



St Andrew's Catholic Primary School



Companions on the Journey

Kindergarten Information Booklet 2017

VISION STATEMENT

**St Andrew's CPS offers an education that acknowledges, respects and nurtures the uniqueness of each person.
Within a framework of Catholic values and teamwork,
the students will be challenged and supported to recognise their gifts and develop their potential as they learn and contribute to their community.**

Contact Details

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Welcome to St Andrew's Catholic Primary School - Kindergarten. We look forward to a wonderful and rewarding year with you and your child.

TERM DATES FOR 2017:

Term 1	Wednesday 1st February – Friday 7th April <i>Easter falls within the middle of the school holidays</i>
Term 2	Wednesday 26th April – Friday 30 th June
Term 3	Tuesday 18th July – Thursday 21 st September
Term 4	Tuesday 10th October – Friday 8th December

PUPIL FREE DAYS AND DESIGNATED PUBLIC HOLIDAYS – 2017:

These will be the Pupil Free Days in 2016. **Monday 6th March, Tuesday 7th March, Monday 24th April, Tuesday 25th April, Monday 5th June, Tuesday 6th June, Monday 26th June, Monday 17th July, Friday 22nd September and Monday 9th October 2017 Tuesday 14th November (KINDY ONLY).** The Staff will be involved in Professional Development on these days with regards to Religious Education, Literacy and Numeracy and reporting.



KINDY HOURS

Kindergarten operates from the beginning of Term 1 according to your child's days. There is no staggered intake.

Session Times:

Full day: 8.20 am – 2.30pm.

Blue Group:	Tuesday (weekly), Thursday (weekly) and Monday (fortnightly)
White Group:	Tuesday (weekly), Wednesday (weekly), and Friday (fortnightly)
Gold Group:	Tuesday (weekly), Thursday (weekly), and Monday (fortnightly)

PLAYGROUNDS

There is no play on any playgrounds before or after school.



PHILOSOPHY

The Kindergarten programme aims to:

- Create a safe, happy and caring environment for all children including those with special needs;
- Enhance personal development through a variety of stimulating activities and play, where children feel free to explore and experiment;
- Help each child develop a positive self-image by means of sharing cultural backgrounds, individual talents and needs;
- Encourage the development of positive social behaviours;
- Promote the participation of parents in all the aspects of the Kindergarten program.



The programme provides an environment where each child will have the opportunity to refine current skills and develop new ones in all areas: Spiritual, Emotional, Social, Intellectual, Creative and Physical, at his/her own rate of development.

BELONGING, BEING & BECOMING

The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia shapes the educational programme offered to our Kindergarten children at St Andrew's. The framework is based on five guiding principles:

- ❖ Secure, respectful and reciprocal relationships
- ❖ Partnerships
- ❖ High expectations and equity
- ❖ Respect for diversity
- ❖ Ongoing learning and reflective practice

We aim to facilitate and create engaging learning environments and experiences for children and families believing that:

- ❖ Learning is enhanced with FUN
- ❖ Self-worth is crucial in optimum learning
- ❖ All parents want the best for their child
- ❖ We need to nurture the whole child and family
- ❖ Children learn best when they see themselves as learners and are supported to take risks with their learning
- ❖ Happiness is the underlying core of every successful learner
- ❖ We engage with children in a positive and caring way



Activities and assessment will reflect these principles and beliefs.

NATIONAL QUALITY STANDARD FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

All early learning centres are subject to the National Quality Standard. Kindergarten is assessed during the year under the following criteria:

- ❖ Quality Area 1: Educational programme and practice
- ❖ Quality Area 2: Children's health and safety
- ❖ Quality Area 3: Physical environment
- ❖ Quality Area 4: Staffing arrangements
- ❖ Quality Area 5: Relationships with children
- ❖ Quality Area 6: Collaborative partnerships with families and communities
- ❖ Quality Area 7: Leadership and service management

Six guiding principles apply to the quality areas. They are:

- ❖ The rights of the child are paramount
- ❖ Children are successful, competent and capable learners
- ❖ Equity, inclusion and diversity
- ❖ Valuing Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures
- ❖ The role of parents and families is respected and supported
- ❖ High expectations for children, educators and service providers



These two documents direct the education programme for Kindergarten and you will see these applied to your children's learning.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



At Kindergarten level, Religious Education is informal and unstructured. The children's everyday experiences will be linked with developing an understanding of God – wondering about things in nature and through thanking God for things such as, flowers, fruit and animals. Children will be provided with opportunities to develop concepts about Easter, Christmas and the Church. They will participate in religious expressions, simple prayers, movement and song, and view and listen to bible stories.

NOTICES

Information about Kindy's events will be provided via:

- ❖ Newsletters on the school website, emailed to you or a hardcopy in the office
Please read them
- ❖ Notice Board signs outside the Kindy classrooms
- ❖ Written and oral communication from Kindy staff

ARRIVAL/PICK UP PROCEDURES



Kindergarten children are delivered to the classroom by 8.20am. Children are picked up from the teacher at the end of the day. Please **be punctual** and comply with session times. Please be prompt in picking up your child to avoid distress.

We will not dismiss a child to unauthorised persons. Any changes must be entered into the “pick-up” book by parent or guardian and staff notified prior to finishing times. Siblings are only allowed to collect children if written permission is given to the Kindergarten teacher.

DAYCARE

If Daycare will be delivering or collecting your child from Kindergarten you will need to complete a “Daycare Form” at the Office. Delivery and collection of children at Daycare is as previously outlined.

OSHClub before and after school care is held at St Andrew’s Catholic Primary school. Logon to www.oshclub.com.au for further information.

DISTRESSED CHILD

Please be assured that children settle quickly once parents have left. Be calm, confident and reassuring. Direct your child to an activity or staff member, say goodbye and promptly leave. If the child should remain distressed, the parent will be notified and an alternative, longer-term plan implemented.

PARKING

We prefer you park at Anthony Waring oval car park and walk your child/children into the school grounds. However, children can be walked in from the school car park if car spaces are available. Please **do not leave** your car in the ‘Kiss and Ride’ unattended.



PARENT INVOLVEMENT/ROSTER

Parent help is essential for the efficient and effective operation of a Kindergarten programme. A roster will be placed on the Notice Board early each term. You will be asked to attend between 8.20am and 10.20am on your child’s Kindergarten day. Parents and guardians are all welcome. Each family is asked to help in the Kindy at least one session per term. Grandparents are welcome if you can’t come!

Siblings need to be looked after by someone else on your roster day so that your attention is not divided between the Kindergarten children and your toddler. The parent help roster begins early in Term One.

MEDICAL OR SICKNESS



Please notify the office as soon as possible if your child has a medical condition or suffers from asthma or allergies. Should your child be asthmatic you need to provide ventolin, spacer and a doctor's plan to the school. Please keep children who are ill at home. Inform staff if your child has an infectious disease or condition, i.e. chicken pox, measles, eye discharge, diarrhea or vomiting, head lice, school sores.

If your child is ill please notify the school office by phone or a signed, written message sent to school. When your child returns to school, written notification, signed, including dates and reason of absence, must be provided for the class Register of Attendance.

Any medication that requires administration while the child is at Kindergarten, requires signed approval from the Principal. The necessary form (obtained from the office) requires written details completed and permission signed by parent/guardian before approval is sought from the Principal.

Parents/guardians will be contacted immediately if a child becomes ill or suffers an accident whilst in attendance. You may be asked to take the child home, or in the case of an accident, will be notified of the situation. Therefore, we request your co-operation in keeping us informed of any changes to home, work or emergency contact telephone numbers.

Due to the number of children with nut allergies, we ask that **no nut products** be brought to school. This includes peanut butter and walnuts. Your attention to this is appreciated.

SPEECH SCREENING

During Semester One, all Kindergarten children (with parent consent) will be given an assessment to check their development in regards to speech and language. These will be undertaken by a qualified private therapist. Families will be charged for part of this cost and the school carries the remaining balance.





TUITION FEES

All families must contribute towards their child's education in our Catholic school. Kindergarten children are part of the family discount for school fees. Annual school fee accounts are sent home in February. Information regarding payment methods is included with the school fee account.

HOME SITUATIONS/COMMUNICATION

Home situations have a great influence on children. Please notify the teacher of any change to the normal home routine (e.g. parent in hospital, separation). All information is strictly confidential. Parents are always welcome to discuss any concerns or interests as they arise with the teacher.

CLOTHING

- Please send child in **PLAY CLOTHES**, i.e. easy to move in, comfortable, appropriate for messy activities and easily undone by child for toilet time. Dresses and skirts can be a problem when the children are climbing, moving to music and sitting on the floor.
- Footwear must be comfortable and simple to take off and put on, e.g. Velcro fastening, slip-ons.
- Hats must be worn during outdoor activities - the school policy is 'no hat, no play'.
- High ponytails and hair clips often cannot be accommodated by a hat.
- Please apply sunscreen to your child before they attend each session, particularly in summer.
- Please ensure that your child has a top that covers their shoulders for sun protection.
- Red Kindergarten shirts and windcheaters, school hats, and school bags are available from the uniform shop. None of these items are compulsory for Kindergarten.
- Label all clothing clearly.



BOOKLIST

The booklist will be supplied to all families at orientation. Please purchase the requested items but **do not name** them. The items are given to the teacher on the first day that your child attends Kindergarten.

BYOD – (Bring Your Own Device)

St Andrew's Catholic Primary School, Clarkson has introduced a **BYOD program for the children in Years 4 - 6**. Your child is required to bring an I pad or Tablet to school each day. (Minimum 16gb and minimum 7in screen, no phones or I pods please). More details will be provide to you when your child is in Year 3, in preparation for the program being implemented in Year 4.



THINGS TO BRING TO KINDERGARTEN

Please supply your child with the following items – clearly marked with his/her name:

- A spare change of clothes (in a named plastic bag) in case of accidents. Please ensure the clothing is suitable for the appropriate season. This stays in the child's school bag.
- A school bag that is big enough for spare clothes and for the work that is sent home. Also that it is easily accessible by your child.
- A clearly labelled container with a pre-cut piece of fruit or vegetable for morning tea. Plus yoghurt, cheese or plain crackers.
- A water bottle.
- A suitable sun hat - wide-brimmed or legionnaire and a good fit.
- A packed lunch e.g. small sandwich, yoghurt or a few crackers. Please do not send in chocolate muffins, juice, chocolate coated muesli bars, chocolate biscuits, lollies, chips and chocolate bars. Please ensure that what you pack for your child in their lunch box, they are able to finish.
- Library bag from Term 1(compulsory).



Please ensure that no personal toys are brought to school.

BIRTHDAYS

Birthdays are very special to young children. You are most welcome to bring in small cupcakes or individual items on your child's birthday so that we can help celebrate your child's special day. Please **NO** large cakes and consider children with allergies. Please give birthday invitations to staff to give to children.



USEFUL THINGS TO COLLECT

Many recyclable items, scrap and waste materials are used by the children in our programme. Please collect and give to us any of the following: Rolls of contact; small jars; cardboard boxes – all sizes and clean; corks; computer paper; milk bottle tops; leaves; cardboard cylinders – **no toilet rolls or egg cartons**; old greeting cards; wrapping paper; material scraps – velvet, lace, netting; wool; feathers; button clothes suitable for dress-ups; postage stamps; golf balls; wood scraps – cut into triangles/circle/arches etc for woodwork; safety glasses; house paint brushes; coloured envelopes; plastic containers; cardboard all shapes and sizes; paper plates; cotton reels; buttons.



**We look forward to a wonderful and rewarding year
with you and your child.**

All I Need to Know – I Learnt in Kindergarten

Robert Fulghum

All I really need to know about how to live and what to do and how to be – I learnt in Kindergarten.

These are the things I learnt:

- *Share everything.*
- *Play fair.*
- *Don't hit people.*
- *Put things back where you found them.*
- *Clean up your mess.*
- *Don't take things that aren't yours.*
- *Say sorry when you hurt somebody.*
- *Wash your hands before you eat.*
- *Flush.*
- *Warm cookies and cold milk are good for you.*
- *Live a balanced life – learn some, think some, draw, paint, sing, dance, play and work every day some.*
- *Take a nap every afternoon.*
- *When you go out into the world, watch out for traffic, hold hands and stick together.*
- *Be aware of wonder.*
- *Remember the little seed in the foam cup: the roots go down and the plant goes up and nobody really knows how or why, but we are all like that.*
- *Goldfish and hamsters and white mice and even the little seed in the foam cup – they all die. So do we.*



Kindergarten is the start of a new era in your child's life.

These initial experiences will help your child to develop skills necessary for future learning.