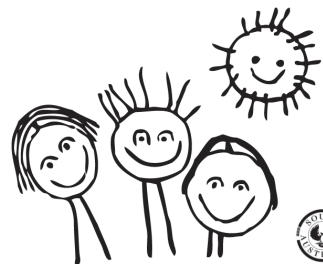


Government of South Australia
Department for Education and
Child Development



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Department for Education and
Child Development



Contact us

Preschool director: Miss Melissa Timmings

Phone: (08) 8264 5933

Email: dl.4634.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au

Street address: 32 Jaycee Street, Modbury North ,
Australia 5092

Modbury Kindergarten Parent Information Book



Welcome to Modbury Kindergarten

At Modbury Kindergarten, we embrace holistic approaches to learning and development, recognizing the whole child, their individual strengths, wealth of knowledge, desire for learning, and anticipation to be seen and appreciated for who they are and what they bring. We recognise that children with high levels of wellbeing and a sense of security are ready to learn and engage with others. By cultivating a nurturing environment, we aim to inspire a lifelong love of learning and support children to become confident, compassionate, and well-rounded individuals who are active citizens.

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land we are on and pay our respects to their Elders past and present. We are privileged to gather as a learning community on Kurna Land and are committed to connecting children meaningfully to Country and culture

Immunisations

When you enrol your child with any of our services or programs you will be asked to provide evidence of their immunisation status. (<https://www.education.sa.gov.au/supporting-students/health-e-safety-and-wellbeing/early-childhoodservices-immunisation-requirements>).



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Street address: 32 Jaycee Street, Modbury North Australia 5092

Operating hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 8:00am —4:00pm

Healthy food supply and nutrition policy

Families are asked to provide healthy food for their child to eat. Lunches are stored outside in our shaded porch area with outdoor blinds; therefore, cool packs are required and are to be supplied by families. Educators are unable to reheat food. If children require warm food, families need to pack it in a thermos already heated. Please ensure that all lunch boxes, containers, and drink bottles are clearly named.

Morning/afternoon tea/Fruit and vegetable/Snack time

Generally, the less packaging in a lunch box the healthier it is for children. Fresh fruits, vegetables or a piece of cheese are recommended for fruit time. We understand that from time-to-time families may run out of fruit. Children are encouraged to eat their fruit first.

This...

Provides children with important minerals and vitamins

Encourages a taste for healthy foods

Encourage healthy food and drink choices

Encourages chewing which promotes oral muscle development

Ensure healthy food choices are promoted and are culturally sensitive and inclusive

Lunch time

The *Healthy eating guidelines* apply to lunchtime. We encourage healthy food and drink choices for children in line with the *SA Right Bite Food and Drink Supply Strategy*. Children have fresh, clean water available at all times and are encouraged to drink water regularly through the day. Children are also encouraged to bring their own named drink bottle, which is stored with lunchboxes on the shelf, accessible at all times of the day.

Special occasions and birthday guidelines

Please do not send cakes or other birthday food treats with your child. We will celebrate...



Health

If your child is showing signs of being unwell before coming to Kindy, it is important to keep them home for the day. Children who have diarrhoea or are vomiting must be kept home for at least 24 hours after the last episode. Please notify staff immediately should your child contract an infectious disease. Please ring and consult with an educator about the appropriate exclusion period. Should any child become unwell at Kindy, parents or guardians or people nominated by parents or guardians will be contacted. Families must collect unwell children as soon as possible after phone contact to minimise the spread of infection and the risk to other children and staff.

Medication

As per departmental and local policy, Educators cannot legally administer any medication (including ointments/Panadol/over the counter medicine bought at the Chemist without a prescription) unless the appropriate forms have been completed and signed by a doctor including asthma medication. If your child requires medication, the medication must be supplied in the original container, clearly marked with the child's name, dosage and the use by date. Please ask a staff member for the necessary forms. Children with allergies and other long-term health issues may require medication to be held at the Kindy for use in emergency situations. Please pass medication to an Educator with the relevant documents.



Playgroups sessions

Playgroup is an interactive, fun opportunity for children and families and caregivers to play and learn together. Playgroup is currently running on Thursday mornings at 9.30am to 11am, during the school term. This operates at the Kindy and is a gold coin donation. It is run through Playgroup SA and we encourage caregivers to become a member of Playgroup SA Association.

Getting involved

We support families to be involved in decision making about the programs offered in our Kindy. If you'd like to volunteer with us, we'd love to hear from you. We value your contributions and encourage you to be actively involved in your child's learning. If you have some spare time and would like to spend it at the Kindy please do not hesitate to do so. We invite you to join the governing council, which meets twice a term to make sure the centre runs smoothly. These meetings are an opportunity for family to be actively involved in Centre improvement and learning decisions. It is a great opportunity for parents to bring their ideas and comments about what is happening and for us to seek feedback and contributions from our families and wider community.

Joining in with us

- Bringing me to Kindy on my Kindy days
- Helping me to find and clean resources for making such as cardboard boxes, corks, bottle caps, shells, interesting, beautiful objects
- Reading my learning stories and reports to me
- Reading emails, newsletters and text messages
- Giving feedback to my teachers
- Offering to look after our Food Garden during the holidays and weekends
- Borrowing from the library and engaging in the challenge task
- Attending playgroup with any younger siblings
- Attending project mornings to celebrate our learning
- Sharing any hidden talents or jobs
- Parent and teacher chats
- Excursions
- Join Governing Council or attend
- Helping me to be an independent learner



When your child can start preschool

All children are entitled to access at least 1 year of preschool. If your child turns 4 before 1st May, they can start preschool at the beginning of the year. If your child turns 4 between 1st May and 31st October, they can start preschool in term 3 of that same year. Children who turn 4 on 1st November to 30th April can start the following year. If your child is Aboriginal or under guardianship (in care) they are eligible for 12 hours of preschool after they turn 3. All children are entitled to 15 hours per week of preschool, the year before they start school.

Early entry

Your child may be able to come to preschool up to 1 term earlier if they: have additional needs or a disability, are learning English as an additional language or dialect or at significant risk because of family circumstances. Early entry is for up to 6 hours per week in the term before the child starts their eligible preschool year, if places are available. Children accessing early entry may be eligible to access support services. Please contact us if you want more information about early entry.

Enrolling your child

You can register your interest to enrol your child with us by using the preschool registration of interest form, this form is available online or by contacting the Kindergarten. This can be done at any time during the year. Priority will be given to children living in our catchment area, find your preschool zone link is on our website. If you don't live in our catchment area, you should indicate at least 2 other preschool options on your form and visit your local preschool.

Before your child starts

In the term before your child is eligible to start preschool, we invite you to attend an information sessions (term 4 or term 2 for midyear enrolments). These are a great opportunity to meet staff and learn about our centre.



Keeping Informed

Communication

The Kindy's primary means of communication with families is via text message. Please make it a priority to check the phone number you have provided the Kindy regularly. Newsletters and other information are distributed regularly via email and through text. Families may request an alternate communication method.

Facebook

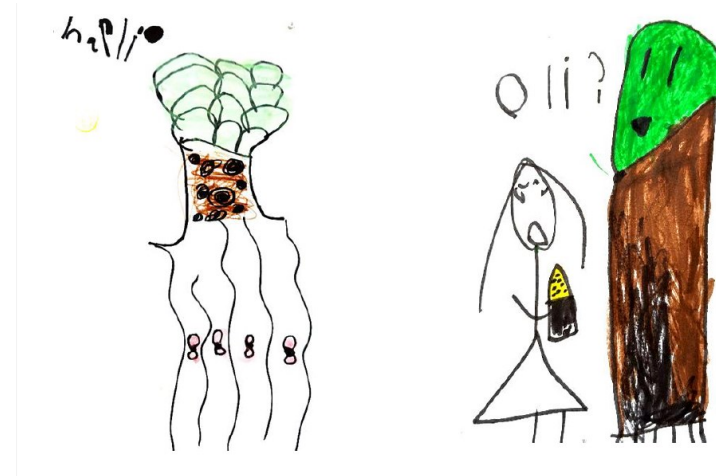
Please like our Facebook page; Modbury Kindergarten, for regular updates.

Lost Property

All items left at the Kindy are placed in the lost property box. Please check the box regularly. All items left at the end of each term are donated to charity.

Policies and Procedures

At Modbury Kindergarten we have a range of policies that the Kindy implements to meet National Quality Standards, National Legislation and Licensing requirements. Our policies aim to support the wellbeing and development of children, families, staff and other community partners using the Kindy. These policies are available in the Kindy and on our website. Please see staff if you would like a hard copy.



Independence

We encourage children to be independent in caring for their personal needs and belongings such as carrying their own bag, putting shoes and hats on, opening and closing their own drink and food containers, peeling their own fruit and determining when they need to go to the toilet. However, we do guide and support children in these learning experiences. Research has suggested that encouraging these skills enhances children's self-esteem as they gain much needed self-help skills for present and future development. This self-help is invaluable in your child's future. It is fantastic to see the face of a child when they say, "I did it all by myself!" That look is the expression of a child's self-esteem and self-concept developing.

Assessment & Reporting

During your child's time at Modbury Kindergarten, they will have a small group teacher who is accountable for the majority of their learning documents. Children will be involved in large and small group inquiry's and research. This provides opportunities for collaboration, sustained conversations and the development of ideas, thinking strategies, theories, literacy and numeracy knowledge, skills and dispositions. Inquiry and research projects have strong links to community, civics and citizenship. All children who attend the Kindy have a portfolio which contains examples of their creative work, photos, and learning stories written by educators. The portfolios are available to the children and their families and make visible children's play based learning. Each story contains educator reflections on the learning of individual children and small groups. We value your contribution to your child's portfolio. When your child leaves the Kindy they take the portfolio with them as a reminder of their time and developmental journey.

Educators observe and support the children as they participate in the program. We discuss their strengths, dispositions, skills, interests and interactions with other children and educators at team learning design and reflective practice meetings. We exchange information when talking to you - this forms part of the reporting process. All children receive an Individual Learning Plan that is a living document throughout the year.

Fees

We ask you to contribute towards the cost of your child attending kindergarten. The parent contribution is \$480 a year or \$120 a term. You can choose to pay the total amount at the beginning of the year or pay instalments electronically. Preschool fees will go towards purchasing resources, excursions and environmental upkeep during the year.

When to pay

You will receive an invoice in your child's pocket termly. Payments are due by week 5 each term. Please contact us if you are having difficulty paying.

Health and wellbeing – CaFHS

CaFHS provide health checks for 4-year-olds here each term. Dates and times will be available each term. Please speak to staff for more information. Specialised assessment and support for children is available from The Department for Education and Child Development for eligible children. The Centre can also provide options and referrals for additional supports in negotiation with families. If you have any concerns about your child's development, please do not hesitate to discuss this with the staff and together a decision may be made to refer your child for further assessment and advice.

Our Philosophy

Play is the vehicle which children investigate their world, test their theories, explore and create. At Modbury Kindergarten we believe children learn best through play and intentionally create open-ended experiences that engage them through hands-on research. This provides the ideal vehicle for developing learning dispositions, including curiosity, creativity, problem-solving and deep thinking. We build upon each child's existing understanding and knowledge, encouraging them to explore and express themselves through a hundred languages, constantly challenged by the principles of the Reggio Emilia educational project. This collaborative approach enables us to tailor our learning program to meet the unique needs and interests of each child, encouraging contribution, positive relationships, agency in their learning and developing skills and capabilities in preparation for living satisfying and fulfilling lives.

A copy of our full Statement of Philosophy is available on our website.

What to bring

Children need to bring these items each day:

- a bag that fits all their belongings
- a change of clothes, including underwear, socks and waterproof bag
- a drink bottle containing water only
- healthy snacks
- healthy lunch
- nappies and wipes if required
- sunscreen and a hat named
- mindfulness pillow

Please write your child's name on all their belongings.

The application of sun-screen is essential when the UV is 3 or above, please make sure they are wearing sunscreen when they arrive and we will help them re-apply it throughout the day. Your child will sometimes get messy and dirty at kindy. Please dress them in clothes and shoes that are suitable. Kindy hats, T-shirts and windcheaters are available to purchase through Eduthreads.

Website is: <https://eduthreads.com.au/collections/modbury-kindergarten>

What not to bring

Children should not bring these things:

- often we have foods that you are asked not to bring in due to allergies, please check the year your child starts
- unhealthy food or drink (lollies, chocolate, chips, fizzy drinks)
- toys from home



Our Curriculum

At Modbury Kindergarten, we believe that children learn through play in an environment that is safe, stimulating, secure and aesthetically pleasing. Play fosters all aspects of the child's development: emotional, social, intellectual, linguistic & physical. Through play, children integrate what they are learning and stretch toward further possibilities.

We are committed to providing a quality teaching and learning programme based on the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) which is a National Curriculum document for children from birth to school transition. 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 birth, which shapes who they are as they grow. Educators, in partnership with children and families, design learning with specific goals for each child and group of children, within a play based environment.

Educators will assist your child to develop using the Framework's five learning outcomes.

Our learning design is displayed in the Kindy. We invite you to take the time to read this as it outlines the learning invitations that the children will be offered and the educators learning and wellbeing intentions.

