



A Specialized Preschool Program to prepare your child for school

Our Program

School Readiness has become increasingly important as educational expectations continue to rise. It is our belief that a comprehensive and holistic Preschool Program is an essential part of a child's learning journey and transition to school.

At the core of our Program is the curriculum. This provides the framework around which all of our learning activities are structured.

"Did you know...Kidzville provides the same Preschool Program as a standalone Preschool?"

These activities are delivered by fully qualified NESA accredited Early Childhood Teachers and educators using specific learning contexts that are designed to maximize learning outcomes.

Our aim is to ensure that each and every child that graduates from our Preschool Program is fully prepared for their next educational step. We are passionate about this responsibility and have created this handbook as a way of sharing precisely what it means to attend a Preschool Program at our Centre.

We hope this handbook provides you with enough information and context to make the best choice for your child.

Our Curriculum

Our preschool curriculum is developed with references to the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF), an Australian Government approved framework designed to ensure that children in all early childhood education and care settings receive quality teaching to achieve required learning outcomes.

At the very heart of the early Years Learning framework is the view that early childhood is the time when exploring notions of "belonging" "being", and "becoming" are essential to the development of identity, cognitive reasoning and wellbeing.

In the context of School Readiness, the curriculum creates the framework around which all of the interactions, activities and experiences, both planned and unplanned occur. This ensures that your child is fully prepared in every way possible to transition effectively to the new set of learning objectives in the school environment.

Some examples of how our centre implements the EYLF in the program include but are not limited to the following:

Language & Literacy

- Storytelling
- Dramatic arts/role play
- Communication
- ELLA Program (3-5's)
- ELSA Program (4-5's)
- News Time
- Letter of the Week

Mathematical Learning

- Numbers and measurements
- Shapes and spatial awareness
- Patterning, sorting and classifying

Expressive Arts

- Drama and dance
- Art, Design and music

Outdoor & Physical Activity

- Movement and coordination
- Gross motor skill development
- Fundamental Movement skills

Environment and Sustainability

- Caring for the world we live in
- Understanding the environment

Collaborative Partnership

- Diversity
- Partnership and collaboration
- Shared decision making

Science and technology

- Enquiry and investigation
- Collecting and organising data
- Use of smart boards/iPads/tablets

Independence & Responsibility

- Caring for self & for others (empathy)
- Contributing to a group constructively
- Personal care and hygiene
- Room Responsibilities

Social & Emotional Development

- Understanding feelings
- Demonstrating self-control - Traffic Zones
- Working with Others - Buddy system

Our Learning Context

Research shows that children are more likely to learn when they are engaged in Play-based learning.

“Play-based learning is a context for learning through which children organise and make sense of their social worlds as they actively engage with people, objects and representations” (EYLF, 2009, p.46)

A Play-based learning context encourages a range of positive developmental outcomes such as personality expression, individuality, relationship development, curiosity and creativity as well as developing a sense of overall esteem and wellbeing.

A variety of different techniques are used by our highly qualified teachers and educators to promote these developmental outcomes. Some of these techniques include a daily schedule of indoor and outdoor activities, regular adult-and-child and child-and-child interactions in an informal and formal educational setting and exposure to multiple creative activities such as arts, movement and music.

“We use learning areas to create learning hubs where resources can be added or changed according to the children's interests”

Natural Learning Environments

Natural learning environments incorporating a variety of elements such as shady trees, mud play, and textured leaves. Natural environments create irregular and challenging spaces to assist children in recognising, assessing and negotiating risk, and building confidence and competence within themselves.

These environments also create an array of opportunities for children to experiment and engage in experiences that encourage literacy, numeracy and recognition of shapes, sizes and colours in different mediums.

The benefits to each child's health, wellbeing and ability to build self-resilience are promoted through connections created within engaging play spaces

Interactive Smart Board

Introducing state-of-the-art technology into the service can prepare your child for future avenues of learning as it is important for them to develop a solid foundation of positive interactions with technology-based equipment.

Interactive whiteboards, combined with other engaging modern electronics, allow children to be comfortable embracing technology as part of their learning. Children are invited to explore a wide range of experiences from different sources and share these with their peers.

The experienced and qualified educators assist children to develop their skills and revisit their learning by reflecting on their journey and their understanding of the world around them.

Our Teachers and Educators

The quality of our Program is a direct result of not only the environments in which our Program is set but also the quality of the teaching and educational team.

Our Qualified team of bachelor – Certificate III educators are responsible for integrating the requirements of the Early Years Learning Framework into our learning contexts to ensure that your child's learning outcomes are achieved.

Some of the day-to-day tasks that they will perform with your child include:

- Promote language and cognitive development
 - Plan and teach a play-based curriculum
- Plan incursions and excursions to extend on learning
 - Observe children to evaluate & record progress
 - Assist with personal hygiene
 - Promote health and safety concepts
 - Encourage empathy, cooperation & respect
- Encourage and promote positive attitudes towards learning

In addition, our teams undergo regular professional and teaching development programs to ensure that practices are consistent with industry best practice.

Our teachers and educators are both professional and passionate, key attributes required when caring for your child.

Extracurricular Activities, Modern Teaching Aids and Enrichment

To ensure that our Program is able to deliver holistic, relevant and effective learning outcomes, we include a range of supplemental activities and practices.

Our curriculum provides the foundation for all of our Program, and our teaching contexts to ensure that we are able to deliver high quality developmental outcomes. We are then able to supplement these with a range of extracurricular activities designed to broaden your child's experience ahead of that all-important transition to formal schooling.

We recognise the importance of innovative and responsive programs and teaching tools that best support your child's learning.

Our preschool teachers specifically adapt their environments to enhance your child's learning experience in every way possible.

Some examples of extracurricular activities, modern teaching aids and enrichment initiatives we include in our programs are:

Community explorations

We understand the importance of being engaged with the world around us and working closely with many community networks within our area. Through both excursions and incursions, there will be opportunities for your child to connect with their world.

Fully equipped learning environments

Our learning environments are equipped with modern educational resources and technology. More recently the trend towards the use of interactive smart boards and iPads to facilitate School Readiness has been embraced.

Incursions

Many programs include extensions to learning where professionals visit the service on a regular basis to provide a range of additional activities such as Football Frenzy, these all work to complement the existing services at our centre.

Choosing the Right Program for You and Your Child

We pride ourselves on a Program with a high-quality curriculum taught by a highly trained team of teachers and educators.

Long day care programs and seasonal preschools provide similar programs however, it is important to be aware of the key differences to ensure you opt for the environment that best suits your needs.

Inclusions	Long Day Care Preschool	Sessional Preschool
Eligible to attend at four years of age	yes	yes
Curriculum based on the EYLF	yes	yes
Play based learning contexts	yes	yes
Extracurricular activities and enrichment	yes	?
High quality resources and technology	yes	?
Nutritious meals provided	yes	no
Government supported programs	yes	yes
Bachelor and diploma qualified teachers	yes	yes
Flexible start and finish times	yes	no
Open 52 weeks per year	yes	no
Seamless transition from three- to four-year-old room	yes	no
Program taught in same centre as younger siblings	yes	no
Year-end graduation ceremony	yes	no
are available up until school starts in February	yes	no
Child Care Subsidy available	yes	yes

What Happens Next?

Here are some useful suggestions that may assist you in understanding the Program available at our centre:

- Reach out to Shoushan (Centre Director/ Educational Leader) or Chelsea (2IC, Room Leader) for any additional information you may need about the specifics of the Preschool Program at our Centre
- Arrange a tour of the Preschool Room's (Waratahs) and ask questions about the transition process from Azaleas to Waratahs room including ensuring consistency of practices and staff cultures.
- Make an appointment with Chelsea who delivers the Program at the centre to learn a bit more about her philosophies and passions
- Speak with parents whose children have just completed their preschool year to gain an insight into how it impacted their learning and development
- Understand the federal assistance programs available by contacting the Family Assistance Office/Centrelink for advice or speaking with the Centre Director/2IC

"A Specialized Preschool program is recommended for all children turning four in the year prior to attending "big school"



Frequently Asked Questions

Who teaches the Program?

Our Program is taught by our Diploma trained (Working towards Bachelor of Education) Educator in consultation with our bachelor qualified early childhood teachers who use a range of activities and learning techniques in their day-to-day interactions with your children.

Do you use technology to deliver your Program?

We use a variety of different types of technologies and digital platforms to enhance the Program. It is essential that children are familiar with and know the benefits of modern technology before they leave for school. With this in mind, our program is delivered through many avenues not just technology.

How do you teach language and literacy?

Language and literacy are taught through positive engagement with a variety of print and multimedia texts, including exploring symbols and patterns in language, Introduction of ELLA and ELSA app, exploring text purposes and meanings and exploring reading and writing techniques.

What is ELLA?

“ELLA (Early Learning Languages Australia) is a digital, play-based language learning program for children in preschool. ... ELLA is a fun, digital, play-based language learning program for preschool children. It was developed as part of an Australian Government initiative to encourage more students to study a language.

What is ELSA?

A play-based STEM program for early years. Balancing physical and digital play to boost children’s spatial literacy and numeracy skills.

What's the Graduation Ceremony?

The Graduation Ceremony is a special event held to celebrate your child’s achievements whilst attending our Preschool Program.

What information will I receive from the Centre and how often?

You will receive an abundance of meaningful information which includes regular communications, newsletters, learning stories including photographs via KV APP. We also share information via our social media platforms.

Do you document my child’s learning journey?

Yes, of course. Teachers selectively document their observations of significant learning identified in the preschool learning and development areas. This documentation provides evidence of

children's current knowledge, skills and dispositions.

How do you teach numeracy?

Numeracy is taught using a variety of different techniques including exploring number symbols and their purposes, counting and exploring patterns and relationships and exploring mathematical thinking, concepts and language.

How do you assess learning?

Teachers monitor children's learning through observation supported by conversations with the child. Teachers adopt a purposeful approach to observation that allows them to identify

significant learning when it occurs and confirm that each child's learning and development is progressing across all areas.

Are we, as parents, able to meet with teachers to discuss the progress of our child?

Regular parent/teacher meetings are encouraged and held at the centre accordingly. The information and advice that teachers gather helps them to form a "point-in-time snapshot" of each child's learning that informs their ongoing work with that child. This snapshot is constantly changing and developing as new information about the child is gathered and interpreted.

Is there more I can do to assist my child's learning?

As your child's role model, there are many things you can do to assist their learning including encouraging self-help skills and promoting communication by asking lots of questions.

Do all children get a learning portfolio?

Yes, of course. Each and every child that attends the Preschool Program will have a documented record of their entire learning journey available online via KV APP available for parents to access at any time.

How often do you have enrichment activity services visit the centre?

As often as we can. Whether it be music, arts, dance, culture, history, yoga or sports we believe the power of enrichment programs as a complement to our curriculum and encourage our educators to work them into our Program wherever possible.

Do you hold information session that explain the Program in detail?

Yes, we do. We have an Open Door Policy. Please feel free to speak with us at any time! Information Sessions are usually held towards the end of the teaching year to allow prospective families to learn more about the Program.

