



# PIARA WATERS

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION  
FOR KINDERGARTEN PARENTS  
2024



Learn • Grow • Thrive

# Welcome to Kindergarten 2024

If you have a child in Kindergarten, this booklet provides you with additional information about the Kindergarten program.

You should also read the general Parent Handbook for our school.

Socialising and learning through planned play activities are integral to the Kindergarten program. We provide challenging and supportive learning programs that allow your child to learn by building on existing knowledge, skills and interests.

The Kindergarten program at Piara Waters Primary School is informed by [The Western Australian Kindergarten Curriculum Guidelines](#), with a focus on five learning outcomes:

- 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.



Our Kindergarten teachers provide meaningful learning opportunities to children and consider diverse family, cultural, linguistic, school and community influences.

They know that children come to Kindergarten already having a bank of knowledge that comprises the knowledge, skills and experiences gained at home and in the community. Our teachers and education assistants get to know children and draw on what they know, what interests them and what they are curious about.

As children grow and develop at different rates and come to Kindergarten with vastly different experiences, we acknowledge that all children will achieve differently.

In kindergarten, children are invited to express their learning, thinking, creativity, and emotive states in visible ways, individually and together with others, such as through the creative arts. We introduce children to different ways of documenting and making their learning and thinking visible.

We guide children to be curious and take notice of mathematical, scientific and technological concepts they encounter in their everyday lives and environment.

Kindergarten students are given opportunities to experiment, assemble, construct, problem-solve, invent, use their imagination and creativity, try out their ideas, discover solutions together, and explore the world.

The Department of Education's [Hello Kindergarten](#) booklet provides more information on supporting your child in this critical year of their education.



## GETTING YOUR CHILD READY FOR KINDERGARTEN

Before your child starts Kindergarten, here are some important life skills you can teach them at home to ensure they make the best start to their first year of schooling.

Teach your child how to:

- Open and close their lunchbox.
- Use the zipper on their schoolbag confidently.
- Dress themselves, button and unbutton a jacket and put on their shoes and socks.
- Flush the toilet.
- Share toys and take turns.
- Say their first name and surname.
- Value and take care of their belongings.
- Enjoy exercise.

## 2024 KINDERGARTEN CALENDAR

Kindergarten students attend 5 full days of school per fortnight.

- Group A attends every Monday, Tuesday and every second Wednesday (blue).
- Group B attends every Thursday, Friday and every second Wednesday (red).

Students do not attend on public holidays (yellow) or staff development days (green).

January							February							March							April						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3	31					1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				

  

May							June							July							August						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4	30						1		1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	31

  

September							October							November							December						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5						1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	26	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31				

## KINDERGARTEN ATTENDANCE

Please be aware that although kindergarten is not a compulsory year, once you have enrolled, you have committed to them attending every session. Consistent, regular attendance at Kindergarten is essential as this practice sets your child in good stead for the rest of their life at school.

## A DAY IN KINDERGARTEN

### Routine

Please support us in building your child's independence by encouraging them each morning to:

- Unpack their bag.
- Place their water bottle, lunch box and hat in their allocated pigeonhole.
- Find their name on the sign-in board.

### Kindergarten Session Times

Classroom doors open at 8:15 am, with formal instruction starting at 8:30 am. School finishes at 2:30 pm each day.

A typical day in Kindergarten may look like this.

8:15 am	Classroom doors open and students arrive <i>Students practise name writing</i>
8:30 am	Fundamental Movement Skills and Crunch and Sip
9:30 am	English (Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening, Oral Language)
10:30 am	Recess – Eating time
10:35 am	Recess – Outdoor Play
10:50 am	Maths
11:50 am	Science or HASS
12:50 pm	Lunch – Eating time
1:00 pm	Lunch – Outdoor Play
1:20 pm	Health or Technologies
2:20 pm	Pack away
2:30 pm	Home time and pickup

## DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP

### Drop-off

- If you and your child arrive at school between 8:00 am and 8:15 am, wait with your child under the flag poles near the School Library until 8:15 am.
- Bring your child to the classroom at 8:15 am.
- If you arrive late in the morning (after 8:30 am) or need to collect your child during the school day, you must sign them in or out from the front office.

### Pick-up

- At the end of the day (2:30 pm), the classroom teacher or education assistant will stand at the door and call students one at a time when the person collecting them is sighted. Kindergarten students must be collected from their class by a known adult or older sibling.
- Students need to be collected at 2:30 pm. Teachers often have staff meetings or parent meetings that they need to attend, and staff are not able to provide supervision after 2:30 pm.
- If someone different is picking up your child, please advise their teacher using the **Classroom Communication Book** located by the classroom door or by contacting the front office. We are not able to release your child to someone else without your consent.

## CRUNCH AND SIP

Please provide your child with a pre-sliced piece of fruit or vegetable in a small container to enjoy during Crunch and Sip time.



## LUNCH AND RECESS FOOD

- The students are given 5 minutes to eat their recess and 10 minutes to eat their lunch. Please provide them with a snack for recess and something more substantial for their lunch.
- Pack food your child enjoys and is relatively quick and easy to eat. Don't pack too much food as often young children don't understand they do not have to eat everything in their lunchbox.
- Please remind your child to independently bring lunch boxes into the classroom and place them into their allocated pigeonhole when they arrive in the morning.

## DAILY CLASSROOM NOTICES

Important notices will be placed on the whiteboard outside the classroom, along with our daily message. This information is also shared with families via Connect to ensure all parents and carers have access to it.

## LOST PROPERTY

A lost property box will be kept in your child's classroom. Please check it if you find any belongings missing. You might also like to check the K-6 lost property bins near the school flag poles.

## HOME READING

In Kindergarten, we have a Shared Story Book Program to support the development of your child's vocabulary and oral language.

A different storybook is sent home each week with a set of questions. Parents are asked to read the story to their child each night and ask the questions provided.

We know that for your child to be a successful reader, they need to:

- Develop and foster good reading habits and an enjoyment of reading.
- Develop print concepts (left to right direction).
- Develop knowledge of letter sounds, names and shapes.
- Convey the understanding that spoken words are composed of sounds (phonemic awareness) and that letters correspond to these sounds.

Reading every day, or children listening to you read every day, is one of the most important things you can do.

## PARENT HELP

Parent Help begins in Term 2. This is to allow your child time to settle into the routine first. A roster will be placed outside the classroom at the commencement of each term for you to select an appropriate date to join us. Staff will put a list of parent help tasks with the roster.

We also have a playdough roster from Term 1 that we ask parents to sign up for to make playdough for us. Playdough is an excellent opportunity for children to strengthen their fine motor skills, so it is made available for students to use throughout the year.

## SELF-CARE AND TOILETING

Toilet training starts at home. Whilst we understand that accidents happen, please [help your child](#) go to the toilet on their own by giving them lots of practice undoing, pulling down and doing up their clothes, using toilet paper, flushing the toilet and washing their hands.

Please ensure that your child has a **spare change of clothes**, including underwear and socks, for use in the case of an occasional accident or if they get too wet during water play.

## SCHOOL HEALTH NURSE

Community Health Nurses deliver school health services in primary schools across Western Australia. The Child and Adolescent Health Service employ nurses.

With parental consent, all kindergarten students are screened (*School Entry Health Assessment*) by the Community Health Nurse at school. Your child will bring home an envelope with a screening request during the year.

## SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD'S TRANSITION TO KINDERGARTEN

- Engage in conversation with your child about their learning.
- Connect with your child's learning on Seesaw.
- Encourage independence and allow your child to unpack their belongings and carry their own bag.
- Read notice boards outside your child's classroom.
- Read the weekly [parent update](#) on Connect and the school website.
- Keep in touch with your child's teacher on matters concerning your child's development.
- Notify the teacher of any changes in the usual routine within the home. Some changes may affect your child's social and emotional well-being at school.
- Drop your child off between 8:15 and 8:30 am and pick them up at 2:30 pm; you must be on time for pick up.
- Notify the teacher if your child is receiving any therapies outside of school, e.g., speech or occupational therapy and provide copies of any reports.
- Notify the office of any changes in emergency contact information or medical updates.



*We look forward to working together to build a positive and solid foundation for your child's school journey.*

### **FIRST DAY CHECKLIST**

- Water Bottle (labelled)
- Bucket Hat (labelled)
- Spare clothing in a separate waterproof bag (labelled)
- Crunch and Sip
- Recess and lunch food
- Booklist items (you do not need to label these as they are shared)

