



Margaret River Primary School Kindergarten

Parent Information Booklet 2024



91 – 97 Forrest Road
Margaret River W.A. 6285
Phone: 9757 8500
<http://mriverps.wa.edu.au/>

Term Dates

Term 1: Wednesday 31st January – Thursday 28th March

Term 2: Monday 15th April – Friday 28th June

Term 3: Monday 15th July – Friday 20th September

Term 4: Monday 7th October – Thursday 12th December

*Pupil free days will be announced by the school and parents notified.

Session Times

Monday, Tuesday and alternate Wednesday 8.45am – 3.00pm

Thursday, Friday and alternate Wednesday 8.45am – 3.00pm

PLEASE NOTE: There is a staggered intake for the first 2 weeks to enable the children to gradually feel comfortable in their new surroundings and to become familiar with, and build relationships with friends and teachers. Please refer to the staggered intake timetable for session times. If this does not suit your family circumstances, please contact administration.

Compass

Compass is our whole school communication platform. It can be accessed via the web or app on Apple or Android devices. Through Compass you will be able to receive news and updates, submit absentee notifications, access our school calendar, and give permission for events. You will receive your login details to access Compass early in Term 1, 2023. For more information about Compass, please visit: <https://www.compass.education/guide>



Introduction

Welcome to the Margaret River Primary School Kindergarten.

We hope that you and your child will have an enjoyable and rewarding year with us.

MRPS offers an educational program that is holistic in its nature and supports the language, cognitive, social/emotional, physical and creative development in all students.

We provide a safe and caring environment where learning takes place and one which promotes positive student, parent, and teacher relationships. We recognise that students have varied learning styles, and these are facilitated and extended through the use of appropriate learning strategies.

Our aim is to make your child's first contact with school a happy and positive experience.

At Kindy your child will learn through play, be actively involved in experiences planned by the teacher, interact with adults and other children, and use a wide range of equipment and materials especially designed to support his/her learning.

Administration

Lorraine Macaulay - Principal

Jenny Robb – Deputy Principal (Early childhood)

Your Admin contact at Kindy will be Jenny Robb

At MRPS teachers have a commitment to:

- The principles of developmental learning.
- Play Based Learning applying the Walker Learning approach to learning.
- The Early Years Learning Framework and Department of Education Kindergarten Guidelines.
- The National Quality Standard (NQS) - a key aspect of the NQF and sets a national benchmark for early childhood education and care.
- Ensuring that all students are successful learners.
- Collaborative planning and facilitating learning programs.
- Be part of the decision-making process in their relationships with students, parents, colleagues and the wider community.
- See themselves as learners through ongoing professional development.



Learning Outcomes

MRPS-K implements the Five Learning Outcomes of the Early Years Learning Framework.

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 wellbeing.
4. Children are confident and involved learners.
5. Children are effective communicators.



Implementing these overarching outcomes, children will: -

- Develop and extend skills in language further to understand and communicate ideas and information and to interact with others.
- Begin to apply mathematics in ways of problem solving, concepts of numeracy and spatial awareness.
- Be part of, and develop kindergarten routines and expected behaviours, through social interaction, co-operation, communication, and social behaviours.
- Develop their natural curiosity, creativity, and desire to learn.
- Develop an understanding of the diversity of Australian culture and of people with special needs. Build on knowledge skills and values necessary to contribute and participate in life in Australia.
- Recognise that everyone has the right to feel safe and valued. Begin to understand their rights and obligations and to behave responsibly.
- Recognise practices that promote personal growth, health and well-being.

Arrival and Departure

Please make every effort to deliver and collect your child from the Kindy on time.

Times are 8.45am and 3.00pm.

If someone other than yourself or the normal arranged person is to pick up your child, please advise us of the arrangement verbally and record it in the “Communication” book.

On arrival you are most welcome to stay and share a puzzle/ name activity with your child.

Attendance

Regular attendance is crucial to allow for making friends and to benefit from the sequential program.

Late Arrivals, please go to administration to get your child’s arrival time recorded.

Absences can be phoned through to the front office or you can notify the school through Compass, our whole school communication system.

Vacations during the school term must be approved by the School Principal. Appointments can be made through the front office.

Parking

Parking is available on Georgette Street, directly in front of the Kindy building. Disabled parking is available at the Doctors Surgery car park (across from the school), the front office and Georgette Street, if required.

Parent Participation

We welcome all mothers, fathers, grandparents and other carers into the Kindy to help and participate. Visiting the kindergarten is a great way to share in the educational experiences of your child and to see your child's progress. It is also a wonderful opportunity to get to know the children who will be your child's peers and friends, possibly up to Year 12 and beyond.

Here are some ways you can help:

1. Parent Help Roster. This goes on the notice board after the first six weeks of Term 1.
2. Keep in touch with staff on matters concerning child health, well-being and education.
3. Becoming actively involved in the School P&C.

A parent roster is posted on the notice board at the beginning of each term. Please help fill in the spaces provided (generally a couple of times a term). Roster help includes; assisting at puzzle time, helping with activities, writing names on work etc.

If you have any special talents/ interests- music, cooking... we'd love to hear from you!

Excursions

During the year your child may go on an excursion to visit people in our community.

Our excursions are linked to what we are learning about at Kindy. E.g. When learning about animals we may go to the High School Farm etc.

Prior to the excursion you will be notified through compass and required to give consent via the app. Extra parent help may be required to assist with supervision, and sometimes there may be a small cost.

What happens at Kindy?

Your child will play! Please do not dismiss this statement lightly. The play is carefully and thoughtfully planned and prepared around the child's individual needs and developmental growth. The Kindy program aims to develop intellectual, physical, social and emotional development through various learning areas. Children will learn skills, knowledge and ideas through their play.

Your child will learn:

- By firsthand experience; e.g. learn firsthand by using all senses.
- Through play; e.g. socialising, sharing, turn taking and interacting with other children
- By questioning and wondering; e.g. How, when, where and why.
- By reasoning; e.g. learning activities to promote good problem solving and creative thinking.

Indoor Play

- Control over small muscles; -painting, threading, building; all of these require co-ordination of hand and eye muscles essential for reading and writing later.
- Encourage creative thinking; block building, painting, clay, dough and drawing.
- Concentration; puzzles, manipulative equipment, mat sessions.
- Legitimate destruction; discovering how things work by pulling things apart to build again, Tinker Tables and block constructions.
- Construction; carpentry, box works from re-cycled materials.
- Independence; furniture and fittings are scaled to size so the children can manipulate without help.
- Respect for others; everyone has a 'right' to have his/her turn at a favourite toy, so we must share.
- Practical 'life-skills'; pouring, scooping, sewing etc.

- Awareness of the child's world; for example, classroom nature studies and science which are all simple and within his/her comprehension. Items of interest are always welcome for viewing.
- Music; an early introduction through songs, dances and percussion.
- Extend and develop language; through stories, poems, pictures, discussions, visitors.
- Excursions.

An example of a day at Kindy will be outlined at your parent/teacher interview.



Outdoor Play

- Control over large muscles; running, jumping, climbing, and digging. Development of whole body movements assists development in small specialised muscles.
- Co-operation; it takes two to move a large piece of equipment.
- Dramatic play; gives the child an opportunity to release tensions, frustrations and fears, and to develop concepts through role-playing.
- Games; co-operation, being a good sport, following rules.



Uniforms

Blue Kindy shirts are available through the School Office.

Girls: Green checked dress, black skirt/skorts/shorts, black pants or track pants, green windcheater or green zip jacket, a green broad brimmed hat, and a blue Kindy t-shirt.

Boys: Black shorts / black pants or track pants, green windcheater or green zip jacket, a green broad brimmed hat and a blue Kindy t-shirt.

What to bring to Kindy

A good sized school bag

Big enough to fit their creations, notes, lunch box, drink bottles, spare clothes etc. Please remember to check for notes etc. as the children will be responsible for bringing these home in their bag.

Lunch box

Example: a healthy sandwich, a piece of fruit and a small screw top yoghurt.

Note: We do not chill or heat lunches. Please provide an ice pack if required.

Fruit or other yummy nutritious food

At Kindy we have morning snack that encourages good nutrition. Please send along fruit or other yummy food like celery, cheese, dry cracker biscuits, carrots etc. each day in a labeled container.

A drink

Your child will need a named drink bottle filled with water only please.

Footwear

We encourage children to remove their shoes when they arrive not only for safety reasons when climbing, but also for learning through their senses.

Hats / clothing

Broad brimmed green hat, which your child will keep in their workbox so that is available at all times. Parents are responsible for providing and applying sunscreen to their child and a spare change of clothes for spills and accidents.

Birthdays

You are very welcome to send in a birthday cake, biscuits or enough little cakes for all to share (small cupcakes are recommended). You will be informed of any allergies etc.

Getting ready for Kindergarten

Kindergarten can often be the first time a child is part of a 'formal' social setting and as such it is important we prepare them for a calm start. It is a big moment when your child starts Kindergarten- and it is an exciting time for whole family. The Department of Education have a great resource available to assist helping your child transition from home to school, and ensuring they have a positive first experience. Here is a link providing information and ideas on topics including:

- Getting ready for Kindergarten
- Resources for families
- Services to help parents and children

Hello Kindergarten!

<https://www.education.wa.edu.au/dl/odergq>

What NOT to bring to Kindy

1. Children should be discouraged from bringing in toys/ treasures to Kindy as they are inclined to be broken or lost in their travels (unless requested to do so by the teacher). We do have special days where the children can bring special belongings.
2. Sore throats, strange rashes, high temperatures and anything that may be catching! To minimize the spread of infection, children should remain absent until they are symptom free or at least 24hours if they have had Gastroenteritis.
3. Pet dogs to drop off or pick up. Some children may be frightened as may your pet.

Please keep your child at home if they are feeling 'off-colour'. If your child does require medication during the day please ensure that a medical administration form is completed and signed, this can be obtained from the school office.

A communicable Disease Guidelines booklet is available on request that outlines symptoms and incubation periods of diseases which necessitates exclusion from school.

Toileting at Kindy

Learning to toilet independently is a part of a child's personal and social learning and development. The level of support will depend on the individual child's needs and can range from full assistance through to verbal reminders of the necessary steps in the process of toileting. Some children may require a documented plan to support their development of toileting skills. The development, implementation and review of the plan will include feedback from the child, parents and where appropriate, therapists.

Immunisation

At enrolment the parent/guardian of the child is required to give the immunisation status of the child to the school office. The only acceptable documentation is:

- An AIR immunisation statement no more than 2 months' old
- Or a valid immunisation certificate issued by the Chief Health officer.

Smoke free zone

Smoking is not allowed inside the Kindergarten or anywhere on the school grounds.

Health Services

Community Child Health Nurse (CCHN) – Phone 9753 6475

When your child turns 3 ½ it is the ideal time to make an appointment to see the CCHN. This no-fee appointment includes vision, hearing, language and general health checks.

