

NSW Department of Education

CARDIFF SOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOL

PRESCHOOL PARENT INFORMATION BOOKLET

2023







PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

Welcome to Cardiff South Public School. Our school first opened its doors in 1951 and since that time the school has developed a proud and rich history. So much so, that Cardiff South has become a "multi-generational" school. We have several current families who are of third generation, following in their parent's and grandparent's footsteps. Clearly, they have formed a strong connection with our school and its wider community, and it appears to be quite a natural process for some to stay in the local area and have their children attend the school as well. In fact, my own children came here, which is just one of the many reasons why I am proud to be the principal of Cardiff South Public School.



Although we are proud of our past, we are not bound by it, and we are always looking to the future. Every member of staff continuously reflects on their own practices to ensure ongoing improvement in everything we do.

Our world changes rapidly, and as a school, we want to make sure that we keep up with the rapid rate of change so that our students are well prepared for life in a complex and advanced society. As your child joins our school today, they will become a crucial part of the next chapter in our history. It is a chapter that is currently unwritten, but one that is full of possibilities.

It is our hope that as your child joins our school today, they experience many wonderful things, participate in lots of unique learning opportunities, develop strong friendships with other children, have lots of laughs and most importantly, acquire all those valuable skills and knowledge that they will need to unlock their potential and have a future full of possibilities.

Kind Regards,

Brett Meek

Principal



CONTENTS

PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME	2
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	4
CONTACT DETAILS	4
Staff	5
DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION PRESCHOOLS	5
Licensing regulations	5
CARDIFF SOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOL PRESCHOOL	6
National Quality Frameworks	6
Quality Improvement Plan	6
Enrolment and Attendance	6
CARDIFF SOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOL PRESCHOOL PHILOSOPHY	7
PARENTS and PARTNERSHIPS	8
CELEBRATIONS	8
BIRTH CERTIFICATE and IMMUNISATION	8
CUSTODY ORDERS	8
FEES	g
DELIVERY and COLLECTION of CHILDREN	g
Drop Off	g
Collection	g
CLOTHING	g
DONATIONS	10
EXCURSIONS AND REGULAR OUTINGS	10
MEDICAL CONDITIONS and HEALTH CARE PLANS	11
ILLNESS	11
IMMUNISATION	12
HEALTHY EATING	13
PROGRAM AND CURRICULUM	14
BOLICIES and BROCEDURES	15

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We raise our hands to touch the sky that covers Awabakal land

We touch the ground we walk upon that is Awabakal land

We place our hands on our hearts in love for Awabakal Land



CONTACT DETAILS

School Phone Number 02 4954 7296 (please ask to be transferred to Preschool)

School Fax 02 4956 5730

Postal Address Cardiff South Public School

Preschool

9 Lake Avenue CARDIFF SOUTH NSW 2285

School App StoryPark (preschool), Skoolbag, Facebook

(primary school)

School Email <u>cardiffsth-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au</u>

School Website https://cardiffsth-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/

Facebook https://www.facebook.com/CardiffSouthPS/

STAFF

Principal Mr Brett Meek

Assistant Principal P-2 Mrs Alison Stallard

Educators:

Teacher Ms Aimee Clark

Teacher Mrs Anthea Singh

Teacher Mrs Stephanie Carter

School Learning Support Officer Mrs Melanie Merry

Administration:

School Administration Manager Mrs Janeen Reedman

School Administration Officer Mrs Lisa Mitchell

Preschool Administration Officer Mrs Kylie Ambrose

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PRESCHOOLS

The Department of Education operates 100 Preschools that are located within public schools. Preschools in public schools provide educational programs for children one year prior to enrolment in Kindergarten. A child may be eligible for enrolment in preschool from the beginning of the school year if they turn four years on or before 31 July that year.

The Department provides an Early Childhood trained teacher and qualified SLSO (School Learning Support Officer) in each Preschool class.

The direct supervision of the Preschool is undertaken by the Assistant Principal Alison Stallard. Alison provides a link between the Preschool and the school in her executive role. Her commitment to quality early education enhances our Preschool program.

Links between the Preschool and school are further strengthened with school staff providing lunch relief for Preschool staff, Preschool students attending the library weekly, Preschool staff and students participating in special events and celebrations and participating in activities with Kindergarten.

Related links:

www.schools.nsw.edu.au/gotoschool/preschool/index.php

www.mychild.gov.au

Department of Human Services Community Services

LICENSING REGULATIONS

Cardiff South Public School Preschool complies with appropriate State and National Licensing requirements.

National Accreditation: Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA). www.acecqa.gov.au

CARDIFF SOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOL PRESCHOOL

Regulatory Authority: NSW Early Childhood Education & Care Directorate

Department of Education

Approved Provider: Department of Education

Nominated Supervisor/Educational Leader: The Principal – Brett Meek

NATIONAL QUALITY FRAMEWORKS

The National Quality Framework aims to raise quality and drive continuous improvement and consistency in education and care services through:

- a National Legislative Framework
- a National Quality Standard
- a National Quality Rating and Assessment process
- a National body called the Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority.

Information available at: www.acecqa.gov.au

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

All services must prepare a Quality Improvement Plan that:

- includes an assessment of the quality of the practices of the service against the National Quality Standard and the National Regulations
- · identifies areas of strength
- identifies any areas that the provider considers may require improvement
- includes a statement of philosophy of the service.

Our Quality Improvement Plan is available to view in the Preschool foyer

ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE

To attend Preschool, a child must turn 4 years of age before 31st July in the year of attendance at the Preschool. Children attend Preschool in the year prior to attending Kindergarten. Children attend a five day fortnight. Please refer to the enclosed calendar. Preschool hours are 9am – 3pm.

Play is the work of young children and reflects their stage of development and individuality. It is the PROCESS not always the PRODUCT that is important. Recognising a child's efforts will encourage the development of self-esteem.

Hours	Group	Attendance Days	
		Week One	Week Two
9am – 3pm	Kuwaluwain	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday	Monday, Tuesday
9am – 3pm	Muwani	Thursday, Friday	Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

CARDIFF SOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOL PRESCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

Enriching the lives of children in a learning environment that is engaging, nurturing and safe, while encouraging calculated risk. Where children become independent and confident leaders in their own learning and play.

- · Play and learn on Awabakal land
- Are part of the school community.
- Developmentally prepare children for school through meaningful planned and spontaneous play experiences.
- Foster and encourage independence
- Support children's agency by collaborating with them to plan and select resources for the day, develop routines, expectations and engage in (calculated) 'risky play'.
- Work cooperatively with allied health services to support children and their families
- Implement a responsive program with children and families, based on each child's interests and strengths
- Ensure children feel heard, respected and empowered, based on strong collaborative relationships and mutual respect
- Highly value and reflect diversity in culture, practices, values, beliefs, abilities and language of each child and their family
- Empower children to express empathy and respect for others, and to feel supported and valued
- Stimulate opportunities for each child to make discoveries, use their imagination, problem solve, think critically, and explore their world and relationships
- Support each child to develop positive self-esteem and confidence
- Plan and deliver intentional teaching to support children to gain the skills to be confident, independent and involved learners who will try new things and engage with risk taking
- Recognise and value play as a context for learning, providing time and space in unhurried, meaningful play to experience the joy of 'being'
- Believe learning is most meaningful when it emerges from the children's actions, conversations and decision making



PARENTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

At Cardiff South Public School, we have a focus on building relationships with one another, educators, children, families and our community to ensure the best possible outcomes are achieved for our children.

We believe that we can best meet the needs of individual children by working closely with parents and carers. We aim to develop partnerships between parents, carers and staff which are based on mutual trust and respect, and which promote the sharing of information and knowledge for the benefit of the children in our care.

Our aim is to support parents as their children's first and most important educators by involving them in their children's education. We also aim to support parents in their own continuing education and personal development. We aim to ensure our setting is warm and welcoming to parents and carers to help them feel at ease.

Parents and friends are most welcome in the Preschool. Various opportunities exist for parents to be involved in the educational life of their child, including:

- Excursions
- Being involved in the development of our Q.I.P (Quality Improvement Plan)
- Making suggestions for experiences
- Working as a parent volunteer in the Preschool
- · Attend special days e.g., special days, concerts
- Discussions with the class teacher concerning your child's development
- Newsletter: The Southy Times is available every second Tuesday and includes happenings within the whole school. Our newsletter is also available via the school website https://cardiffsth-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
- Using StoryPark as our main form of communication. Observations, child notes, plans and conversations are communicated on a daily and weekly basis. Children's learning is reflected through living and evolving documents

All parents/carers that attend excursions or volunteer at the Preschool are required to meet the Departments Child Protection policy by completing a Working with Children Check – Declaration for Volunteers and Non-Child Related Contractors and providing photo identification.

CELEBRATIONS

Please inform us of any celebrations your child and your family may celebrate. We love to share your diverse cultures and beliefs through celebrations. Examples of celebrations in the past are Easter, Chinese New Year, Diwali, Christmas, Eid etc.

BIRTH CERTIFICATE AND IMMUNISATION

An original Birth Certificate and Immunisation History Statement is required in order to complete enrolment at Preschool. A photocopy of these documents will be made by staff and kept with enrolment forms at Preschool.

CUSTODY ORDERS

Staff need to be made aware of any issues relating to the custody and care of your child. Custody papers need to be submitted to the School Administration Office for processing before being placed in the child's records. Please advise the child's class teacher if there are any changes in custody of a child.

FEES

The Department of Education aims to make Preschool available to ensure the most disadvantaged children within the local community can access a quality early childhood service.

Department of Education preschool services will be supported to provide 600 hours of free preschool. This is approximately 15 hours or 5 days a fortnight in most preschool settings.

Children bring their own morning tea and lunch to Preschool in accordance with the 'Good for kids' healthy food guidelines, and reflects our low waste approach to packaging. Families supply a water bottle for their child each day, as well as a sun safe hat. On enrolment each year, families are asked for a donation of consumable items such as hand soap, paper towel, tissues, and dishwashing liquid.

DELIVERY AND COLLECTION OF CHILDREN

Cardiff South Public School Preschool has a duty of care to the children that attend the centre. A part of this duty of care is to ensure that access to a child attending the centre is limited to persons authorised by the parent/carer and this includes collection of the child from the Preschool.

DROP OFF

- On arrival the person bringing the child is responsible to sign the child in on the attendance sheet next to the child's name, indicating time of arrival.
- The person dropping off the child must ensure that the child is signed in and that a staff member receives the child/ren before leaving the Preschool and that any special needs are communicated.

COLLECTION

- Children can be collected from 2.45pm and must be collected by 3.00 pm.
- The authorised person collecting the child must sign the attendance sheet next to the child's name, indicating time of departure.
- The authorised person must ensure that a staff member is aware that they are taking the child from the preschool.

If the child is to be collected by a person whose name is not on the enrolment form as a person authorised to pick up the child, parents must have personally informed the appropriate staff member prior to pick up. The person picking up the child will be asked to provide written authorisation from parent/carer for collection.

CLOTHING

Children are asked to wear sturdy shoes and play clothes to Preschool, suitable for riding bikes, climbing, painting, playing in water and mud etc. We are a Sun Safe Preschool; wide brimmed hats are essential for every day and shirts need to cover your child's shoulders.

Please send along a spare set of clothes marked with the child's name in a plastic bag. There are lots of ways to get wet and messy at Preschool

DONATIONS

We request that parents supply the following items on enrolment of their child. These need constant replenishment and by parents donating them, we can use those funds on equipment and resources for your child.

We are in current need of EARTH CHOICE DISHWASH CONCENTRATE, 2 X PALMOLIVE HAND SOAP (NOT ANTIBACTERIAL) AND A BOX OF TISSUES. Thank you in advance for your assistance.





EXCURSIONS AND REGULAR OUTINGS

Excursions are a valuable experience for children, families and educators in preschool settings. Excursions provide the opportunity to expand and enhance children's experiences, explore different environments and engage in meaningful ways with their communities. They are a valuable tool for children's learning, enabling them to build on, and make connections between experiences. We also have regular incursions including visits from a dental nurse, fire engines, living safely with dogs and vision screening.

A regular outing is an excursion that occurs regularly in and around the local area to nominated locations which do not require the crossing of major roads or the use of public transport. As part of regular outings, the children will be involved in crossing some local roads that have limited traffic. A walking route has been developed as part of the risk assessment process, outlining where to cross local roads based on the least amount of risk. Where possible, notice of a regular outing will be communicated to families in advance. At other times these outings may be spontaneous in relation to an interest that has emerged on the day and will be communicated to families at that time via StoryPark.

In accordance with the Education and Care Regulations (2011), authorisation for regular outings, along with a risk assessment is required once every twelve months unless there are any changes. A copy of the walking route and risk assessment is available to view at the preschool.



MEDICAL CONDITIONS AND HEALTH CARE PLANS

We facilitate effective care and health management of children who require medication for illness or a diagnosed health condition during the preschool day. Families are required to complete an authorisation form and supply prescribed medication in its original packaging labelled with the child's name, use by date and dosage.

Individual Health Plans for children with diagnosed medical conditions like asthma, anaphylaxis must be written by the child's doctor and given to preschool before the child starts Preschool or returns to Preschool after diagnosis. Please see staff as soon as possible if your child has a diagnosed medical condition.

Please make us aware if your child has any allergies.

If your child has toileting issues, we will work with you to develop a toileting plan

ILLNESS

Please keep your child home if they are unwell. Germs & sickness travel very easily at Preschool. We understand it can be difficult at times however, we ask you to consider everyone, including staff, who may come into contact with your unwell child.

Please call if they are not well and are staying at home.

If your child is unwell at Preschool, we will call for you to collect them.

For vomiting and gastro illness, children must not attend Preschool for 24-48 hours after the last episode.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Parents are asked to notify the Preschool immediately if a child is diagnosed with any of the following infectious diseases.

CONDITION	USUAL TIME BETWEEN INFECTION, ILLNESS & RETURN
Chicken Pox	11-20 days - minimum exclusion 5 days after spots appear
German Measles (Rubella)	14-21 days – minimum 6 days after rash appears
Glandular Fever (Infectious Mononucleosis)	Until recovered
Hepatitis A	15-50 days – 7 days from onset of jaundice
Hepatitis B	Medical certificate required
Whooping Cough	6-20 days – if antibiotic treatment not given, 3 weeks from onset of whoop, if oral erythromycin given, 5 days from start of
Pediculosis (Head Lice)	medication Eggs hatch in 1 week and reach maturity in 2 weeks
Measles	7-14 days – 5 days from rash appearing
Impetigo	5-21 days – consult doctor, if sores are treated and covered, return to school permitted
Scabies	Several days – sometimes weeks

Ringworm 10-14 days

Mumps

12-22 days - return one week after the appearance of swelling

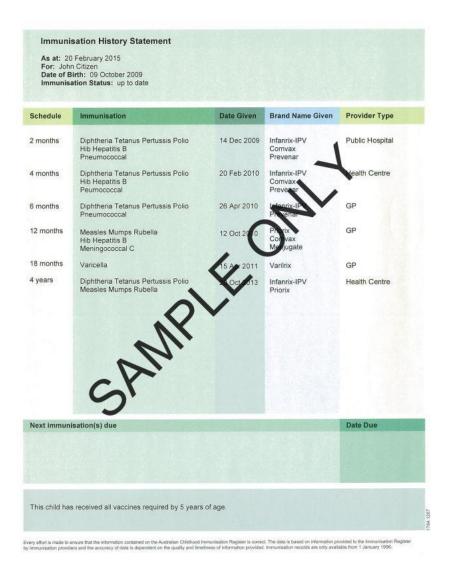
Source: www.health.nsw.gov.au

IMMUNISATION

We support the immunisation of children, before they enter Kindergarten in NSW Public Schools, to protect them against outbreaks of infectious diseases.

When enrolling a child, parents/caregivers will be asked to provide an Immunisation History Statement. The Immunisation History Statement can be obtained by using your MyGov app or contacting the <u>Australian Childhood</u> Immunisation Register on 1800 653 809.

As of December 2013, we have been notified that to enrol in an early childhood education and care service, parents/guardians must provide this document. Failure to provide this document will delay your child starting Preschool.



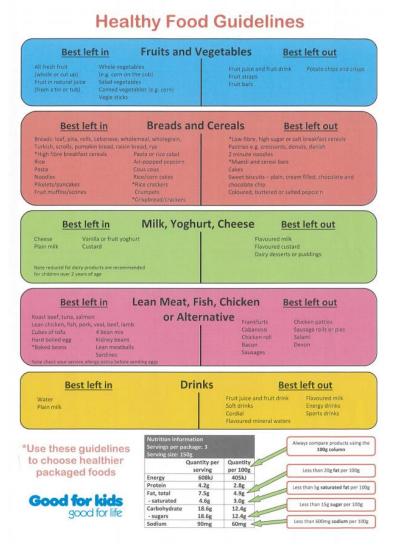
HEALTHY EATING

We encourage children to bring simple nutritious foods to eat at preschool and to not bring processed or prepackaged food. Each child will also need to bring a drink bottle filled with water only (no juice or other drinks please).

"Get Up and Grow" recommends that, as a guide, foods should contain less than:

- 20g fat per 100g
- 15g sugar per 100g
- 600mg salt per 100g

Food which does not meet these guidelines will be sent home for afternoon tea or a healthier alternative offered. Parents are requested to use these dietary guidelines when choosing foods for preschool meals. Please pack morning tea and lunch foods in two separate containers so your child can easily find them. Drink and food containers should be easy for your child to open and close and must be clearly labelled with your child's name.





PROGRAM AND CURRICULUM

Our program is driven by children's interests and voices, it is play based and enhances children's learning and development.

We implement The Early Years Learning Framework. The National Early Years Framework (EYLF) is a guide for early childhood educators who work with children from birth to five years and has been developed for use by all early childhood services across Australia. The EYLF has been developed to ensure your child receives quality education programs in their early childhood setting as this is a vital time for their learning and development. The EYLF is implemented in partnership with families (who are children's first and most influential educators), to develop learning programs which are responsive to children's ideas, interest, strengths and abilities, and recognises that children learn through play.

The Framework's vision is for all children to experience play based learning that is engaging and builds success for life.

Early Years Learning Framework

The Early Years Learning Framework describes childhood as a time of Belonging, Being and Becoming.

- **Belonging** is the basis for living a fulfilling life. Children feel they *belong* because of the relationships they have with their family, community, culture and place.
- **Being** is about living here and now. Childhood is a special time in life and children need time to just 'be' time to play, try new things and have fun.
- Becoming is about the learning and development that young children experience. Children start to form their sense of identity from an early age, which shapes the type of adult they will become.

The following outcomes from the Early Years Learning Framework describe the learning and development of children at Cardiff South Public School Preschool:

The outcomes are:

- Children have a strong sense of identity
- Children are connected with and contribute to their world
- · Children have a strong sense of wellbeing
- Children are confident and involved learners
- Children are effective communicators

The Framework focuses on each child's learning. We work with families to get to know each child well. We listen, watch and talk with each child. We then create a learning program that builds on each child's interests and abilities. Families are kept involved in this continual process.

By working together parents and educators can enhance the child's learning and wellbeing.

BELONGING, BEING & BECOMING The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia



POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The following policies and/or procedures are available for you to read in the Policy and Procedures folder located in the Preschool office. Please ask if you would like to read them. Policies are also available on the Department of Education and Communities website.

- · Acceptance and Refusal of Authorisation
- Governance and Management
- Emergency and Evacuation
- Payment of Fees
- Interactions with Children
- Dealing with Complaints
- Health and Safety
 - nutrition, dietary requirements
 - sun protection
 - water safety
 - administration of first aid
 - sleep and rest for children
- Delivery and Collection of Children
- Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness
- Dealing with Infectious Diseases
- Enrolment and Orientation
- Excursions
- Child Safe Environment
- Staff including
 - code of conduct for all staff members
 - determining the responsible person present at the service
 - participation of volunteers and students on practicum placements.

Complaints Procedure

Our preschool values the feedback of educators, staff, families and the wider community in helping to create a service that meets regulation and the needs of enrolled children, and their families and we encourage open communication through opportunities to respond and feedback on the program. A component of this feedback is the ability to put forward a complaint and have this managed appropriately with due consideration for accountability and quality improvement.

- All minor complaint and disputes will be resolved promptly and without using formal procedures. Whenever possible, informal resolution will be attempted first in all matters assessed as less serious.
- Families are advised to initially make complaints to our teachers, Assistant Principal or Principal, whoever is
 most appropriate, by appointment. Complaints will be dealt with confidentially and professionally, as per the
 NSW Education and Communities Complaints Handling Policy, 2011.
- Displayed in the preschool entrance (on the DoE template), is the photo and name of the school principal and a statement noting that this is the person to whom a complaint can be made.
- Also displayed in the entrance is a statement advising families that if their complaint is of a more serious nature, or relates to the breach of a regulation, they may choose to contact our regulator: The NSW Early Childhood Education Directorate, Department of Education
- e-mail: ececd@det.nsw.edu.au phone: 1800 619 113