

SCHOOL READINESS PROGRAM

We prepare your children for school

We believe that the early years of a child's life is the most important time in the child's life for laying foundations of good skill development.

We have a comprehensive program that prepares children intellectually and academically, and socially and emotionally. Academically we don't focus on rote learning but on children becoming competent and confident learners. Having a confident learner sets a good foundation for a lifetime of learning.

Our preparation for school package has been established by liaising with local schools in the area both public and private to distinguish the expectations for the children attending kindergarten the following year.

Children need play to

- Develop important social skills
- Prepare children for the future
- Develop responsibility
- Strengthen concentration
- Develop perceptual motor skills
- Construct/ manipulate
- Understand size
- Problem solve
- Create/ explore
- Imagine
- question/ experiment
- develop friendships
- follow direction
- develop self-esteem
- empathise
- imitate/ observe

Sense of self and others

- encompasses social and emotional development
- separate easily
- interact with children and adults through play and conversations
- shares and take turns with equipment and during games
- work co-operatively with small group of children
- follows directions
- solves conflicts with minimal adult assistance
- listens to others follows routines
- seeks help when it is needed

Linguistically, your child needs to

- talks to other people about familiar objects and events
- answers and asks simple questions
- makes needs known
- follows simple instructions
- uses books for enjoyment or for looking at pictures
- identifies pictures in books, magazines, on television or video
- uses a variety of things (pens, pencils, textas, paintbrushes, sticks in dirt) to draw, to scribble or to write
- joins in singing familiar songs
- describes events and objects
- speaks with confidence

Cognitively & mathematically your child needs to

- Recognises that numbers can be used to count
- Use words like all, many, a lot, more, less
- Identifies things in a group that are different
- Sees differences in shapes
- Differentiates between opposites- up and down, under and over, in front and behind, day and night
- Show interests in experiences
- Concentrates during story/group time
- Knows colours: red, blue, yellow, green, white black, purple, orange, brown
- Knows basis shapes: square, rectangle, triangle, circle heart
- Recognises own name
- Writes own name
- Completes puzzles: 5 7 10 15 20 pieces

For a sense of independence, your child needs to

- can put on and take off jumpers, shoes, socks independently
- uses the toilet independently
- identify own belongings
- look after their own belongings
- pack away activities
- blow their own nose
- open lunch box and food packaging

How parents can help with school readiness preparation

- Visit the school to help familiarise children with their classroom, the bathrooms, the library and the playground
- Have a picnic and practise using lunchbox and drink bottles
- Wearing the school uniform often before school starts
- Label children's possessions so they can recognise them
- Attend school orientation visits
- Be honest about what happens at school
- Encourage independence
- Prepare children for routine change