

Kathleen Mellor Kindergarten

Frequently asked questions

Q. What are the session times?

We offer five full days per fortnight: Tuesdays, Thursdays and every second Wednesday (weeks 1,3,5,7 and 9).

Sessions operate from 9.00am to 3.00pm. If you feel a full day is too much at first, you can organise to pick up your child earlier in the day. Please speak to staff if you would like to negotiate this. Pre-entry is held during session times where there are spaces available.

Q. What are the fees?

\$85.00 a term per child. There is no additional charge for lunch care. We rely on your fees to pay for cleaning, art materials etc. Please see our Director, Anne, to negotiate any special considerations concerning fees.

A copy of our fee policy is available on request.

Q. What does my child need to bring?

A kindy bag to keep belongings in (this will be put in the lockers on the verandah)

A separate snack/named lunch box-see Healthy Eating/Nut Aware policies for more details.

A named water bottle or cup (we have water freely available to children)

A sunhat -see Sun Protection Policy

Warm clothes/coat in winter

Shoes (not thongs) suitable for running/climbing

Q. What if someone different is picking up my child?

It is our policy that you notify us about this. There is a 'collection of children' book by the front door for you to fill in and have co-signed by a staff member. In an emergency, please telephone us as soon as you can.

Q. What if my child is sick?

We appreciate a phone call advising us if your child is ill, or is not coming that day. Also it is our policy that if your child has vomited during the previous 24 hours that they not attend that day. If your child is unwell at kindy or if they become unwell we will call you. If your child needs medication whilst at kindy, or has allergies etc. please see staff as there are separate Medication and Care Plans that will need completing by your Doctor.

Q: What happens if there is a fire/bushfire?

We have an emergency evacuation procedure which is practiced once per term with children. A warning whistle is used to assemble everyone at the gates facing the oval-staff; children and visitors may then proceed to a safe haven (eg. Tea Tree Gully School). Parents need to be aware we are in a bushfire prone area, so please think carefully about sending your child on hot/windy days (or total fire ban days-Mt. Lofty Ranges). Please ensure you have provided a number of alternative emergency telephone contacts for us. We do have air conditioning, so don't close on hot days. However, as kindy is not compulsory, you may again consider your child's individual needs and not bring them when the forecast is for extreme weather conditions.



Q: What other services do you offer?

- **PRE-ENTRY**

This may be offered on a once a week basis to children in the term prior to a child's entry into kindergarten. Children are offered one kindergarten session, where vacancies allow. We acknowledge that pre-entry is a valuable introduction to kindy.

- **EARLY ENTRY FOR SPECIAL NEEDS**

The Department has a policy for early entry into kindy for children with special needs (including gifted and Aboriginal children). Please discuss your child's particular needs with the Director so that a decision on early entry can be made.

We are also able to help you with concerns you may have about your child (eg. speech/behaviour difficulties). We have access to specialist staff (eg. speech pathologists) and can refer parents if you wish (at any time during your child's time, including playgroup)

- **PLAYGROUP**

This is offered on a **Monday from 9.30am-11.00am**. Playgroups are for all ages, and are run by the parents who attend. Please see Playgroup information for more details.

- **HEALTH SCREENINGS**

These are held at various times in the year and are run by Child and Youth Health. Please keep an eye on weekly newsletters for dates etc.

Q. How can I help out at kindy?

Collect boxes of all sizes and shapes, egg cartons, wrapping paper, ribbons etc. (For collage work)

Soft wood off cuts are always needed for our woodwork bench

Take a turn on our laundry roster to wash smocks, T-towels etc

Volunteer for gardening roster etc

Attend regular working bees

Support fundraising efforts

Stay anytime during sessions to help out e.g. cutting up materials, assisting children, reading stories, cleaning up at the end of sessions, washing tables, sweeping floors etc

One of the best ways to help is to join our Parent Governing Council. This is made up of interested and committed volunteer parents, who represent user groups of the centre (eg. playgroup)

Meetings are held once a month to discuss:

- Services offered/current centre issues
- Financial matters/budgets
- Building/grounds maintenance
- Policies-local and Government(eg.DECS)
- Fundraising /annual events eg disco, Christmas Pageant float



These parents work with staff for the mutual benefit of all the children and families of Kathleen Mellor Preschool Kindergarten. Please consider joining this most vital part of the kindergarten.