Pre-Primary

Information Booklet
2017

Kingston Primary School Website: www.kingstonprimary.wa.edu.au
Please download the free “Kingston Primary School” App on your smartphone.
Dear Parents/Caregivers,

We welcome you and your child to Kingston Pre-Primary for 2017. We hope your child has an enjoyable and rewarding year and hope you will soon feel at home and enjoy the experience of making new friends. The Early Childhood years are special and very important for your child’s social, emotional, physical, creative, literacy and numeracy development. Pre-Primary is a time for children to learn that school is a safe and fun place to be. As well as this, it is also a great opportunity for parents and caregivers to meet each other and become part of our school community. The purpose of this booklet is to acquaint you with Pre-Primary at Kingston Primary School and ways parents may become involved in the life of the school and classroom.

Parents and Guardians – Your many abilities and talents certainly have a place here, so please feel free to offer these; if they can be incorporated into the program it will make for an even more enriching experience for the children.

An exciting and challenging time awaits you as your child commences their year of Pre-Primary education. It is therefore important that there is a three-way communication process for the benefit of all concerned in the education of your child: the school, the child and the parent. Good communication results in better understanding and less confusion.

If you have a question, please ask.  
If you have an idea, or a problem, please share it.  
If you have something to say, express your opinion.  
Please listen to others, and consider other points of view.

From

Alan Kidd  
Principal
Pre -Primary Information 2017

What is the Pre-Primary program?

The Pre-Primary program strives to be child centred, balanced, relevant and interesting. The content and framework for the program is provided through topics of interest that engage children’s interest in learning.

We also follow the Walker Learning Approach to enhance specific play based learning experiences.

Children are natural learners – they are curious, interested and enthusiastic about learning new things. It is important that we nurture and stimulate this eagerness to learn.

The introduction of the Australian Curriculum has resulted in our adaptation of our syllabus to meet the needs of our students. Although we now have a stronger focus on English and Maths skills in Pre-Primary, we do use a hands-on approach encouraging children to learn through relevant and meaningful activities. We aim to provide opportunities for all children to reach their individual potential.

Will they learn from the Australian Curriculum?

Students’ progress at different rates but there are standards set for the whole of Australia as a minimum standard for all Pre-Primary aged children to achieve. We aim to support children to achieve these standards and beyond where appropriate. Please see the enclosed leaflet for the Achievement Standards for Australian Curriculum subjects in Pre-Primary.

What will my child do each day?

Each day is full of different and interesting teaching and learning moments. Each class has their own routine with parts of the day such as fruit, recess and lunch spent together with the Pre-Primary year group.

Teachers vary the learning opportunities for the children through times spent working as a whole class, to small groups and individual times.

The children are also given opportunities to experience teacher led learning and student led play activities where the children practise key learning objectives through play based activities both inside and outside the classroom.

What does my child need to bring to Pre-Primary?

- Specified items from the school personal items list. (Please do not label individual writing materials as we share these items and replace them as necessary)
- A clearly labelled water bottle to bring to school each day (only water is drunk at school, no juice and no cordial)
- A hat. We insist that all children wear a hat outside all year round. Hats should be taken home and brought back to school each day. (A spare hat in your child’s bag is a great idea)
- A piece of fruit to share at fruit time every day
- A labelled packed lunch or lunch order (Please note we are an allergy aware school)
- A labelled change of clothes (to be kept in the child’s bag)
Shoes – sneakers, runners or sandals (no slip-ons please). Velcro is amazing unless they can do up their own shoe laces.

- A large labelled library bag
- A large school bag. It’s a good idea to attach an easily identifiable tag to your child’s bag and hat in addition to a name label (e.g. ribbon, button or iron on fabric picture)

You may have noticed a theme here – please label all belongings!

**How do you manage behaviour in Pre-Primary?**

Our main “rule” in Pre-Primary at Kingston Primary School is “respect for ourselves, each other and our environment”. This is in line with the whole school Virtues Project. Within this rule most issues can be discussed and resolved. We discuss our rule with the students and help them to see ways in which they can keep themselves and others safe and allow all students to learn in a comfortable environment.

Respect for ourselves, each other and our environment is the basis for counselling students about behaviour. We focus on the behaviour of the child and acknowledge the “gifts” within each child. That is, the child is always “OK” – sometimes their behaviour is not. We avoid global praise such as “good boy” and instead target appropriate behaviour. For example: “I appreciate your helpfulness with packing away the blocks.” We make it explicit that the child has to make a choice about his or her behaviour.

“Consideration time” away from the group will be used if a child is repeatedly unable to comply with classroom expectations. The “consideration” area is usually just a small distance from the group. Parents will be advised if a child is consistently unable to conform to expectations and parents will be involved in developing strategies for change.

If sent to the consideration area the child is encouraged to reflect on their behaviours and discuss with the teacher to help solve the problem.

**How can I help?**

We welcome parents, relatives, friends or baby sitters to our Pre-Primary. Your child will enjoy sharing their Pre-Primary experiences with you. We invite you to help us and your child by volunteering to help on any of the following rosters – please tell us so that we can include you:

1. Fruit Roster- cutting up fruit for snack time on a day you are free
2. Laundry Roster – The roster calls for help in washing towels and paint aprons weekly (at a weekend)
3. Helping to prepare materials
4. Helping with an activity
5. Helping with cleaning up

Younger brothers and sisters are welcome to come along with you on roster – but
their supervision is your responsibility. Rosters may not become available until the end of Term 1 or into Term 2, depending on individual classes. You must sign in through the front office if you are helping in the classroom for your safety (in case of an emergency) and that of the students.

What days does my child need to be at school?
Term 1 Wednesday 1 February to Friday 7 April
Term 2 Wednesday 26 April to Friday 30 June
Term 3 Tuesday 18 July to Friday 22 September
Term 4 Tuesday 10 October to Thurs 14 December

Pre-Primary is a compulsory year of schooling and it is important that your child attends consistently unless they are unwell. No holiday will be authorised by the school during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.
Overlapping holidays with the beginning of the school year or the start of subsequent terms can also have a negative impact on children as during these times important new class friendships can be made.
Continuous sporadic absence also seriously affects children’s ability to make and keep friends as they are not often around to play with. Please see enclosed sheet (what chance has your child got of being successful?)
Please keep the school dates handy when booking holidays.

Every day start and finish times
Start Time - 8:30am for a 8:45am start (you are welcome to stay for the first 15 minutes to help your child settle with their morning activities)
Finish Time - 3:00pm

The children cannot enter the Pre-Primary classroom until the siren goes at 8:30am. Please wait with your child in the Pre-Primary play area or if they are to wait without you they should be brought to Passive Play and members of admin will supervise them.

What happens if my child is late for school?
If you arrive after the start of the school day, you should take your child to the school office so they can be entered into the register. You will be given a purple slip to take to the class so that the teacher knows you have registered through the front office.

If collecting early for any reason, please complete a form at the front office prior to coming to class for your child. We can only release a student from class once a form has been completed and received by the teacher.

No child will be released to anyone but the custodial parent or the authorised person. If there is a change, please inform us in writing as to who will collect your child. In an emergency, please ring the school. Please make sure you have named the persons who are authorised to collect your child on the enrolment form. We will call you if we are unsure about the identity of the person collecting your child. It's really important to let the school know about changes in phone contacts or addresses so we can contact you in an emergency.
What do I do if my child is sick or has an appointment?

If your child is absent please notify the teacher or the front office on the first day of absence.
Call: 9797 0451

Parents of children who are absent without explanation, will be contacted and asked to explain the absence.

There are certain notifiable diseases and conditions. These are:

- Measles
- Mumps
- Chicken Pox
- Head Lice
- Rubella
- Scabies
- Conjunctivitis
- Whooping Cough
- Impetigo (School sores)

If your child contracts any of the above, please notify the school immediately. A period of exclusion from school is necessary for all of the above.

We realise that children often want to come in spite of illnesses like tummy bugs or gastro, but please, for their sake and the sake of others, keep them at home for at least 24 hours after the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea. The following information will give you a good idea as to when your child can return to school should they contract any of the listed common infectious illnesses below. In most cases children can be re-admitted with a medical certificate stating that the child is no longer able to pass on the infection.

If your child has a medical condition you will need to return additional forms to school.
Please also be aware that if your child needs a preventative or ongoing medication parents are to provide these rather than the school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INFECTIOUS DISEASES EXCLUSION TABLE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>General Sickness</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If your child is generally unwell (cold symptoms, fever, nausea, vomiting) it is usually best to keep him/her home until the symptoms subside. This also helps to avoid the spread of any infection. A child who has been home with influenza can return to school when symptoms have subsided.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chicken Pox</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infectious from 5 days before the spots appear to 6 days after the last crop of blisters. Exclude from school until all vesicles have crusted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cold Sores</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young children unable to comply with good oral hygiene practices should be excluded if lesions are uncovered and weeping.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Conjunctivitis</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exclude from school – highly contagious. Child can return to school when discharge has stopped.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Diarrhoea</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exclude until diarrhoea has ceased for 24 hours.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>German Measles (Rubella)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exclude from school for at least 5 days after the onset of the rash, until fully recovered.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Head Lice (Pediculosis)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exclude until 24 hours after treatment has commenced.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hepatitis A</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Return to school with medical certificate of recovery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Measles</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child is infectious 5 days before the rash appears to 5 days after the rash develops. Child may be readmitted with a medical certificate of recovery or at least 7 days after the appearance of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mumps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ringworm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scabies</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Sores</td>
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<tr>
<td>Streptococcal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Whooping Cough</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**How do you celebrate birthdays?**

These are very special days in the children’s lives and we like to encourage the children to share in them with their classmates. Your child may bring a cake (or cupcakes, chocolate crackles, honey crackles) to share with the other children. The easiest way to celebrate is to bring cup cakes. Big cakes can be extremely difficult to cut into small pieces. Please let the teacher know if you are bringing a cake to allow for planning particularly for children with food allergies.

**My child needs to catch the school bus – what do I do?**

If your child will be catching a bus to/from school, could you please advise the front office in writing of which bus they will be catching. Also if your child normally catches a bus and for some reason will not be catching the bus on a particular day, could you please advise us in writing and well before the end of school time, where possible. Children will be supervised to the bus lines at the end of the day and an administration member will greet the children from the buses in the mornings.

**What can I order my child for lunch?**

The canteen is in the undercover area. A menu is provided in this information pack. It is also possible to order food and uniforms through online canteen. The web address is: https://ouronlinecanteen.com.au/

At lunchtime the children will be encouraged to eat their sandwich or main item first. Any extra food may be eaten after this. We ask for a nutritious lunch. **Treats such as roll ups, chocolate bars and lollies remain home treats.** Please be mindful of hot weather when choosing sandwich fillings. We suggest a cooler bag with a frozen bottle or ice pack to keep your child’s lunch cool and fresh. Please ensure that your child is able to open any food packaging by themselves. Practice this skill over the Christmas schools holidays. Please be mindful of any items that require utensils and ensure you pack these appropriately e.g. spoon for yoghurt. Please advise the teacher immediately if your child has any food allergies.
What should my child wear?
It is expected that students wear the Kingston Primary School uniform. Uniforms can be ordered through the uniform shop and online from: https://ouronlinecanteen.com.au/

BOYS: Black shorts, blue shirt printed with school logo.
GIRLS: Black shorts or skorts with blue shirt printed with school logo.
WINTER (boys & girls): Black track pants with rugby top, zip jumper.

Kingston Primary School is a Sun Smart School and it is required that all students wear a broad brimmed hat.

Please put sunscreen on your child before they come to school.

Please label all clothing with your child's name.

There's been a problem, what do I do?
We hope that parents will feel free to express their concerns, with full confidentiality, to the teaching staff. In this way, potential conflict relating to minor occurrences can be resolved quickly. If you are still concerned, please call admin on 9797 0451 where an individual appointment can be made.

How will I know how my child is going?
We constantly observe and assess the pupils in Pre-Primary. We set targets for each pupil based on the Australian Curriculum for each area of learning. The targets are challenging but achievable and related to the Australian Curriculum achievement standards.

We review these targets with your child as they are achieved and a minimum of termly.

Through the year we offer the chance for you to speak with class teachers to discuss the learning progress of your child.

- In Term 1 teachers hold class meetings to give information of how children learn here at Kingston Primary School.
- Through Term 1 and Term 2 you will be offered an individual meeting with the class teacher to discuss progress and support you can give your child with their learning.
- At the end of Term 2 your child will receive their first formal report from the class teacher.
- In Term 3 the school holds an Open Evening where all classes are open to visit and you have the opportunity to view work in and around the classroom.
- At the end of Term 4 your child will receive their final formal report for the Pre-Primary year.

What support does your school have from other professionals?
We employ a local Occupational Therapist and Speech Pathologist at the school for 1 day a week. With your written permission they are available to complete assessments and reviews to create programs that teaching staff can support in the classroom, however the main work for these programs is to be completed at home. They will therefore contact you to ask you to come in to
school so they can talk through the specific requirements of the program for you to complete at home.

We have a School Chaplain who has the role of offering support to children having emotional difficulties or who have a specific need to talk to someone at school; for example due to a loss in their family or parent break up. Although the Chaplain sounds like a religious role, there is no involvement of religion in the role of a School Chaplain. You are able to contact the school (9797 0451) to ask to speak to the Chaplain or make an appointment to speak with her. Your permission will be sought before a referral to the School Chaplain takes place for your child.

We have a School Nurse whose role it is to perform health checks such as sight and hearing checks during the Pre-Primary year. She comes to the school about once or twice a term throughout the year. You can also request help from the School Nurse with issues such as bed wetting or soiling, toilet training, sleep patterns and other health related matters. Please contact the School Nurse through Hudson Road on: 9795 2888.

The school also has a School Psychologist who is able to complete assessments to clarify specific learning issues. Again the School Psychologist is accessed through a referral process and queries regarding the School Psychologist schedule should be referred to Mr Darryl Owen – Deputy Principal – through the main school phone number. (9797 0451)

We look forward to working with you during the year to provide an interesting and happy Early Childhood environment for your child to learn and grow in.

Thank you again for your support and we look forward to providing the best education for your child.
Early Childhood Statement

At Kingston Early Childhood, our aim is to develop children who are:

Independent
Resilient
Creative
Confident

We encourage children to learn through worthwhile and enjoyable experiences within a safe, supportive environment. Children learn by exploring their world, talking, making and sharing.

We develop relationships with children and families that are caring and nurturing, to allow the children to be the best that they can be. We guide children to recognise and manage their emotions.

We provide an integrated curriculum that is challenging, active, playful and intentional. We provide a balance between teacher directed and child directed learning experiences.

“All children experience learning that is engaging and builds success for life.”

Early Years Learning Framework for Australia, 2009