received therapy prior to starting Kindergarten or you are concerned about any aspect of their development, please bring this to our attention when you enrol or as soon as possible.

Health Checks

A Child and Family Health service (CAFHS) nurse visits the Kindergarten during the year to conduct 4-year-old health checks. This is an opportunity for all children to have their health screening done during their preschool year prior to starting school. Appointment times and consent forms are sent home before the visits.

Children's Medication

If your child has any health issues or requires medications, please make sure you have a current Health Care Plan in place at the Kindergarten. Please see Kindergarten educators if you require the appropriate forms. These forms need to be completed by a doctor and returned to the Kindergarten. Children's medication is not to be left in their bag. It can be placed in the appropriate basket on the front bench.

What your child should wear

Pinnaroo Kindergarten has jumpers, polo shirts, t-shirts and hats available for purchase. Please see educators after the session on a Monday if you would like to purchase anything or for help with sizing. Prices are as follows:

Jumpers	\$30
Polo Shirts	\$22
T-shirts	\$12
Navy Hats	\$10
Pink/Green Hats	\$15



Literacy Kits

Each child has the opportunity to borrow a Literacy kit each week. These kits are designed for you to use with your child. They are a great way for you to help your child develop literacy skills. Each kit contains a book and some activities relating to that book. Only 1 kit may be borrowed at a time and needs to be recorded in the borrowing book. The kits can be found in the white cupboard in the quiet room of the Kindergarten but will be placed out on the craft table at the end of Monday sessions. We ask that you check the kit before returning it to make sure all pieces are clean, back in the bag.



Please report any missing or damaged items to educators.
Please enjoy these kits with your child.

Sharing Time

Each child is given the opportunity to have a sharing time each week. A roster will be sent home at the start of the Kindergarten year outlining when your child will have their turn. At the start of each term a week by week topic list will also be sent home. This is a fantastic opportunity for your child to develop oral language skills, make decisions about objects to bring to Kindy, speak in front of a group and become an audience member.

Dismissals

It is really important that you are prompt in picking up your child at the end of the Kindergarten session. Children can easily get concerned if their parents are late at picking them up. If you are more than 5 minutes late, you will receive a phone call to ensure that you are on your way.

If someone other than yourself is to pick up your child from Kindergarten, we need to be informed. We will not release your child with someone else unless you have written the instructions in the Pick-up Variation book or in your child's communication book or phoned the Kindergarten. They must also be recorded on your child's enrolment form as an authorised collection person.

Please ensure they are clear about the pick-up times.

Parking

Parking is available in the Kindergarten car park as well as directly across the road from the Kindergarten. Please note, there is **NO parking** at the front of the Kindergarten. This area is to be kept clear to allow the School buses to drop off and pick up Kindergarten children.

Personal Information

At enrolment you provide us with important information about you and your child eg. Phone numbers, addresses, health information, emergency contacts. If at any time this information changes, please inform educators as soon as possible so that these changes can be made to your child's records. All personal information is kept confidential.

Photos and Videos

We regularly take photos and videos of children as a way of recording their progress, interests and achievements. These may be displayed at the Kindergarten, in newsletters, on the Kindergarten website and shared with other professionals.

A professional photographer visits the Kindergarten in Term 3 to photograph all the children. Parents are given the opportunity to purchase these photos.

Parent Resource Library

A parent resource library is available above our computing area. Please feel free to borrow materials from this library, by recording your name in the little red/black book. There are some excellent books on helping to raise children and a folder full of useful parenting pamphlets.



How families can help

We really encourage and value your involvement at the Kindergarten. Please feel free to stay a while in the morning and spend some time playing with your child.

There are many ways in which you can help us and the following are just a few suggestions:

- ☺ Help with the weekly washing- a roster is placed on the parent notice board as well as in the newsletter
- ☺ Save useful 'junk' eg. Boxes, cream and yogurt containers and other recyclable materials for us to

use. (please make sure they are clean before sending in)

- ☺ Share your particular interest with us, eg. Cooking , gardening, pottery, music
- ☺ Encourage your child to pack up their toys
- ☺ Help clean up at the end of sessions
- ☺ Accompany us on excursions
- ☺ Be involved in our Fundraising activities
- ☺ Bring your child to Kindy regularly
- ☺ Attend working bees
- ☺ Become a member of the Governing Council
- ☺ Read and share stories often
- ☺ Give practice in games and puzzles to help your child's concentration span
- ☺ **Most of all have fun with your child**

Governing Council

The governing council's role it is to support the director in the governance of the kindergarten. the governing council is responsible for:

- Planning and developing policies and services within the guidelines of DECD
- Financial management relating to the day to day running of the Kindergarten
- Maintenance of the grounds, building and equipment
- Communicating services and events to other families
- Supporting educator and other parents in their work for the Kindergarten
- Organising Fundraising events
- Actively promoting the Kindergarten in the community through supporting and participating in community events

The Governing council is elected annually at the end of the Kindergarten year and is required to meet twice a term at the Kindergarten. All families are welcome to join the Governing Council. Positions of the Governing Council include:

- Chairperson - runs the meetings, liaises closely with the Director, supports the Director when needed, presents a report at the AGM
- Secretary - takes minutes at meetings, distributes minutes to members, responds to correspondence, writes any letters when needed
- Treasurer - receipts money received, takes receipted money to Finance Officer at Pinnaroo Primary School to be banked, writes out fee envelopes each term, presents reports provided by Finance Officer at meetings
- Playgroup Rep - provides a report once a term (when using the Kindy)

**Please note – the kindergarten cannot operate without
a Governing Council.**

it's not "just play"

Play is an essential part of early learning.

It is the lifeblood of the learning process.

As children play they are developing the cognitive, socio-emotional and physical skills they will need to take them into a successful adulthood.

They are developing their curiosity, problem solving, intentionality, flexibility, and verbal & non verbal skills.

Socio-emotionally they are developing their emotional intelligence – learning confidence, cooperation, negotiation, sharing, empathy and how to communicate appropriately.

Physically their fine motor and gross motor skills are being practised and developed.

**It's not "just play" they are
skills for life!**