# Starting Kindergarten



### Campbell Primary INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOL

Dream Believe Dehieve

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### Campbell Primary School www.campbellprimaryschool.wa.edu.au

For enquires please contact the school administration, or visit the school website.

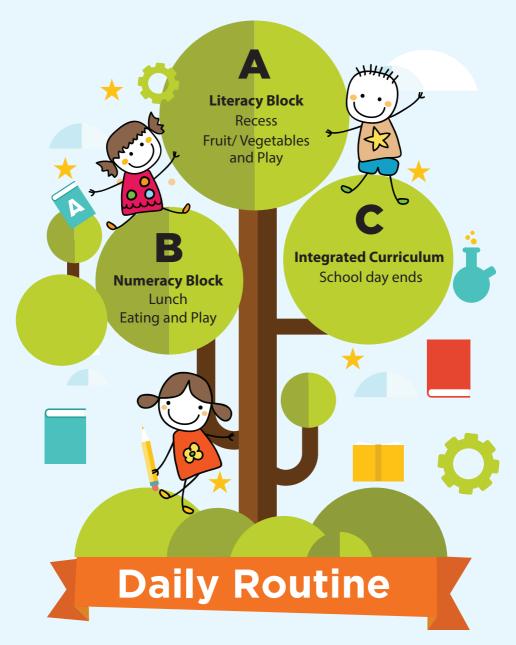
#### **Staff**

K-2 Assistant Principal oversees the program. All teaching staff are trained in Early Childhood Education. An Allied Professional in each classroom supports the teacher in developing and implementing the learning programs.

#### **Attendance**

Kindergarten students attend 5 days a fortnight.

Kindy A students: Monday, Tuesday and alternate Wednesdays. Kindy B students: Thursday, Friday and alternate Wednesdays.



Students arriving at school must be accompanied by a parent or carer and handed into the care of a staff member on arrival.

At the conclusion of the day all students must be collected by an adult and cannot be released to an older sibling.



#### **The Kindy Program**

Our teachers use The Western Australian Kindergarten Guidelines, the Early Years Learning Framework and the National Quality Standards to guide their learning programs.

Teachers provide a wide range of learning experiences designed to promote growth and learning across all areas of development.

Our teachers provide a balanced program through explicit instruction using our pedagogical model and intentional play-based learning opportunities.

The children learn through whole group, small group and individual experiences. This includes a mix of explicit teaching and guided discovery as well as the opportunity for self-directed learning.

We teach the 'Victorian Modern Cursive' writing style so please use this style when practising name and letter writing at home. It is extremely important that children are only using a capital letter for the initial letter in their name.

When teaching sounds, our major emphasis is on the sound the letter makes, rather than the letter name. This supports your child's ability to sound out when they begin to read and write small words.

#### Victorian Modern Cursive Handwriting Style

abcdefghij klmnopqr stuvwxyz ABCDFFGHIJ KIMNOPOR  $T \cup V \cup X \times Z$ 1234567890

#### **Aims for Early Childhood**

To achieve the principles and practices of The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia and outcomes as outlined in the Kindergarten Curriculum Guidelines.

#### **Identity**

- Develop a sense of belonging to the Kindergarten community
- · Approach tasks and new situations with a positive attitude
- · Show resilience and independence
- Show confidence in own capabilities
- Display a positive self-image
- Participate positively as part of a group and respect the rights of others

#### **Connecting and Contributing**

- Develop good learning habits such as listening, answering questions and trying their best
- · Develop problem solving, inquiry and ICT skills
- · Learn to make friends and socialise in groups
- Follow rules and routines
- Explore and understand the diversity of culture and traditions
- Explore environments and develop an understanding of how to care for them

#### **Well-being**

- Develop the Campbell Primary School Values of respect, resilience and kindness
- Develop the skills to build friendships
- Begin to read and understand emotions, and self-regulate own behaviour and feelings
- Development of loco-motor and fine motor skills including balance, movement, hand-eye coordination, pencil grip and control and use of scissors

#### **Learning and Thinking**

- Develop confidence, enthusiasm and curiosity towards learning
- Develop early numeracy skills such as counting principles, understanding of number, measurement and geometry
- Use enquiry to learn about the world around them

#### **Communicating**

- Develop early literacy skills to support the development of reading and writing
- · Build aural and oral language skills
- Develop an understanding of phonological awareness (rhyming, syllables, hearing sounds in words... etc) through explicit instruction
- · Develop concepts of print through reading and early writing
- Communicate effectively in familiar situations to express their needs, wants, ideas and opinions

More information and online resources are available on the Department of Education's website.

#### **For Parents**

Children develop at different rates, learn different skills at different times and mature at different levels.

Every child is different so if your child does not proceed at the same rate as a friend's child or a brother or sister, don't worry.

First days at school are exciting times for most children and learning how to cope with this change in their lives is important. School is one of the big challenges of life outside the home.

Children may push aside their previous dependence on you but they will still need your support. A child's outlook on life will be primarily created in your home with you providing the experience that will foster their growth and development.

#### A few important points:

- 1. Encourage your child to dress themselves and take care of their possessions such as hats, jumpers and opening lunch boxes and water bottles.
- 2. Encourage and support independent toileting.
- 3. Provide the opportunity to experience getting along without you for a few hours in a day prior to school.
- 4. Make sure their immunisation status is up to date before entering school.
- 5. Teach safe practises in the home, as well as in public such as crossing the street and interacting with people.
- 6. Label all items such as clothing, lunch boxes and water bottles.
- 7. Ensure your child starts each day with a well balanced breakfast, and has healthy food options in their lunchbox.
- 8. Help them to learn their full name, home address, and phone number.
- 9. Visit your local library and read aloud to your child every day. Talking about what you have read will develop listening and comprehension skills.
- 10. Listen to your child's opinions and ideas and explain simple rules and the consequences.
- 11. Always provide guidance and support while encouraging your child to think for themselves and problem solve.
- 12. Shy children need to talk to adults and other children. Encourage them to make friends and to know that it is safe to talk to their teacher.
- 13. One of the aims of most healthy human beings is to be socially and emotionally competent. School provides the opportunity for children to interact with others of varying ages and other adults including teachers and parents.
- 14. Ensure your child has sufficient sleep at night.
- 15. Model and teach your child the importance of sharing and waiting your turn in a game or to share their ideas.
- 16. Be positive when you talk about school to support a healthy attitude towards receiving instruction.

#### **Parent Involvement in the Kindy Classroom**

Parents are encouraged to participate and assist in the Kindergarten in whatever capacity they are able such as:

- Parent/Teacher information sessions and interviews.
- Parent Help Roster helping in the classroom with activities and small groups.
- · Other rosters eg. laundry.
- Sharing talents and skills with the children such as carpentry, storytelling, cultural celebrations and ceremonies.
- Open mornings and evenings, sports days and parades.
- Grandparents and other family members are also welcome to come on roster.

#### **Preparing Your Child for Their First Day**

You can help prepare your child for their first day by driving or walking past the school regularly before the commencement of school and commenting "That's where you will be going to Kindy. Can you see the playground?"

- Talk about starting school in a positive way.
   "You will have so much fun. I wonder what things you will do?"
- Remember not to mention how much you will miss them, or your child will come to the belief that Kindy will be a lonely place away from you.
- Read books or tell positive stories about starting school.
- Acquaint your child with their written name so they can identify their bag tag and personal items.



# It is my first day at Kindergarten

# To have fun at school you need lots of sleep.



### Don't forget to go to the toilet.



# Make sure you can dress yourself.



# Can you write your name?



# Is your name on all of your things?



### Be safe.



### Choosing healthy food helps your learning.



### Listening is fun.



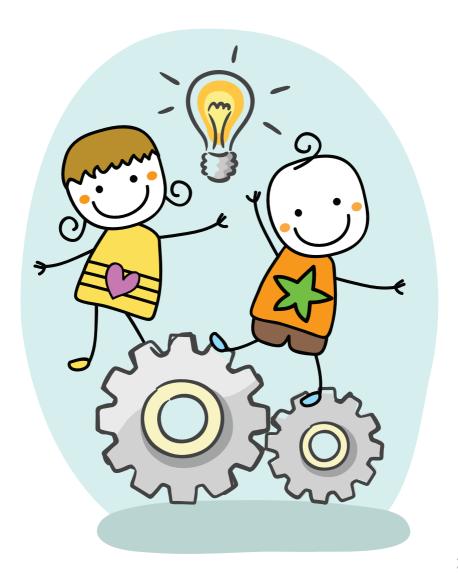
# You can make things at school.



### Reading is fun.



### Everyone's ideas are important.



You will start to make lots of friends and at the end of school each day you will go home.





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