



Preparing for the first day

When children start kindergarten for the first time or transfer from another kindergarten, be prepared for them to be a little apprehensive or anxious. Some children take longer than others to settle and however much your child may be looking forward to going to kindergarten, it is a new experience.

The separation from a parent or carer is a major step in your child's life. Rest assured that all staff are committed to making it as smooth as possible.

Give lots of hugs before and after kindergarten to reassure them and be prepared to stay at kindergarten to help them to settle in. We believe your child is special and we will do all that we can to build their self-esteem.

On arrival please

- ☉ Help your child to find a place to hang up their bag **let them do it** so that they can find it when necessary
- ☉ Put lunches in the tubs on the verandah

Please Leave AM & PM Fruit in Bags (with a cool pack in summer) so that children can access it by themselves.

- ☉ Settle your child and say your goodbyes
- ☉ Never leave without telling your child you are going. Your child needs to know that they can trust you. Staff will support an unsettled child as you leave.
If your child seems upset as you leave please feel free to call the Kindergarten 82783392 in order to be reassured that they have settled. Bear in mind we will call you if they are unable to be calmed or distracted.

☉ You are welcome to discuss with the staff your child's progress or any concerns you have. Please tell us of significant events at home that may affect your child's behaviour and emotional well-being and feel free to ask for privacy if matters are confidential.

Our aim is to work together for the happiness and growth of your child. If you have queries or suggestions, please speak to the Director or any staff member.





Checklists

what to bring

Before you come

- Dress your child in comfortable, named, hardwearing sun smart clothes and sturdy safe footwear and a hat. (Hats **MUST** be worn for outside play in terms 1 & 4)
- Apply sunscreen at home **If you wish it to be reapplied please send along a small, named roll on sunscreen** so that we can teach children how to self apply it after lunch.

Pack a named back pack or bag with:

- Two pieces of fruit for morning and afternoon snacks
On hot days place a cool pack/block in the kindergarten bag
- Named plastic cup or mug for provided filtered, cool water
Children may bring water bottles if preferred, but we take no responsibility for leakages.
- Named change of clothes (in case of accidents)
- Named hat (Broad brimmed or legionnaire style. No baseball caps please.)

what not to bring

- Sweets (lollies)
- Nuts (we are a nut aware zone)
- Carrot sticks (grated carrot is OK)
- We discourage children from bringing their toys as they may get lost or broken. We actively encourage children to bring items and resources which relate to our current curriculum
- Sick child (If your child is sick, please **do not** send them to kindergarten. Instead phone us and let us know that your child is staying at home. This is better for the child and reduces the risk of spreading infection.)
- Please note:** Medication must not be left in children's bags.

what to talk about before you come

- Who the teachers are
 - What sort of activities they will enjoy at kindergarten
 - Who will drop them off
 - Who will pick them up
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things to do when you arrive for the day

- ☑ Our day begins at **8.30 am**. We encourage punctuality as a good habit for life
- ☑ Observe 25km speed limit as you approach the kindergarten to park
- ☑ Help your child to hang up the kindergarten bag on the hooks along the windows on your way in (encourage children to carry their bags to and from kindergarten)
- ☑ If you have time, spend a few minutes to read a book, do a puzzle, look at artwork, make a play dough sculpture, give your child a swing, help them balance on the climbing frames, chat with your child, your child's friends and their parents
- ☑ Put your child's lunchbox in the tub on the verandah
- ☑ Check your family pigeon hole
- ☑ Read the curriculum program which is written up and placed on the verandah. We will also provide a copy for every family in week 2 of each term
- ☑ Say 'goodbye' to your child before leaving

things to do as you leave for the day

- ☑ Please be at the kindergarten five minutes before a session ends so that your child does not have to wait for you. This will help your child to develop confidence and security
 - ☑ Make yourself visible at the back door, so that staff can dismiss your child
 - ☑ Check for artwork that might be drying
 - ☑ Check your family pigeon hole
 - ☑ Check the box for artwork not yet collected, located outside the back door
 - ☑ Check the lost property box near the art wooden shelf on the side verandah
 - ☑ Chat with the staff if you have any queries
 - ☑ Make sure **ONLY** your child/ren go through the gate as you leave
 - ☑ Make sure the gate is **shut** behind you
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