

# EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION INFORMATION BOOKLET

WONGAN HILLS DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

*'Pursuing Excellence'*



Revised April 2026

# Wongan Hills District High School Kindergarten Philosophy

At Wongan Hills District High School, we see Kindergarten as a special year of growth, discovery and transition into school life. We believe your child is unique, capable and full of potential, with their own strengths, interests and ways of learning. Our Kindergarten program provides a safe and supportive space where children can explore, create, take risks, make mistakes, and grow with confidence. We believe learning happens best through play, curiosity and meaningful hands-on experiences. We value your child as an individual and understand that there is no one-size-fits-all approach to learning. That is why we take the time to get to know your child by listening to them, observing their play, and working closely with families. This helps us create learning opportunities that are engaging, inclusive and tailored to their needs. We support children in developing emotional regulation skills, helping them to understand and manage their feelings so they can build confidence, resilience, and positive relationships. Our educators are committed to creating a warm and welcoming environment that reflects and respects the diverse backgrounds of our children and families. We embrace different ways of thinking, doing and being, and celebrate the many cultures and stories that make up our community. Above all, we want your child to feel safe, valued and confident as they embark on their educational journey, ready to explore, grow and thrive in a nurturing environment.



Welcome to the Wongan Hills District High School Early Childhood Centre. The aim of this booklet is to provide you with information which will give you and your child/ren a better understanding of how our classes operate and what staff are aiming to achieve with and for your child/ren, thus creating a happy, supportive and comfortable environment for your children to thrive in.

**NOTE: THIS HANDBOOK CONTAINS INFORMATION SPECIFIC TO NYINGARN AND KOOLBARDI. OTHER GENERAL INFORMATION IS CONTAINED IN THE PARENT HANDBOOK, WHICH SHOULD ALSO BE READ BY K/PP PARENTS AND CARERS.**



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## Message from the Principal

Welcome to Wongan Hills DHS. Your child will experience and enjoy excellent teaching, outstanding educators and valuable social, emotional, self-management and educational experiences whilst at our school. Starting Kindergarten is about making new friends, expanding on their existing skills and knowledge and learning new skills. Your child's successful development as an individual throughout their schooling is maximised through the following:

- Talking positively with your child about school and teachers
- Viewing your child's education as a partnership between you and their teachers
- Volunteering to help out in your child's class
- Ensuring that daily reading and other tasks sent home are completed regularly
- Showing your child that you value education by ensuring regular attendance, even at Kindergarten level
- Attending scheduled parent meetings

Promoting your child's independence builds their confidence that "I can do things by myself". This belief is vital to developing confidence in attempting and learning new skills.

Kindergarten is about more than just 'playing' and 'socialisation'. In our Kindergarten children are immersed in an environment rich with literacy and numeracy and intentional play to assist in their academic development and give them the best start to their school journey.

Kindergarten is now viewed as the first 'formal year' of schooling and Pre-primary is compulsory. Your child will experience a challenging and rigorous curriculum through a mainly play-based approach to ensure they are ready for the demands of Year One. In our school every child matters and we work hard to ensure individual differences are catered for. We aim to continue our reputation for excellence for the benefit of your child. At our school, one of the biggest factors affecting student achievement is poor attendance in Kindergarten and Pre-primary. More than 5 days absence per term (3 for Kindergarten) is considered too much. 5 days absence per term equates to missing more than a year of schooling by the end of Year 8. I urge you to help your child to be the best they can be by ensuring they attend school regularly.

Fiona Yeats

Principal



## Staying Connected with Wongan Hills DHS

Wongan Hills DHS uses multiple communication platforms to keep our parents and carers and school community informed:

### Seesaw

Our Nyingarn and Koolbardi educators keep parents and carers informed regarding what is happening in the classroom on Seesaw. Each student will be provided with log in details for Parents and Carers by the class teacher.



### Compass

Wongan Hills DHS is a Compass school; parents and carers can access the Compass Parent Portal with their unique log in details. The Compass app connects parents and carers to the school keeping them up to date with school news and events. It also allows parents and carers to access up-to-date information about our school and your child's progress.



### Wongarette

The Wongarette is the Wongan Hills DHS school newsletter. The Wongarette is published fortnightly on even weeks showcasing class work and/or events and keeping the school community informed. This is published on the school website with a link posted onto Compass.



NEWSLETTER

### School Website

The website is updated regularly and offers a live feed from the Wongan Hills DHS Facebook page.



### Facebook

Wongan Hills DHS Facebook page showcases snapshots of school events.



### Email

You will be provided with the classroom teacher's email at the beginning of each school year. All staff emails can be found on the school [website](#).

## Helpful Information

### Session Times

Session days and times may change each year depending on staff availability and the school timetable. You will be advised of this before the end of the year prior to starting Kindergarten. Classrooms are open from 8:30am and lessons commence at 8:50am. We ask that parents and carers depart by 8:45am to give all students time to get ready for their morning mat session. The day will conclude at 3:00pm.

Note that Wednesday is early close at 2:30pm for all students.

It is important that session times are strictly adhered to. Your child will settle more easily if they arrive at the same time as other children. This also helps to build their sense of connection and belonging to the group. Equally at the end of a session, your children can become distressed if they feel they have been forgotten.

### Parent Help

After an initial settling in period, we are very keen to have parents and carers help in the centres during morning sessions. Parent help is a special time for the children because it allows them to share an environment that they consider their own with someone significant to them, they love having family members in their classroom. It also helps to show them that you value their education. The parent help roster can be undertaken by parents and carers, friends, grandparents etc. More information regarding parent help will be sent home at the beginning of each term. Please note that a Working with Children Check is required for non-immediate family members if they attend more than 5 times in a calendar year. Regular turns on a roster gives parents and carers a chance to catch up on the program being provided for the children and observe their children in a school setting. Parents and carers will be given guidance when they arrive to ensure they know what they need to do. This is also a great opportunity to learn more about the learning opportunities being provided for your child and have an informal conversation with the teacher about your child. Most importantly it is the best way to develop a positive working relationship with your child's teacher.



There are formalised Reading Rosters in Koolbardi but not in Nyingarn, however all parents and carers are encouraged to visit the classroom in the mornings to read to their own child, do a puzzle or any of the activities on offer. Dads are favourite 'listeners'.

Each term parents and carers are asked to go on rosters which are relevant to their children, rosters could be for in class parent help or to make playdough or other resources. If you are unable to attend, please arrange a swap with another parent or let the classroom teacher know.

In the event of the need to evacuate the school, it is critical that we are aware of all persons on the premises during the school day. To support this, parents and carers who are coming into the school during the day (other than the start or end of the day to drop off or pick up children) are required to sign in and out on entry and departure.

**Confidentiality**

Your child will love it when you visit the centre to help with activities or be on roster. We welcome visitors at any time – mums, dads and grandparents and carers, but we do urge any visitors or parents and carers to remember that the children are at the beginning of learning a wide range of skills and that their mistakes should not become public gossip. Confidentiality of all that you see and hear is expected. It is also inappropriate for you to discuss another child with their parent as you may not be fully aware of all of the circumstances of a situation. This has the potential to cause undue stress to another family. All learning is developmental, and it would be most unfair to compare any child’s progress against that of another. This view is held for anyone entering any area of the school.

**Concerns**

We are keen to promptly address any questions or queries you may have. If you have concerns about your child, an incident in the class or have some general queries – please ask the staff for an appointment so that your concerns can be addressed sooner rather than later. ‘Nipping it in the bud’ early resolves the issue and ensures teachers and parents and carers are working together for the benefit of your child.

**Special Occasions**

Throughout the school year there will be a variety of special classroom activities and celebrations. We would encourage you to attend these whenever possible and to support them by sending in needed supplies or treats. Your support of class activities makes your child feel important and enhances the learning of your child.



### **Birthdays**

Birthdays are special occasions for young children. We enjoy recognising and celebrating your child's birthday with a song. If your child wishes, they could bring in a cake for their birthday. Please let us know in advance so we can set aside some class time to celebrate. Healthy alternatives to birthday cakes include individual bubble pots, balloons, stickers, bouncy balls, etc.

### **Clothing**

We encourage children to wear school uniform to help develop their sense of belonging within the school and to assist with their sense of pride in their school. Please dress your child in clothing suitable for running, jumping and sitting on the floor. Pants and comfortable, secure shoes and socks your child/ren can independently manage (velcro straps) are practical. Please label all clothing, shoes, hats and bags clearly and consider clothes that are easily laundered and allow your child independence at the toilet. Although children use aprons for messy activities, paint still manages to get on clothes, however if they are soaked in cold water before laundering staining may be avoided. Please add a spare set of clothing to be left in your child's bag, in case of paint, water or toileting accidents. Although thongs are easy for children to take off and put on, for your child's safety they are unsuitable footwear for school as they pose a much greater tripping hazard as children have difficulty keeping them on.

### **Hats**

We support the development of Sun Safe messages for your child. Wongan Hills DHS has a Sun Protection Policy. No Hat No Play. Children without a hat are directed to play in covered areas.



### **Bags**

Children will need a **large** school bag. We understand that many of the novelty school bags appeal to children. Unfortunately, they are often too small to accommodate all of the day to day items. We would encourage you to chat to other parents and carers about 'what works best' to help select a school bag for your child.

### **Lunch and a water bottle**

Children are required to bring along lunch in a clearly labelled container. Lunches are eaten with staff supervising to ensure that food is eaten in an appropriate order and anything left over goes home so that parents and carers can gauge the quantity of food needed. We promote healthy eating messages and experiences to your child and a healthy diet helps your child to maintain their concentration throughout the day. Therefore, we ask you do not pack chips, chocolates, lollies etc in lunch boxes. Please remember that we are a **nut aware** school. This means students should NOT bring items containing nuts to school, however we cannot guarantee our school is nut free. Similarly, children are encouraged to drink water during the day and will need a labelled water bottle – please do not send cordial, milk or juice.

All children will have the opportunity to engage in a range of cooking activities over the course of the year. To encourage students to learn how to make healthy eating decisions, there will be times where students will have the choice of eating either the foods cooked at school or any after lunch snacks (except fruit) that parents and carers provide.

For your child's safety please advise us and the school office if your child has any food allergies or if they develop one throughout their schooling.

### Fruit

We are keen to assist your child to develop healthy eating habits. Please send in 1-2 pieces of fruit or salad vegetables with your child each day. You may also send rice crackers, cheese, sultanas or plain popcorn. Please package and cut up fruit in an **individual container**, separate to their lunch box, so it can be placed in your child's tray at the beginning of the day.

### Independence

Independence is not the same as being good at following instructions. Independence is the ability to think and do for and by themselves. We actively encourage your child to be as independent as they are able to be. Independent children have greater confidence to tackle new situations and activities and a belief that they will be successful in their attempts. At Wongan Hills DHS, we believe this is a critical aspect which we are keen to develop further in your child.



### Personal Use Items

It is important that students come to school on the first day with all items requested on the booklist. This helps to make your child feel like everybody else and that they belong. Please ensure all items are labelled with your child's name.



**Attendance**

1. Regular attendance at school has many benefits. It promotes your child’s sense of belonging, supports development of good friendships and ensures they gain the most benefit from ‘full learning sequences’ to enable them to confidently grasp new concepts. The Department of Education’s and our school’s expectation is that all students will aim to have less than 5 days (3 for Kindergarten) absence per term. It is not normal or usual for students to have more than 5 days absence a term, even for illness.
2. It is a legal requirement for parents and carers to notify the school of the reason for any student absence. Our school uses Compass School Manager to advise parents and carers of student absences. If we have not been notified of the absence by 9:15am parents and carers will receive a message from Compass with a link to an attendance note allowing parents and carers to submit a reason for their child/ren’s absence. Please note parents and carers cannot reply to this message, you must follow the link and complete the attendance note. Parents and carers can also advise the school by using Compass, phone call, email or a written note.
3. If your child will be away for any length of time (hospital visit, chicken pox etc), please advise staff in advance. For out-of-town medical appointments please provide a medical certificate on your return.
4. All students who arrive late to school must come via the office to sign in before going to class. This enables us to change the ‘absent’ attendance code to a ‘late’ code.
5. Any students who are leaving school early for any reason must also present at the office to be signed out and the departure time noted for accurate attendance recording.

<b>Time missed per:</b>	<b>90% attendance</b>	<b>80% attendance</b>	<b>70% attendance</b>
<b>Fortnight</b>	<b>1 day</b>	<b>2 days</b>	<b>3 days</b>
<b>Term</b>	<b>1 week</b>	<b>2 weeks</b>	<b>3 weeks</b>
<b>Year</b>	<b>4 weeks</b>	<b>8 weeks</b>	<b>12 weeks</b>
<b>After 13 years (YR 10)</b>	<b>1 school year + 12 weeks</b>	<b>Over 2 ½ school years</b>	<b>Almost 4 years</b>

Research shows that students with 80% or lower attendance struggle to make any progress at school.

### **Illness/Absences**

As this may be your child's first year of mixing with a group of children, please be aware that they can be prone to catching lots of 'bugs'. If your child is ill, please refrain from bringing them to school and contact the school to let us know via Compass, Seesaw or call the office. Sickness is one of the few things we don't encourage be shared! Note that for Gastroenteritis or diarrhoea students must remain at home until at least 24 hours after symptoms have finished. They should also avoid entering a swimming pool for at least two weeks.



### **Dropping off and Collecting Your Child**

#### **Nyingarn Drop Off**

All parents and carers dropping off children are asked to park in the car park off Parker Street or in the main school parent car park on Quinlan Street.

#### **Koolbardi Drop Off**

All parents and carers dropping off children are asked to park in the car park off Johnson Street or in the main school parent car park on Quinlan Street.

For the safety and protection of your children, we would ask that parents and carers notify your child's teacher of your child's travel arrangements at the beginning of each term.

Any short or long term changes to arrangements may be made by notifying staff. All changes are written on the whiteboard in the room so that all staff and children are aware. This also helps your child feel more confident about altered plans for the end of the school day.

For the ongoing safety of your children, if siblings are to pick up your child from the centre, that sibling must be a Secondary Student with a good sense of responsibility and road sense. Please note that government legislation requires young children to be under the supervision of a person aged 16 years or over, otherwise this can be considered neglect.

Please note that we are unable to release your child to anyone other than their parent or carers. In order to avoid confusion and distress for your child, parents and carers need to inform staff if someone else will be collecting your child.

### **Bus Children**

If your child will be on a school bus, please complete a bus application form through the School Bus Services website, as soon as practical. Please advise your child's teacher at the start of the year that your child is a bus student and which bus they are on. Buses will drop off and collect children from the bus area on Quinlan Street.

If your child will not be travelling home by bus on any day, please let their teacher know prior or if plans change on any given day, please let staff know prior to the end of the day by calling the office on 96712 300. Intercepting the EA walking students to the bus at the end of the day to collect your child/ren is a safety issue. Please make sure you are at the classroom ready to collect your child before they are walked to the school bus. The safety of your child is important to us.

Kindergarten children are usually brought to the classroom by an older child on the bus each morning and are accompanied to the bus by a staff member in the afternoons.

*Please Note: It is the parent's responsibility to let the bus driver AND class teacher know if your child will not be travelling home on the bus.*

### Health Checks

To monitor your child's development, the school nurse will be doing thorough health screening for all children. Parents and carers who have any queries regarding these checks are advised to speak to the nurse when she visits the school or phone the Child Health Centre on 96711 000. All Kindergarten students must be vaccinated or a vaccination schedule must be in place and a copy of this schedule must be given to the school before their first day. **Parents and carers are required to obtain and provide a current copy of their child's ACIR Immunisation History Statement.** It is necessary for the school to view documented evidence that each child has been vaccinated so that accurate records can be compiled in case of an epidemic.

For any immunisation enquiries, please contact the Community Health Nurse on 96711 000. If you have any health related concerns regarding your child (eg vision or hearing) at any age, please complete a Community Nurse referral form which is obtainable from the teacher or main office. This referral can be completed and checks done at any age from Kindergarten until the end of Year 10.

### Head Lice

With children in close physical contact, lice are a common problem that occurs at school, so please check hair regularly and treat if needed. Please let the teacher know if you have had to treat your child as we will send a note home asking all parents and carers to be vigilant in order to stop the spread. This matter will be handled discretely without any names being mentioned but will assist us to stop the frequency and spread of head lice infestations at our school. Once treated, students can return to school.

### Recycling

We like to encourage your children to become responsible environmental citizens through recycling. The Centre has a policy of recycling a wide range of items which can be used by the children for cutting, pasting and drawing when making their own wonderful creations. Items may include cardboard boxes from pantry items, used greeting cards, fabric scraps, balls of wool, cardboard cylinders (excluding toilet rolls and egg cartons) or anything that looks 'interesting'. Families are invited to contribute to the Centre's stock pile when called for by the classroom teacher.



### School Incursions and Excursions

The school arranges various sporting and educational incursions and excursions to support your child's learning program. Where age appropriate, Kindergarten and Pre-primary children are invited to participate.

To assist with our management and payment of incursions and excursions, all payments must be made by the due date. Incursions/ excursions are advertised in our school newsletter/SeeSaw indicating the day, year groups and cost. Please do not expect follow up notes to come home as a reminder that the event is on – we recommend you read the newsletter/SeeSaw and add these events to your term planner to help you remember.

Also, we are unable to ring home to follow up with payments where money has not been sent in. The assumption is made that you have chosen to not send your child to the incursion. Where this occurs, arrangements will be made for your child to complete work under the supervision of another teacher.



### Formal reports

Formal reports are another way that we share with you the journey of your child's progress and achievements. Formal Reports are issued at the end of each semester. These reports highlight your child's achievement in a range of areas which are covered over the course of the year. The end of year report is a measure of how well your child has achieved the skills, knowledge and understanding which we would expect children in that year to achieve. These must be read in conjunction with the information gained at parent-teacher interviews.

## Contact with the School

### Keep an Open Mind

The game of Chinese Whispers shows us that messages lose purpose along the way when passed from person to person. The message your child brings home may have changed since it left the teacher. Similarly, students can misinterpret, mishear or forget crucial aspects. If a strange message comes home, for the benefit of your child we suggest clarifying its accuracy before reacting to it.

### Teachers are Busy

At Wongan Hills DHS your child will experience high quality teachers with a great depth of experience and expertise over their years with us. Our teachers are committed to providing the best for your child in their respective classes. If you have concerns with a teacher over a particular incident we suggest making an appointment to meet with the teacher to discuss the matter. Teachers have quite a few children in their classes and work hard to cater for the needs of every student. However, this is not always possible for every minute of the day. If something happens that is clearly an error, or with which you disagree, recognise the pressure that teachers typically are under. Be prepared to accept that it was a genuine honest error. However, you also need to make contact with the teacher to discuss the issue so that it may be resolved.



### Make Appointments

It is seldom appropriate to 'drop in' on a teacher. Usually, every moment of the day is accounted for and while they may wish to talk with you, they almost certainly should be somewhere else preparing for the next day's lessons for your child.

Lesson times are short for the amount of material to be covered. Before school and after school teachers usually have tasks, which must be completed for your child to receive best practice and top quality instruction. There are activities to prepare, meetings to attend, conversations with Education Assistants, group planning to co-ordinate and so on.

If you wish to speak to a particular teacher, dropping in shows little respect for that teacher's time commitments. Instead, phone to ask for an appointment. If the teacher is unavailable, leave a message and they will get back to you. Please note that lengthy conversations with teachers at the start of the day when they are with their class means they are unable to commence teaching as planned. If there is an urgent and substantial matter which must be discussed, please see the Principal or Deputy and they will pass the information onto the teacher or deal with the matter directly.

### **Afternoon and Interviews Requested By the Teacher**

Attendance at parent afternoons and interviews is the best way to show your child that you care about and value their educational journey. At parent interviews, teachers are prepared with the necessary information to be most helpful to parents and carers and answer their inquiries. Make the most of this opportunity to meet with the teacher, discuss your child's progress and show your child that you are interested in their education. If you forget or are unable to make a set day/time, please phone to organise another appointment.

### **Offer Help**

Children, especially younger ones, love to see their parents and carers involved with the school and in their class. Parents and carers who are actively involved in the school also become known and valued for their assistance. Share any skills, energy or time. Your child will benefit. Even if you are very busy you may be able to assist with work experience for students where you work or elsewhere in the community. Other activities include carnival help, library help, creating and putting up class displays, daily reading and helping on excursions/camps.

### **Read the Notes / Permission Slips**

We send home notes and permission slips, post communication online to social media and publish a fortnightly newsletter as there is usually a lot to ask or tell parents and carers. In some cases only a small percentage of the paper notes make the journey home. Of these, an even smaller percentage make it out of the school bag within the first week. We apologise for the amount of paperwork that must be completed individually, for each of your children, for excursions. However, each teacher is required to have a full copy of each student's details for their class – this is critical for an emergency when we need to contact parents and carers urgently.

### **Support the School**

Research has shown repeatedly that if parents and carers frequently support the school, and the value of education in front of their children, those children take school more seriously and achieve better results. Parents and carers who speak derogatively about teachers, education and school, discourage their child from taking school seriously. This includes attendance. Your actions and behaviour affect your child's approach to school.



### Teachers Have a Life Out of School

If you wish to discuss issues with your child’s teacher, then it should be done during school hours at school. Phone calls or text to teachers mobile phones or at home are not appropriate. It is inappropriate for teachers to discuss students out of school with their parents and carers. When they are approached down the street or at social functions teachers do not necessarily have all the information at hand to deal with your concerns. Please respect their right to have a life out of school. Make an appointment through the office instead where your issues can be best addressed. Our school uses many forms of communication with parents and carers. As teachers are busy during the school day please allow 24hrs for a reply to any communication. It is also not appropriate to expect replies outside of 8am – 4.30pm.



## Getting Ready For Kindergarten – Things to Do At Home

**Letters**– at Kindergarten we learn the **letter sounds**, not the letter names. Please keep this in mind when you are discussing letters with your child. Talk about the letters in their name or their siblings names and encourage them to find familiar letters in other places (eg books, signs, labels etc.)

**Sounds**– talk about what sound words start with. eg. Cat starts with a /c/ sound, dog with a /d/ sound. The children don't necessarily need to know it is a letter c (cee) or d (dee), but they need to be able to hear the sounds.

**Count, count, count!** Count as many things as you can and as often as possible!

Talk about **colours and shapes**. Help your child to learn to identify them in a variety of contexts.

**Use pencils and scissors!** Scribble and draw and colour. Cut things out, draw in the sand with sticks or in the mud with fingers. Practice using those little muscles!

**READ!** Read lots of books and ask lots of questions about them.

**TALK!** Talk about what you are doing, what you did on the weekend or what you are going to do next week. Encourage questions and curiosity.

### **Cutting Skills – Five things to remember:**

1. Thumbs need to be pointing up to the roof.
2. Elbow tucked in.
3. Move paper to go around corners, not the scissors!
4. Eyes looking at the paper.
5. Go slowly.



## We Must Never Underestimate the Power of Play

### Types of Play

Play is a valued process for your child’s learning, thinking, imagination, story making and communication. The play of young children includes many different types including sensory, explorative, physical, creative, symbolic, projective, role and dramatic play, and games with rules. All are important aspects of your child’s learning and development.

### Guided Play

In guided play, educators manage the play environment, resources and classroom interactions with the purpose of achieving specific learning outcomes. In common with intentional teaching, guided play activities can be used to develop your child’s skills, concepts, understandings and dispositions through a range of shared classroom-learning contexts.

### Child-Directed Play

In child-directed play and learning our educators create an environment that offers your child opportunities for discovery and challenge, with the aim of encouraging them to actively construct their own learning experiences. Children may choose how, when, what and with whom to engage and interact. Educators are present in the play context, and are responsive to the focus and direction of children’s play. In child-directed play, your child will be selecting and directing their own learning skills, concepts, understandings and dispositions by participating in a range of learning activities and experiences.



When your child:	They may:
PLAYS WITH WATER OR SAND	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discover what makes water flow fast or slow and that it will not flow uphill.</li> <li>Count the number of cups of water it takes to fill a jug.</li> <li>Describe what they have discovered.</li> </ul>
BUILDS WITH BLOCKS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan what to do and put plans into action.</li> <li>Discuss the length of the blocks and estimate how many will be required for their building.</li> <li>Decide why a building should have a verandah.</li> </ul>
PLAYS WITH A BALL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Learn how balls bounce.</li> <li>Catch or chase the ball.</li> <li>Learn to share with friends and follow rules of a game.</li> </ul>

DRESSES UP AND ROLE PLAYS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learn about how another person feels.</li> <li>• Learn to think about other cultures.</li> <li>• Act out things that are concerning them.</li> </ul>
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## The Kindergarten Curriculum Guidelines

Early childhood educators strive to provide relevant learning opportunities for your child that take into account their diverse family, cultural, linguistic, school and community influences. They know your child draws on a wide range of knowledge, experiences, interests and skills that are part of the building block to their learning.

Our Kindergarten program works within Department of Education policies and priorities while also collaborating with external agencies to ensure our connection with whole school approaches developed to suit the needs of your child.

The Kindergarten Curriculum Guidelines recommend the use of the following curriculum decision making processes:

- **Plan and Organise for learning and teaching** – daily, short and long term plans. Educators will work hard to provide relevant learning opportunities for your children that take into account the experiences, interest and capabilities of individuals and groups of children.
- **Enact, interact and respond thoughtfully using a number of strategies to engage your children in learning experiences.** Educators provide feedback to your child and you to strengthen learning.
- **Monitor, assess and document** your child’s learning and participation in a variety of ways in diverse contexts over time.
- **Analyse and evaluate** to inform ongoing planning and share information with Parents and Carers and colleagues.
- **Reflect** on learning and practice to further professional growth. Interact with colleagues and identify areas for further professional learning that will improve curriculum processes and practices for the benefit of your child.

The Kindergarten Curriculum Guidelines inform our planning and program implementation at Wongan Hills District High School. Your child’s learning will come from a balanced Early Years program involving intentional teaching, types of play and child-directed play and learning. These three aspects of learning are not mutually exclusive, but rather complementary teaching approaches. All three aspects offer significant teaching and learning opportunities and require dedicated time within a balanced learning program. School and teacher commitment to explicit teaching and their role in actively scaffolding children’s’ learning are central to all three approaches. The balance between the three approaches will vary by context and children’s developmental levels as they progress through school.



We look forward to working with your child and establishing a solid partnership with you to ensure the best learning outcomes for all.