

- **Laundry and Dishes rosters**

To help educators and to keep laundry washed a note will be placed in your child's information pocket asking you to take a turn at doing the dishes and washing dirty laundry each term.

- **End of term clean-ups**

At the end of each term we need to ensure that the kindergarten and its resources are clean, tidy and ready for the following term. Governing Council and educators ask families for help with this so that educators are available to continue teaching and learning with the children. A list of jobs is placed near the sign in sheet at the end of each term. Please add your name to one or two jobs.

- **General tasks**

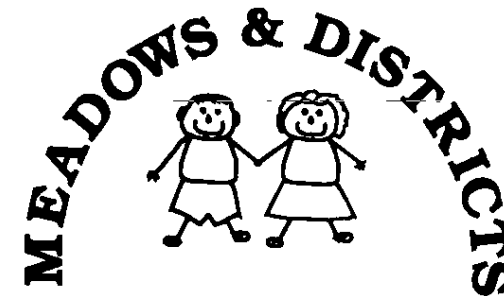
There are often tasks that parents can complete, like covering books, photocopying, etc. Please offer to help where you can.

### **Bushfire Information**

The kindergarten has a 'low risk' bushfire rating. In the event of needing to evacuate, our first point for evacuation will be the Meadows Hall, which is situated next to the kindergarten. Our designated 'Last Resort Refuge' is the town oval. We will move to the oval when directed by Emergency Services personnel.

For the safety of your child, it is vital that you ensure that your contact details and those of any emergency contacts are kept up to date. Please advise the Director of any changes to these details as soon as they occur.

# Parent Information Booklet



**KINDERGARTEN**



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education and  
Child Development

49 Mawson Rd, Meadows

Phone: 8388 3005 or 0439758344

Fax: 8388 3819

Email: [dl.4678.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.4678.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au)

**Welcome** to Meadows and Districts Kindergarten. The information in this booklet will assist you to become more familiar with our service. We look forward to working with you and your child during this exciting time in their education.

## **Core Purpose**

The core purpose of Meadows & Districts Kindergarten is to provide quality education in partnership with families for all of our children in a safe, equitable, respectful and supportive learning environment. Our learning is co-constructed through a play-based curriculum that is challenging, rewarding, relevant, inspiring and fun.

Our curriculum is based on the National 'Early Years Learning Framework - Belonging, Being and Becoming'. Our assessment and reporting is based on the Learning Outcomes within this Framework. For further information regarding assessment and reporting please refer to the Policy Booklet.

## **Vision**

To strive to develop and maintain a well resourced kindergarten where all members of the kindergarten feel valued, safe and happy and are provided with the opportunity to achieve their full potential.

## **Values**

**Caring Commitment Fairness Honesty Respect**

## **Educators**

Director	Meagan Wynne
Teacher	Sue Hyndman
Occasional Care	Rebecca Perkins
Early Childhood Workers	Liv Rowett

## **Kindergarten Session Times**

Tuesday and Wednesday 8.45 am—2.45 pm  
Every 2nd Thursday 8.45 am—2.45 pm

## **Book Borrowing**

The kindergarten has a wide range of children's books and literacy kits that are available to borrow. One book may be borrowed at a time for a maximum of two weeks. When borrowing, write the title of the book on your child's borrowing card.

## **Policies**

Please read the kindergarten's various policies that are available in hard copy in the kindergarten foyer or online at our website <http://www.meadowskgn.sa.edu.au/>

## **Ways you can support the kindergarten**

We pride ourselves in providing an environment where parents feel welcome too. If you have any particular skills or interests, or just a keenness to be involved, please let us know! Some of the ways you can be involved in the kindergarten, and therefore your child's education are:

- **Curriculum support**

Come along and read with the children, stay and play, share your skills and interests, volunteer to lead a learning experience (art, craft, woodwork, cooking, sport/exercise, science, the list is endless!). Share something about your job. Please talk with educators about ways you would like to be involved in the curriculum.

- **Governing Council**

All parents are welcome to become members of Governing Council and can join at any point during the year if spaces are available. This group meets eight times a year and governs the kindergarten. This involves helping to develop, oversee and review long term plans that guide the direction of the kindergarten, establishing and overseeing the budget, keeping the centre in good repair and fundraising for items not covered by other funding sources.

## Communication

Each child has a named pocket hanging on the wall in the foyer. Please check this regularly for newsletters and other notes. Important information is also placed on the whiteboard by the front entrance. Please read this when you arrive at kindergarten. The educational program is displayed in a floor book in the kindergarten. Educators are often available for short informal conversations and appointments can be made if you would like a longer opportunity to discuss your child's progress.

The kindergarten has a mobile phone that is used as another form of communicating with families. Families are encouraged to text this number with non-urgent information such as absences, non urgent enquires or feedback on the kindergarten program. We also run a private Facebook group that is regularly updated with information for families.

Please notify educators if your contact details change, e.g. phone number, address, details of your emergency contacts etc.

## In case of absence/ illness

It is beneficial for your child to attend kindergarten regularly. If your child will be absent please notify educators as soon as possible, preferably the same day. You can do this by either ringing the centre or sending a text. Please let educators know the reason for absence as it is important that educators are aware of illnesses such as gastro or other serious infectious diseases and the presence of head lice. If your child is unwell please keep them home from kindergarten to minimise the spread of infection.

## Dress

Dress your child in safe comfortable clothing; pants, tops, a hat and rubber-soled shoes are preferable. Long dresses, thongs or high heeled shoes make play potentially unsafe for your child. Please send a named change of clothes in your child's bag in case they get wet or dirty. Singlets and sleeveless dresses do not fit within our Sun Safety policy. Sun smart polo shirts and jumpers with the kindergarten logo are available for purchase from the Uniform Shop in Mt Barker .

## Kindergarten Services

Kindergarten is funded by the Department of Education and Child Development with additional funds raised from parent fees, fundraising and grants.

The Kindergarten provides the following services:

- Sessional Preschool - 15 hours a week for 4 year olds for the year prior to school entry. These 15 hours are currently provided as two full days on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and one full day every 2nd Thursday. This includes a planned transition to school program with your school of choice.
- Early Entry/Extended Kindergarten - There is provision for a child to attend for an extra term in exceptional circumstances e.g. developmental delay. Please speak with the Director for more information.
- Occasional Care is available for 2 and 3 year olds on Thursdays, either from 8.45am to 11.30am or 12.15 to 3.00pm. Four year olds may be booked in when space permits. Our Occasional Care Information Brochure will provide you with more details.

The following services are provided but are not funded by the government:

- Playgroup - A parent run play session for young children and their parent/carer (0 - 5 years) on Fridays 9.30am - 11.30 am.
- Emergency Care - We will endeavour to support families in an emergency by providing space in our Occasional Care service.

*All services depend on vacancies and priority of access.*

*Sessional Preschool has priority over all services.*

## Additional Services

A team of professionals including a Speech Pathologist, Social Worker and Psychologist may be involved with individual children. These services are provided via referral and may include assessment, therapy and counselling for children and families, and also advice and training for parents, teachers and children.

Child and Family Health Services offer a health check for 4 to 5 year old children. These are available at the kindergarten at advertised times during the year.

All children are eligible to join the free School Dental Service at Mt Barker. For information about appointments and fees, contact your local School Dental Clinic on: 8391 0858

## Fees

Sessional Preschool	- \$130 per term
Occasional Care	- \$5 per session, \$2-50 for 2nd child and \$1.50 for concession
Playgroup	- NA

Both Preschool and Occasional Care fees are paid by the term. Please refer to the Kindergarten's Fees Collection Policy for more details.

## Kindergarten Procedures

### Arrival

Kindergarten sessions begin at 8.45am and we ask that you do not arrive before this time. This enables educators to complete important tasks such as preparing for the day and having confidential conversations.

When you arrive please walk your child into kindergarten, assist them to place their bag in their named locker and greet the educators. Please sign your child in on the sign in sheet. If someone different will be collecting your child from kindergarten please indicate this in the family communication book located next to the sign in sheet.

### Collection

It is essential to arrive by 2.45pm to collect your child as educators have important tasks that need to be completed when children are not present i.e. team reflection time to review the day, assessment and reporting and preparing experiences. Please arrive through the back door- you are welcome to watch the children participate in the end of day group time but please keep noise to a minimum to ensure children can continue to successfully participate. Please sign your child out at collection time.

### Food and Drink

Send a piece of fresh fruit or raw vegetables for a healthy morning snack. Please also pack a healthy lunch and drink of water (no cordial or juice please ). Drinking water is available at all times and children are encouraged to drink regularly.

Please note that for safety reasons the kindergarten is an 'Allergy Aware' site which means we may request that some foods are restricted depending on the medical needs of the children attending the centre. We will inform families of any foods that are restricted.