



Dear Parents and Carers

At Macgregor Preschool, we view all children as unique, creative, capable, and competent learners. We recognise that children learn through play, can make decisions to inform their own learning and have differing needs, interests, backgrounds, and abilities. This term we will be supporting the children in developing a sense of 'belonging' at preschool. We will achieve this by offering experiences that support each child in forming positive relationships with their peers and educators. Together we will explore the concepts of friendship, inclusivity, and individuality through quality children's literature. We will assist the children in developing their self-confidence and communication skills through provocations, investigations, intentional teaching, differentiated activities and whole group discussions.

Intentional Teaching

Educators draw on a rich repertoire of teaching practices to promote children's learning at preschool including:

- providing time, space and learning activities that facilitate thoughtful and challenging conversations with children.
 - engaging with children by listening, showing interest and asking open ended questions to encourage thinking and communication.
 - using a range of that involve explanations, speculation and problem solving.
 - collaborating with children to develop further knowledge and skills, and extend perspectives.
 - using teaching strategies that compliment the goals for children's learning.
- Providing instructional / intentional support to children during play, routines and transitions.

Preschool Learning Program

Our programs will be posted to Seesaw. Photos/videos of learning will also be regularly shared to your child's journal. Educators appreciate and value your feedback and encourage families to share their thoughts and ideas with us.

Wellbeing @ Macgregor (W@M) / Preschool Equipment

Macgregor primary school has a *Wellbeing at Macgregor* framework, also known as **W@M**. As part of this wellbeing framework, we encourage all children to care for their own, and each other's belongings. Key concepts including kindness and sharing (taking turns) will be embedded in our term 1 programs. The classes will develop routines and agreements at preschool regarding caring for the indoor and outdoor preschool environment. Mindfulness sessions will occur daily. If you would like further information about our wellbeing program, please ask, we are happy to answer your questions.

Wet Weather Gear and Spare Clothes

At Macgregor Preschool we run an 'all weather' program, meaning we continue to explore our outdoor environment even when it's cold and damp, so please remember to pack clothing appropriate to the weather forecast. We also request that each child has a change of weather appropriate spare clothes in their school bag every day.

Illness

We kindly ask that you keep your child at home if they show any signs of illness. We will make contact with you through the day if your child becomes unwell.

Healthy Lunchboxes and Allergies

Thank you for continuing to pack a variety of healthy foods in your child's lunchbox each day. Please ensure you provide a water bottle, educators can refill these when needed. Please refrain from sending a juice box or milk to preschool. To keep all students safe, please assist us by not **packing any nut products including Nutella.**



The National Quality Standard

We take pride in valuing each new and unique preschool community. Shortly educators will be asking for your contribution to the creation of our 2024 Preschool Philosophy. Throughout the year we will also seek assistance with our program and in the ongoing development of our learning spaces. If you have expertise, time, materials, or knowledge to support our teaching and learning, please don't hesitate to speak with your child's classroom teacher.

Belongings

Please ensure all your child's belongings are clearly labelled. Drink bottles, lunch bags, lunch boxes, forks, spoons, school bags, shoes, spare clothing, etc. There are a few children with the same items at preschool, and we like to be able to return lost items to the correct owner.

The gate at preschool (Clode Cres entrance)

is locked at 9:00am – 2:45pm.

If you arrive at preschool after 9am, please go directly to the front office at the primary school to sign your child in, then walk them up the ramp to preschool. Please ensure you 'hand over' your child to the classroom teacher. If you need to collect your child early from preschool (due to an appointment, or because they need to go home due to illness, etc), when you arrive, please go directly to the front office at the primary school. There you can sign your child out, and our preschool educators will be alerted of your impending arrival.

Walk on Country

We will be exploring our local environment with an Indigenous lens through our *Walk on Country* Program. We begin the walk with an Acknowledgement of Country for the traditional custodians of the land that we walk and learn upon. The sessions involve exploring our environment and making connections to the land and flora and fauna.

Contact us:

📞 **Front Office 6142 1600**

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Kind regards,
Melanie, Sophie, Kellie, Stephen, Heather,
Fozia, Cecilia and Jo.

