

Kingsford Smith School Preschool 2017

A Guide for parents

In this brochure you will find many hints and tips to help you and your child make the transition from home to Preschool next year. If you have any further queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact staff at Kingsford Smith School on 6142 3399.

Kingsford Smith School Aims:

At Kingsford Smith School we:

- Use the Early Years Learning Framework to ensure your child receives a quality education program in their early childhood setting
- Provide academically challenging and engaging learning for all students
- Use the Quality Teaching Framework in all aspects of learning practice
- Develop and facilitate a passion for the performing arts
- Utilise ICT as an integral tool in the learning experiences of students
- Empower students as learners and leaders in our community
- Develop learning pathways so all students can reach their vocational potential



In our Preschool classes children are engaged in play-based learning. Children learn in a number of different ways and each at a vastly different pace. The program is specifically designed to cater for these differences and utilises both structured and unstructured play which promotes learning as fun, exciting and challenging.

We provide opportunities for each Preschool child to:

- Develop social skills, interpersonal relationships and the fundamental life skills of team work and group interaction
- Promote a healthy self concept and self confidence to meet the challenges of learning
- Extend knowledge and skills
- Develop school readiness skills

**Family Interviews will be held in November 2016
Preschool Sessions Commence the week of 30 January 2017**

Monday/Tuesday & Alternate Wednesday

Butterflies



& Honey Bees



Thursday/Friday & Alternate Wednesday

Pixies



HoneyAnts



**Sessions 8.45am -
2.45pm**

School Terms 2017

Term 1

Monday 30 January to
Friday 7 April

Term 2

Wednesday 26 April to
Friday 30 June

Term 3

Monday 17 July to Friday
22 September

Term 4

Monday 9 October to
Friday 15 December

Sun Smart

We follow the sun smart policy guidelines. Each family is asked to purchase a Preschool hat for their child. Your child's name will be painted onto the underside brim of the hat. The hat remains at

Hats in can be purchased with the book pack at the end of the year.



Preschool during the school term. Hats are always worn when the children are outside. We also encourage visiting parents to bring their hat.

YWCA Before & After School Care

If there is enough interest YWCA will continue to offer Before & After School Care for our Preschoolers. Enrolments open in November.

Contact YWCA on P 61759922
www.ywca-canberra.org.au

Food and Drink

Food

As the children are attending **(6 hour sessions)** they will need to bring a snack and lunch.

Snack may include:

- a half sandwich or similar
- a piece of fruit or vegetable cut up or peeled
- yoghurt or cheese

Lunch may include:

- a sandwich or similar
- a piece of fruit or vegetable cut up or peeled
- yoghurt or cheese

Please wrap children's food in paper lunch wrap or foil. This encourages independence, plastic wrap is very

difficult for small fingers to unwrap.

We do not provide refrigeration for snacks or lunches. Please use insulated lunch containers if this is an issue.

Drinks

Please provide a drink bottle filled with **WATER** each day. Brain research shows that water is directly absorbed by the brain which assists the brain's learning potential.

Allergy Friendly School

Kingsford Smith School is an allergy friendly school. This is to provide protection for children who have severe allergic reactions to nuts and nut products. Parents are asked to provide nut free food for their child's morning snack and lunch. Nutella, peanut butter sandwiches and

muesli bars etc all contain nuts and are best saved for home.

Birthdays

Please feel free to send something special (cupcakes are easy) to celebrate your child's birthday at Preschool.

Please check for nuts on product information prior to sending any items to Preschool.



Child Health and Safety

Please remember to keep your child home if they are unwell. They need to be well enough to cope with the full session of Preschool, and no longer be contagious before they return.

We need to know if your child is sick or will be absent for any reason. In the event of your child's absence, we ask that you contact the Preschool and let staff know.

Drop off and Pick up

An adult must bring your child into Preschool and should remain with the child until session starts at 8:45am.

If there is no relief staff available sessions may need to be shortened or cancelled. In the event of this happening, parents will be notified as soon as possible.

Only those adults whose names have been listed on your child's

enrolment form have permission to pick up your child from Preschool.

If another adult will be picking up your child, you must give this information to staff in writing.

In the event of an emergency please phone the preschool staff to tell us who will collect your child.

How to help your child settle into Preschool

- Make sure that all belongings are clearly marked with your child's name.
- Do not allow your child to bring any toys, jewellery etc to school, as they may get broken or lost. Each group has time for children to share special news etc.
- During the holidays have a few practices with opening and closing lunch boxes and school bag.

If your child is nervous about Preschool or has separation anxiety you have two choices:
 Stay - stay and play with your child.
 Leave - Set a limit with your child i.e. "I will do one puzzle with you and then I will leave."
 Then, do one puzzle with your child, say goodbye give them a hug and kiss, smile and leave.
Avoid saying you are going to stay and then sneak away without saying goodbye.

Avoid saying you are going to leave and then stay.
 Please feel free to ring to check how your child is settling in after a short while.
 When collecting your child please refrain from looking through, or tapping on the windows as this can be distracting and upsetting for your child.

Clothing and Footwear

Children need to wear sensible and suitable clothes for Preschool. Your child needs to be able to play without being restricted by their clothes.

Your child's clothes may also get dirty or damaged as they will be involved in messy play and outside play. Therefore do not let your child wear their best clothes.

Kingsford Smith School uniforms can be purchased from The Uniform

Shop, Luke Street Kippax or Macdonalds Children's Wear & School Wear in the Jamison Centre.

Clothes need to be weather appropriate. Your child must wear tops with sleeves and a collar.

During winter please send a coat as we will play outside in cold weather (excluding rainy days).

SPARE CLOTHES

Please send a complete spare set of

clothing (underwear and socks as well as weather appropriate outer garments) with your child to Preschool each day in case of accidents.

SHOES

Children must wear enclosed shoes or sturdy sandals.
 Thongs and other slip on shoes (including crocs) are not suitable.

Library

Children may borrow books from our library.

Children need to have a cloth library bag in order to borrow a book.

Medical Details

For Preschool staff to provide the best possible care for your child it is important that you notify us of any changes to your child's medical details as soon as possible. For example, if your child develops an allergy or is diagnosed with asthma please let us know as soon as possible.

Communication

Please ensure that you **READ ALL NOTES THAT ARE SENT HOME** so that you can be kept up to date on all Preschool happenings.

Parent Involvement

There are many ways that you can help at your child's Preschool.

You can:

- share your expertise such as music, cooking, craft etc.
- help at working bees
- maintain and repair equipment
- assist with laundry (hand towels, home corner items etc.)
- run a learning centre or teach a skill
- be an active member of the School Community Association and help in the decision making
- participate in special projects or events during the year

Helping at Preschool

If you have the time, staying and engaging in our learning program is always appreciated.

Some of the best ways to be involved in our days are:

- play with your child and other children both inside and outside
- help with craft / small group

activities

- share your expertise

You are welcome to bring younger siblings while on roster, however please be aware that the Preschool room is not set up for younger children and **it is your responsibility to supervise younger siblings during your**

visit.

Anytime you can spare is appreciated. Please feel free to stay for the morning or the afternoon – you do not have to commit to helping all day.

Voluntary Contributions

The voluntary contribution for Preschool is \$65.00. These funds are used for books, equipment and materials used in the Preschool program.

Contact Details

For us to be able to contact you in an emergency we need to have the correct and most up to date details.

It is very important for you to inform us ASAP if any of your contact details change **and** if the contact details of any of your child's emergency contacts (on Enrolment form) change.

What to do if you have questions or concerns

The teachers are only too happy to talk to you. At the beginning and end of each session we have a LITTLE time to catch up on daily events but if you are wanting more time, speak

with your child's teacher and make an appointment.

If you are unable to contact your child's class teacher, a member of

the Executive team is available to talk to you. Please contact the Front Office for an appointment.

Enjoy

Please take time, as a family, to enjoy and celebrate your child's time at Preschool. We hope that your child and your family have a lovely Preschool year with us this year and we are looking forward to getting to know you all and working closely with you throughout the year.