

# Holy Rosary School Derby

## Kindergarten 2021

### Parent Information Booklet



# HOLY ROSARY SCHOOL DERBY 3 & 4-YEAR-OLD KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM

Welcome to the Holy Rosary School Derby community. This is the beginning of a wonderful journey where teachers and parents work as partners to deliver excellence in education. We hope you and your child will remember this first year with fond memories.

We aim to make your child's initial contact with school a happy, engaging experience and to establish positive attitudes to learning. With Kindergarten being one of the first steps from home to school, we build on existing knowledge, skills and interests. Our program is supportive, but it is also challenging. It is based around a balance of:

- Child-directed play – The child chooses how, when, with what and with whom to engage.
- Teacher-guided play - The teacher manages the play environment to achieve specific outcomes.
- Intentional teaching – The teacher plans and delivers explicit instruction to achieve specific outcomes.

Planned and incidental learning occurs throughout the day as a whole class, in small groups and individually. We are steered by three important documents - *Early Years Learning Framework*, *Kindergarten Curriculum Guidelines* and *National Quality Standards*.

## **EARLY YEARS LEARNING FRAMEWORK (EYLF)**

The first four years in a child's life are vitally important in terms of education for they are the years when a child is laying down foundations for future learning and participation in society. This document describes five broad outcomes which underpin our teaching pedagogy.

1. Children have a strong sense of identity.
2. Children are connected with and contribute to their world.
3. Children have a strong sense of well-being.
4. Children are confident and involved learners.
5. Children are effective communicators.

## **KINDERGARTEN CURRICULUM GUIDELINES**

The School Curriculum and Standards Authority is responsible for curriculum guidelines for all Western Australian Schools K-12. The Kindergarten Curriculum Guideline focuses on children's learning and development, consistent with the Early Years Learning Framework. In Kindergarten we focus on personal and social competence and pre-literacy and pre-numeracy skills. Every student is an individual and we strive to plan and support each student to their own developmental level, addressing students' academic, social, emotional, behavioural, psychological and physical needs.

## **NATIONAL QUALITY STANDARD (NQS)**

The National Quality Standard sets a national benchmark for equality in early childhood education and care services across Australia and establishes a set of standards that all service types are expected to meet. This document outlines seven standards that we demonstrate through our Kindergarten program.

Quality Area 1: Educational program 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

## **STAFF**

Kindergarten Educator: Miss Michelle

Education Assistant: Miss Lesley

The Kindergarten team is made up of an Early Childhood trained teacher and an Education Assistant. There may also be a DOTT (duties other than teaching) relief teacher when Miss Michelle has allocated DOTT time. DOTT includes activities such as planning, professional development and attending meetings.

## **CLASSES**

Kindy has been offered as an optional 3-5 days and there will be one Kindergarten class. If your child is attending 3 days those days will be Monday, Tuesday and Wednesdays. The 4-day option will be Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. The 5-day option will be MON-FRI.

3 year old kindy will be held on Friday.

The classrooms are open from 7:45am when you are invited to spend time with your child until approximately 8.00am when we ring a bell. We dismiss the students at 2:20pm.

## **DROPPING OFF AND PICKING UP CHILDREN**

All Kindergarten children must be dropped off and picked up from the class by an adult caregiver. This is a legal requirement as part of our duty of care to your child. Please write down the details on the clipboard outside the classroom if your child is going home with someone other than you. If you need to bring your child after school has started, or pick them up early, please sign them in or out at the front office.

Any specific legal requirements involving your child must be communicated to the office with relevant documentation.

It is important to be punctual. Students who arrive late miss out on the important settling routine which ensures a smooth transition from home to Kindergarten. It is also very disruptive for the class if children arrive after 8:30am. At the end of the day, students who are picked up late become distressed. If you are unavoidably detained, please telephone staff so that we can reassure your child and make appropriate arrangements.

## **WHAT TO BRING TO KINDERGARTEN**

### **PLEASE NAME ALL ITEMS**

Each day, your child will need to bring:

- A *large* school bag that your child can use independently
- A change of clothes and a plastic bag in your child's bag in case of accidents.
- A hat clearly labelled with child's name.
- We cannot have shared fruit due to Covid restrictions but please bring a piece of fruit or snack for morning tea. Children will eat at recess and lunch time.
- A *clearly labelled* lunch box containing a healthy lunch e.g., sandwich, yoghurt, fruit and vegetables
- A labelled water bottle.
- A library bag
- a *towel or blanket* for mindfulness/rest time

Our Kindergarten has a variety of equipment, toys and games for the children to use each day. Children should not bring any toys or personal, precious items to school unless they have been requested for a particular reason. Precious items from home can be accidentally damaged, broken or lost which can be very distressing to the child concerned.

## **STATIONERY LIST**

You would have received a Kindergarten Stationery List and we would appreciate it if you bring all of the equipment on the Stationery List to Kindergarten at the conclusion of the first day or the next day. In Kindergarten, all equipment is shared. The link to the booklist is here: <https://hrsderby.wa.edu.au/booklists-2021/>

## **WHAT TO WEAR TO KINDERGARTEN**

- Holy Rosary School Uniform
- Shoes that can be easily put on or taken off independently, and that are appropriate for outdoor play and fundamental movement – balancing, climbing etc. Please bring rain boots and raincoat for the wet days.

Many of our activities are messy and the children often get their clothes dirty. Most of the paint we use comes out in COLD water. Do not use stain removing sprays or hot water as they can set the paint. Your child may also get wet/muddy in our nature playground which has a sand/mud area. Please make sure your child always has a spare change of clothes in their school bag.

## **PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT**

Parents are encouraged to participate and assist in the Kindergarten program in whatever capacity they are able. This provides continuity between home and school and enables us to offer a greater range of experiences. A voluntary roster for parent help will be displayed on the classroom door at the beginning of each term, starting in week 6. Please write your name against a date(s) that suits you. We would prefer younger siblings do not attend the session so that you can enjoy quality time with your child.

We communicate to parents in several ways:

- School communication and excursion information via **Seesaw and texted link**.
- We use a digital portfolio, **Seesaw**, which gives parents a glimpse of what is happening in the classroom through the use of photos, videos and audio recordings. It also demonstrates your child's progress throughout the year and is a great tool for us to communicate with parents.

## **ILLNESS AND ACCIDENTS**

The children love coming to Kindergarten and often want to attend even when they are sick. To help curb the spread of infection to other children and staff, please keep your child at home if they are unwell. Information about communicable diseases and when to keep children home from school, is available on the WA Department of Health's website. ([http://www.public.health.wa.gov.au/1/10/2/az\\_diseases.pm](http://www.public.health.wa.gov.au/1/10/2/az_diseases.pm))

Accidents do occur in schools from time to time, so it is essential that home phone and emergency contact numbers are up to date. If staff need to seek medical/ambulance assistance the school accepts no responsibility for the cost incurred.

## **ALLERGIES AND MEDICAL CONDITIONS**

If your child has a medical condition (allergies, asthma, etc.) please notify the school. Where necessary an Action Plan will be formulated in consultation with you and the Assistant Principal, so that if an emergency arises directions can be easily followed. This will be up-dated each year or as the need arises.

If your child is on medication and you wish to request staff to administer it, please note:

- Only requests for medication which has been prescribed by a doctor will be considered.
- All instructions for times and dosages must be in writing.
- A medication record will be kept for those children on regular medication.
- Medicines etc. must be correctly labelled and handed to the staff, not left in the child's bag.

We very much appreciate it when parents are able to come to the school at lunch time to administer antibiotics to their child.

## **SPECIAL OCCASIONS**

We love to celebrate birthdays, name days or other special occasions at Kindergarten. If you would like to send in small cupcakes for your child to share with his/her friends on (or near) their special day, you are most welcome. Please remember it must be nut free. Please do not send in lollies, chocolates or ice creams. We appreciate it when parents issue birthday invitations directly to parents or place them in the student files outside each classroom.

## **RECYCLABLE MATERIALS**

Early learning centres are the world's best recyclers! If you have access to various items which you think we might be able to use, please let us know. Some suggestions for everyday items include: plastic ice cream and yoghurt containers, used greetings cards, wrapping paper, old calendars, envelopes, cardboard tubes, paper or card off cuts, cereal boxes, egg cartons, buttons, corks, bottle tops, bubble wrap, ribbons, lace, contact, shells and anything else you feel we might be able to use in the Kindergarten. Due to health regulations, we are unable to use toilet rolls.

## **EXCURSIONS**

The children may be taken on excursions throughout the year. A note will be sent home to parents/guardians prior to the excursion via Seesaw, with information and a permission form to be signed online. All excursions at Holy Rosary School follow the Department of Education guidelines which specify the adult, child ratio. We usually ask parents to accompany us to help on excursions.

## **CONCERNS**

Please do not hesitate to make an appointment to see Miss Michelle if you wish to discuss any matters concerning your child's progress, the program content or any other general queries or concerns. As the parent/guardian you have a vital role in the education of your child. We believe that, with the contribution of your skills and experiences, together we can form a vibrant and productive partnership that benefits your child.

## **OPTIONAL DAY KINDY**

Parents were asked last year to specify the number of days they wished their child to attend for first semester. Please contact the principal if you wish to change, however be aware that 5 day kindy option is currently full. Kindy runs from Mondays to Fridays for 5 day Kindy students, Mondays to Thursdays for 4 day kindy, and Mondays to Wednesdays for 3 day Kindy.

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO HAVING YOUR CHILD WITH US AT HOLY ROSARY SCHOOL AND HOPE THEIR TIME WITH US IS HAPPY AND ENRICHING**

## **My Day at Kindy (Example and subject to schedule changes)**

7:45am Classroom open for children

### **MORNING:**

Tabletop activities

Morning mat session: Literacy focus

Indoor learning experiences

### **OUTSOOR LEARNING ACTIVITES:**

Obstacle course

**MORNING TEA: in a clearly named container**

**Gross Motor outdoor activities**

**Mat session- Numeracy focus**

Variety of literacy & numeracy-based activities

Religious Education

### **LUNCH TIME**

### **QUIET/ REST TIME**

**AFTERNOON: Play based curriculum activities**

**PICK UP: 2:20pm**