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Search Greenwith Kindergarten on Facebook
<https://greenwithkgn.sa.edu.au/>



Session times:

9:00am – 3:00pm

Monday/ Wednesday/ Even week Fridays

Tuesday/ Thursday/ Odd week Fridays



Once enrolled at Kindy, children become part of either the Wattle or Bottlebrush group. These small groups help them build secure relationships with their new educators and peers and to develop their sense of **belonging** to the kindy, feel confident in **being** themselves and support them on their way to **becoming** a capable learner.

Staff team:

Director:

Stephanie Mills

Teachers:

Chloe Halliwell (Wattle)

Toni Channon (Bottlebrush)

Early Childhood Educators:

Di Carr

Angela Tamvakas

Rachael Rowe

Alison Maltezos



What to bring:

Please ensure everything is labelled for kindy.

For character lunch boxes and bags, we would recommend attaching something your child can easily identify as theirs as we can have multiples of the same bags lunchboxes etc. and it can become confusing.

- Hat (will be provided upon enrolment)
- Library bag (will be provided upon enrolment)
- Healthy snack- to be kept separate from lunch and IN their bags
- Lunch- please ensure there are ice packs inside to keep cool
- Drink bottle- with water only
- Complete spare change of clothes- Seasonal & labelled
- Raincoat- for those rainy days

Please dress your child in kindy clothes as they will get messy while they are kindy. These clothes should be weather appropriate and sun safe e.g. no strapless/ spaghetti strap dresses or shirts. For safety reasons, please avoid bringing your child to kindy wearing thongs.

Healthy eating:

Following our nutrition and dietary requirements policy below are some ideas on what is acceptable to pack for your child during their time at kindy. For the full policy ask one of the staff.

Please note - we are a nut free kindy.

SNACK:

- Fruit (fresh and dried)
- Cheese
- Crackers
- Popcorn
- Yoghurt

LUNCH:

- Sandwiches
- Wraps
- Homemade goods (pinwheels, sausage rolls, pizza, banana bread muffins...)
- Fruit/vegetables
- Home made

STRONGLY DISCOURAGE:

Highly processed snack foods high in fat, salt, and/or sugar, and low in essential nutrients in children's lunchboxes. Examples of these foods include:

- sweet biscuits
- some muesli bars, breakfast bars and fruit filled bars
- chips
- confectionary (lollies, sweets, chocolate, jelly)
- deep fried foods (chicken nuggets, fish fingers)
- sugary drinks (juice boxes, up and go, cordial, soft drinks)



How does play support your child's development and learning?



Physical development - active play using large and small muscles such as climbing, running, ball games, digging, jumping, and dancing. This supports children's overall health and sense of wellbeing, physical growth, appreciation for the benefits of active lifestyles and skills for independence in self-help such as dressing or feeding.

Social and emotional development - dramatic and imaginative play which includes

dressing up and role play can develop positive social and emotional skills and values. This provides opportunities for children to:



- practise how to work with other children, negotiate ideas, and make choices and decisions
- develop self-confidence by experiencing success and challenges
- learn to control their emotions, reduce impulsive behaviour, or reduce stress as they act out feelings and events that might be worrying them
- develop empathy and fairness as they learn to play alongside and with other children.



Cognitive development - when your child plays individually and with others their cognitive skills, such as thinking, remembering, learning and paying attention are all being developed. Children develop the following cognitive skills through play:

- problem solving
- the power of imagination and creativity
- concepts such as shapes, colours, measurement, counting

and letter recognition

- strengths such as concentration, persistence and resilience.

Literacy and numeracy development - play requires thinking, language, interactions, curiosity and exploration. Through play children develop skills and understandings including:

- an increased understanding of words and their use
- listening and speaking skills
- writing skills through mark making, painting, and drawing
- learning how stories work (plot, characters, structure, purpose and format of words on a page)
- learning that objects can stand for something else (a block can be a symbol for a telephone) which is foundation learning for formal reading, spelling and numeracy because letters, words or numerals are part of symbol systems



- learning that letters, words, symbols, numerals and signs have a purpose and are meaningful to others.

<https://www.startingblocks.gov.au/other-resources/factsheets/the-importance-of-play-in-children-s-learning-and-development>

Benefits of barefoot play:



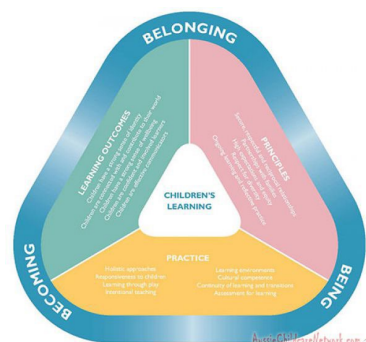
At Greenwith Kindy, we allow children to decide whether they wear their shoes or not. When children are barefoot, it allows a development of higher brain centres, which in turn allows for better problem solving, language, social skills and regulation of emotions and confidence. It also helps them get in touch with nature and helps improve balance and coordination. We will ask them to put their shoes and socks on before they go home. Before they begin Kindy, if they could practice taking off their own shoes and socks and learning how to put their socks in their shoes, it will save lots of lost socks.

Curriculum:

We use the current National Frameworks

- The Early Years Learning Framework
- Literacy and Numeracy Indicators
- Child Protection Curriculum

Our program is an inquiry-based approach. Inquiry based learning supports children to actively engage with relevant, real world topics, beginning with a question, problem or idea. Children explore resources, ask questions and share ideas during the discovery process. Teachers act as a guide to brainstorm ideas and guide children in their wonderings and provide resources to support children's investigations.



Inquiry based learning promotes social and emotional skills, critical thinking, collaboration, and creativity. The learning connects children to their communities and builds on the diverse strengths, interests and backgrounds of children and their communities.

Reporting and assessment:

You will receive two reports during your child's time at Greenwith. A mid-year statement of learning and an end of year summative report.

Class Dojo:

At Greenwith Kindergarten we use the Class Dojo app for all communication. This includes:

- Children's documented learning
- Inquiry pages
- Preschool Quality Improvement Plan evidence
- Sway newsletters termly
- Reminders and notices for what is happening at the Kindy

When your child begins you will receive an email with a code to connect you to your child here at kindy.



Opportunities to talk:



As a staff team, our site prides ourselves in being available to talk 1:1, in a confidential manner on how your child is progressing during their time at Greenwith Kindergarten.

We offer opportunities to talk in terms 1 and 3. This gives you the chance to chat to your child's educator regarding your child's or your time at kindergarten.

However, you may want to chat in between these times, and you may feel that we are too busy to talk to you – if this is the case, we can make ourselves available to discuss matters upon a mutually agreed time during or after hours. Please send us an email or message through Class Dojo to organise.

Building connections and school transitions:

Majority of children who attend Greenwith Kindergarten either attend Greenwith Primary or Our Lady of Hope. As the school share the same facilities, children will become familiar with the grounds and facilities of both schools.

Within the Greenwith Community we believe in continuity of learning. As such, school transitions begin the moment they start at Kindergarten through opportunities to visit the Library used by both Greenwith Primary School and Our Lady of Hope. Starting in your child's 1st OR 3rd term at kindy, for a library visit. Half of the group will visit in Terms 1 and 2 and the other half in terms 3 and 4. You have received a library bag with your enrolment pack.

Formal school transitions will occur during term 4 and during these transitions we will offer new incoming families a stay and play session to familiarise themselves and children to our kindy.

Other ways we support children to transition into school include:

- Walks around the school
- Using playground equipment and school oval
- Attending special events over at the school
- Encouraging children to become independent and organised in packing their own bags and being responsible for their own belongings.



Greenwith
Primary School



Uniform:

We do have a kindy uniform. It is completely optional, but some families prefer to have 'kindy clothes' that they don't mind getting messy.

Uniform includes t-shirts, long sleeve shirts or a jumper. They come in a range of sizes, and you purchase them online through the website www.eduthreads.com.au. You can choose to have it delivered to Kindy for free or delivered to your home for a fee. From November to May, Edu Threads delivers once a month to kindy for free. From June to October it delivers once a term to kindy for free.

Governing Council:

You can join our Governing Council at any time of the year. When you volunteer to be on a governing council at your child's school/preschool you will

- experience a close working relationship with staff and leaders
- be involved in a shared strategy and vision
- have an opportunity to meet parents and other community members

Our meetings are held in weeks 4 and 8 of each term. The Governing Council is an important part of kindy and assists staff in making important decisions for the kindy including budget, big projects for the kindy, fundraising, policies, and procedures.

Contribution:

Kindy contributions total \$500 for the year. This fee is to be paid by the end of Term 2 or Term 4 if your child begins within the mid-year intake, unless otherwise negotiated with the Director. Families will receive an invoice via their child's pigeonhole. Please note, direct debit payments only. We do not accept cash payments. An official receipt will be provided upon banking by our Finance Officer. Please speak to the Director if experiencing difficulties with the contribution fee. All concerns will be treated confidentially.



Literacy Kits:

We have a library of literacy kits available for you to borrow. Each kit has a book, a question card and a carefully selected activity relating to the book. Kits can be borrowed for a fortnight of reading fun, before needing to be returned. Each book read matters 📖

"Early literacy means helping children develop a rich vocabulary, self-expression, and reading comprehension—tools they need to become successful readers and lifelong learners. These skills allow a young child to enter kindergarten with a love of books and a readiness to learn"

(<https://lbleaders.org/why-early-literacy-matters/>)

Immunisation Policy:

Following changes to the *South Australian Public Health Act 2011 (the Act)*, from 7 August 2020, children will not be able to enrol in or attend early childhood services unless all immunisation requirements are met.

For most children, an approved immunisation record will be an 'immunisation history statement', which is downloaded from your MyGOV account through the Medicare records.

A letter from a GP, an overseas immunisation record or the South Australian Child Health and Development Record (the "Blue Book") are not considered approved immunisation records.

For full policy, please speak to one of our friendly educators.

Allergies and Medical conditions:

Any child who has a medical plan for either allergies or medical condition will require a health support meeting with the Director and all correct documentation organised BEFORE your child begins Greenwith Kindergarten.

For full policy, please ask one of our friendly educators.

Sun Smart:

Clothing:

- Wear clothing that will protect them from the sun. For example: T-shirts that cover shoulders. If your child wishes to wear a dress or top with thin straps, please put a shirt underneath.

Sunscreen:

- Greenwith Kindergarten supplies SPF50+ (or higher) broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen for children's use. *Children with allergies are asked to provide their own SPF50+ (or higher) broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen.*
- Parents are to apply sunscreen in the morning before they come to kindy. If parents forget sunscreen is available for parents to apply to their child at the beginning of the day.

Hats:



All children are required to wear hats that protect their face, neck, and ears e.g., legionnaire, broad brimmed or bucket hats. Hats are provided by the kindergarten as part of the fees.
Baseball or peak caps are not acceptable.



For full policy, please see one of our friendly educators.