

# Arrival, pick up & bus access

Preschoolers are to **arrive at Preschool between 8:30am and 8:45am** on Tuesday, alternate Wednesday and Thursday mornings.

The Preschool Program starts at 8.30am and so arrivals before 8:30am are not permitted.

Children and families are not allowed on the school grounds prior to 8.30am, please respect this DECD requirement

**The preschool attendance is submitted at 8:45am; therefore, if your child arrives after 8:45am they must sign in at the School Front Office as they will have missed the roll call in the Preschool. A parent/caregiver must be present when the child is being signed in at the office.**

To aid a productive start to your child's day, please ensure that **they arrive on time in the mornings**. On arrival at the Preschool your child is to unpack their own bags, this will aid in developing their independence and lays the foundations for solid personal organisation skills. Some children can experience bouts of *separation anxiety* at morning drop off time. Preschool Staff are skilled in supporting children and their families with this important transition. In preparation for this, it is important that all families **plan ahead and create predictable routines for their children. Be very clear in communicating to your child about what the routine is for your family - this will go a long way towards ensuring your child is able to cope more readily with the changes in their life.** For example, tell your child who is dropping them off at Preschool, who is picking them up, talk about how Mum/Dad etc. will stay until the child unpacks their bag and will then say a quick goodbye and leave.

Whilst families are welcome into the Preschool, staying for prolonged periods of time can greatly unsettle children and actually cause separation issues, particularly at the beginning of the year. Throughout your child's time at Preschool there will be many opportunities for families to visit the Preschool and share in your child's learning - these times/days are planned deliberately to allow time for your child to settle into preschool life. Please speak to Preschool Staff if you are at all concerned with any aspect of your child's ability to cope with change/separation.

**Preschool Dismissal time is 3:15pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Alternate Wednesday dismissal is at 11.30am** Families are encouraged to wait near the pergola area behind the Front Office. This enables the preschoolers to complete their busy pack up time efficiently. Children being picked up in person walk from the Preschool, across the quadrangle to meet their parents/caregivers, with a Preschool Staff member supervising this. Children catching the bus will walk over to the Bus Bay (which is near

the Library) when dismissed with a Preschool Staff member on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

### **School Bus access for Preschool Children**

Preschool children are able to travel to and from Preschool by bus ONLY when permission has been granted by the School Principal. Access to the School Bus Service is only given when certain criteria are met, which includes but is not limited to; over 5 km distance from the school, there is room on the bus as priority is given to school aged children and the Preschool Child has an approved car seat/booster seat for the bus. Preschool Children who travel home by bus will be taken over to the bus lines by the Preschool Teacher/SSO and 'handed over' to their relevant bus driver who will then mark them as being present on their specific bus roll sheet. Please speak to Michelle if you would like to apply for Permission for your child to access a school bus.