



Sacred Heart Primary School Thornlie
Early Learning Centre

3 Year Old Kindy Information 2021

Contact Details

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Dear Families

Welcome to Sacred Heart Primary School Thornlie Three Year Old Kindy. We look forward to working together with you to provide the best learning environment for your child. This booklet includes all the relevant information required for a successful and smooth start to your child's pre-kindergarten year and will set the foundations for future school learning.

What is the Three Year Old Kindy?

Three Year Old Kindy is your child's first introduction to School. It is an early childhood play-based learning programme for children who have turned 3 years of age or are turning 3 before 30 June that year. The programme provides children with meaningful experiences that promote spiritual, social, emotional, language, intellectual, creative and physical development



Statement of Philosophy

At Sacred Heart School Child Care Services we believe that learning is a lifelong process and recognise that families are the foundation for children's growth and holistic development. We celebrate the dignity, values, knowledge, skills, cultural experiences and God given gifts of each child, their family and their community. We respect each child as a sacred gift from God and support all children to develop a sense of love and respect for themselves and others based on Gospel values.

Building relationships

Meaningful, safe and secure relationships form the foundation of the services at Sacred Heart. We value;

- Open and honest communication
- Positive, constructive and encouraging interactions between children, families and staff
- Diversity, respect and equality
- The culture, traditional practices, heritage and ancestral knowledge of the children, families, staff and traditional custodians of the land
- The opinions and feedback received from children and families
- On-going relationships formed with the local community

Programs and Learning Environments

We believe children learn through play and need a balanced environment inclusive of natural resources to promote interactions, exploration and discovery. We will foster a learning environment that is warm, fun, safe, and inclusive, where children are free to play, observe, question, experiment, create and explore. We believe children learn and develop at their own pace and have the right to reach their full potential. We support this by;

- An holistic approach to planning which includes play based and intentional learning opportunities in line with EYLF and MTOP
- Providing programs that are child led, and appropriate for each individual child's learning, development and sense of agency
- Documenting, evaluating and responding to children's unique capabilities, strengths, interests and cultural experiences
- Providing opportunities for leadership and peer mentoring in our multi age grouping
- Providing both natural and built learning environments to enrich children's awareness of the environment, sustainability and a sense of connection to the natural world around them

Professionalism

Our programs are delivered by professional and ethical educators who are committed to working within the National Quality Framework. We believe in providing the highest quality care and in protecting and advocating for the rights of children. Our educators will commit to;

- Getting to know each child and developing trusting relationships
- Creating a positive atmosphere through modelling respectful and courteous language and behaviour
- Maintaining a safe environment and active supervision of children
- Building a harmonious, equitable and non-discriminatory workplace
- On-going reflective practice and professional development

Aims of the Three Year Old Programme

The programme aims to:

1. Provide an environment supportive of Catholic ethos which acknowledges the innate spirituality of every child, fosters the child's ability to wonder, experience awe, overcome difficulties love others and reflect God their creator.
2. Provide a happy, stimulating and supportive environment where the children feel welcome, secure and valued.
3. Provide a programme that will cater for a wide range of developmental abilities and interests, allowing children to develop to their full potential.
4. Provide a programme that will emphasize learning as an interaction process. The child interacting with the environment, through a balance of teacher initiated and directed activities, play and discovery learning.
5. Develop in the children the ability to communicate verbally and non-verbally their thoughts, ideas and feelings.
6. Encourage children to become self-reliant and to be able to make choices independently.

Curriculum

National Quality Framework (NQF)

The NQF is a national legislative framework under which early childhood and care services operate in Australia.

The NQF encompasses the Education and Care Services National Regulations under which the centre operates. The National Regulations are available at the centre or can be downloaded from www.acecqa.com.au

The Early Years Learning Framework

Our teaching practices are guided by the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF), the national early childhood curriculum. The curriculum is based on three key statements:

Belonging:

Children being connected to family, culture, and place.

Being:

Children need opportunities to seek and make meaning of their world.

Becoming:

Identifies children's knowledge, understanding, capacities, skills and relationships.

The EYLF emphasises the benefits of children learning through 'doing' or through play.

Children learn best through play because:

It is a natural and spontaneous activity for a child

It allows for children's differences and encourages an individual approach

It encourages children to learn through trial and error and experimentation

It gives teachers the chance to observe individual progress in an informal learning environment

The Three Year Old Programme will place special emphasis on:

Skills (social, emotional, language, intellectual, creative and physical)

Formation of friendships

Children's interests

Creative expression

Sensory experiences

Experimentation

Attendance Times

The 3 Year Old Kindy operates from **8.30am - 2:30pm** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Fridays **during School term time (Sacred Heart Primary School Terms)**.

A mini OSHC session is available from 7am – 8.30am and 2.30pm – 6pm for families who require longer hours of care. As well as vacation care during the school holidays and Pupil Free Days (Please note this needs to be booked separately in the Early Learning Centre).

Fee Structure

3 Year Old Kindy	8.30am – 2.30pm	\$93 per session
Mini OSHC plus 3 year old Kindy	7.00am – 6.00pm	\$117 per session
Enrolment Fee		\$30 per child

Arrivals and Departures

All children must be taken to and from the classroom by their parent or guardian and signed in.

Parents are welcome to stay and settle their child for as long as required. Please let an educator know when you are ready to leave so we can be there to support your child.

Please notify us if your child is going to be collected by anyone other than yourself. Any person authorised to collect or deliver will need to be included in the enrolment form and bring photo identification with them.

Settling In

The first few weeks will be very important for you and your child. One of the first things a Three Year Old Kindy child needs to learn is how to be away from his/her parents or primary caregiver. This may take some time for some children as they learn to cope with unfamiliar adults, peers, environment and routine.

It is very important that each child feels happy and comfortable in the environment. Please feel free to stay with your child as long as he or she needs you. The staff will work closely with parent/caregivers to ensure that your child is given the best opportunity to settle at their own pace

Guiding Children's Behaviour

The role of the teachers is to encourage positive behaviour and interactions. Limits will be discussed with children and enforced consistently and fairly.

We will respect and comfort a child regardless of the child's behaviour. Children will be given verbal reminders of appropriate behaviours and if necessary, be given assistance to appropriately assert themselves with others. On a daily basis appropriate behaviours are demonstrated and acknowledged by the teachers.

Daily Requirements

A bag big enough for lunch box, art work, drink and spare clothes.

A full water drink bottle.

Sun safe hat (bucket hat or legionnaire style hat)

Please include a spare set of clothes and underwear and a 'wet bag'

A cot sheet set if they still require a day sleep

Gumboots and Raincoat during the winter months (optional)

Morning Tea and Lunch: Please provide a snack for your child's morning tea. We encourage healthy food choices such as fresh fruit and vegetables, natural popcorn or crackers for morning tea, a sandwich and fruit for lunch.

Clothing: Children need to wear comfortable play clothes that can get messy and that are easy to manage for quick dashes to the toilet! Children are asked to remove shoes when using outside climbing equipment, so easy to wear shoes would be helpful (eg: thongs in summer, velcro fastenings in Winter). Children are required to wear t-shirts/ dresses that cover their shoulders (no singlets).

If required: Nappies/ Pull Ups, cot sheet set (if your child needs a rest/ sleep)

Please ensure all belongings are clearly labelled.

Toilet Training

Children are not required to be toilet trained before attending. When you are ready to begin the process, please have a chat with us and we will work with you to remain consistent.

Health and Well Being

Please inform us of any condition that may affect your child's wellbeing, and equally of any circumstances that may affect their behaviour on a particular day.

If your child is sick, please ensure that they remain at home until fully recovered. Please phone the Early Learning Centre Office 9251 3014 by 8.30am should your child be absent due to illness or other reasons.

Medication

Staff are not permitted to administer medications to the children without the completion of appropriate forms and information from a medical practitioner.

Allergies

Please let us know of any allergies or medical concerns, so that a Medical Action Plan for your child can be formulated.

Allergy Aware

Please note that we are an allergy aware service. Due to children's allergies we request that no nut products be brought into the centre. A note advising of other allergies is located on the entrance door.

Family Roster

For Term 1 we allow the children to settle into the routine of the Three Year Old Kindy and possibly the new experience of "being away" from Mum or Dad. Therefore there will usually be no Family Roster during this settling time. Once the children have settled the Family Help Roster will be put up on the noticeboard. We greatly appreciate your involvement as a parent helper – and your child will LOVE this too!

Parents or grandparents (if parents are unavailable) are invited to come along as a parent helper to visit and participate in class experiences with your child.

Confidentiality

Parental assistance in classrooms is a very important part of education. It must be stressed however, that just as staff are expected to maintain high standards of confidentiality, classroom volunteers are not permitted to discuss with others the behaviours or academic achievement of children. In this way respect, progress and professionalism is maintained for all.

Birthdays

Birthdays are a special time in the lives of young children! To help celebrate your child's birthday, you may like to bring store brought cupcakes, Freddo Frogs or biscuits for each child in the class (we encourage individual serves rather than a whole cake). These birthday treats will be handed out by the birthday child at the end of the session, as the children leave to go home. Due to allergies we cannot accept homemade food and any food brought in must be in original packaging with the ingredients listed.

Art and Craft

Artwork is an important part of our programme. Not only is art important for free expression, manipulation and creativity but socially, it develops co-operation with others and appreciation of other children.

We appreciate any interesting items that can be used for collage, box construction and other art activities. Items such as wrapping paper, cards, corks, bottle lids, old puzzle pieces, shells, bread tags...are very useful

Communication

We consider communication between home and school to be very important. Our first concern is the happiness of your child. If anything happens at home to upset your child in any way, we would appreciate it if you could let us know as this may impact them at school.

The Centre newsletter is emailed out and the School Newsletter is available on the School website. We also post daily on StoryPark about what the children have done throughout the day. If you have any queries, concerns or information regarding your child's wellbeing, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to meet with your child's teacher.

Personal Belongings

The children are asked not to bring toys or personal belongings as items lost or broken often cause the children undue stress.

Parent Meetings/Interviews

The teacher is always available for a quick, informal chat before or after sessions. However if you need a longer and/or confidential meeting with the teacher, an appointment can be made at a mutually convenient time. Please feel free to email your child's teacher if you are unable to chat before or after the session.

School Involvement

Sacred Heart Primary School provides many opportunities for parents to become involved in the school community.

1. **Family Roster** Parents are encouraged to assist in the classroom.
2. **Newsletters** via a link to the school website - www.ssp.wa.edu.au
3. **Whole School Masses** will occur throughout the year. Parents are welcome to attend these liturgical celebrations, even though the Pre Kindy children are not involved.
4. **Community and Special Events** will be planned through the year in accordance with the children's interest and what is happening in the community
5. **Providing Feedback** through StoryPark, policy reviews, Quality Improvement Plans and general conversations

EDUCATORS FOR 2021.....



Mrs Amanda McCorkill - Children's Services Director



Miss Veronica O'Brien - Early Childhood Teacher



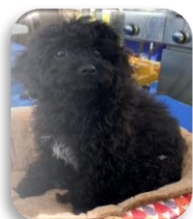
Miss Megan Rowland – Qualified Educator/ Assistant Director



Miss Paige Weyell - Educator



Mrs Annie Gerhardy – Inclusion Support/ Early Intervention



LUNA – Sacred Heart School Therapy/ Wellness Dog