



St Brigid's Primary School

3 Year Old Kindy Program

*Dear Father in heaven,
We thank you for our School, our families, our friends and our environment.
Help us make our School a better place, by being more like St Brigid, who loved, helped,
cared and shared.*

Thank you for all the people who do things for us.

Bless us all today and everyday.

We ask this prayer through Jesus Christ, our lord.

Amen

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Teacher: Tracey Poinen

Education Assistant: Karen Gandossini

Email: tracey.poinen@cewa.edu.au

Office Phone: (08) 6216 3800

Three Year Old Kindergarten Session Time:

Friday: 8.50am to 2.50pm

What is 3 Year Old Kindy:

Three Year Old Kindy is an early child development play based learning program for children who have turned 3 years of age. The program provides children with meaningful experiences that promote spiritual, social, emotional, language, intellectual, creative and physical development.

Children learn through play-based learning because:

- It is a natural and spontaneous activity for a child
- It allows for children's differences and encourages an individual approach
- It encourages children to learn through trial and





error and experimentation

- It gives teachers the chance to observe individual progress in an informal learning environment

The 3 Year Old Kindy program will place special emphasis on:

- Skills (social, emotional, language, intellectual, creative, and physical)
- Formation of friendships
- Children's interests
- Creative expression
- Sensory experiences
- Experimentation



SETTLING IN

We recognise that all children enter school with wide variations in experience, knowledge, values and attitudes. Each child is unique and learns and develops at a different pace. All children will bring their own special qualities, capabilities and dispositions to Three Year Old Kindy. The first couple of months will be a "settling in" time for everyone, in which we will get to know each other and establish the routines of the day. As school and home are in partnership, it is important to keep communication channels open.

The first few weeks of Three Year Old Kindy will be very important for you and your child. One of the first things a Three Year Old Kindy child needs to learn is how to be away from his/her parents or primary caregiver. This may take some time for some children as they learn to cope with unfamiliar adults, peers, environment and routine. It is very important that each child feels happy and comfortable in the Three Year Old Kindy environment. Please feel free to stay with your child as long as he or she needs you. The staff will work closely with parents/caregivers to ensure that your child is given the best chance to settle at their own pace. Helping your child to settle into Three Year Old Kindergarten Separation anxiety is normal. Often it is a good sign that healthy attachments have developed between you and your child. Eventually your child will be able to remember that you always return after you leave and these memories will be enough to comfort him/her while you are gone. This experience gives your child the opportunity to develop his/her own coping skills and a little independence.

Ways to Make Goodbyes easier:

- Be positive
- Read books about going to school, friends and separation.
- Choose a special fruit container and drink bottle for school.
- Drive past the school, point out the playground and classroom.
- Practice being apart from each other for



small periods of time.

- Never 'sneak' away whilst your child is distracted.
- Create a goodbye ritual.
- Be calm and consistent; say a loving and firm goodbye. Stay calm and show confidence in your child.

Reassure him/her that you'll be back.

- Give him/her your full attention when saying goodbye.
- When you say you're leaving, mean it; coming back only makes things worse.
- Follow through on promises; make sure you return when you have promised to return.
- Ask your child "What are some of the good things that happened today?"
- Encourage a positive relationship between your child and their teachers and friends e.g. collect things for the classroom, draw pictures of their teachers and friends, and invite friends over for play dates.



ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

- All children must be taken to and from the Three Year Old Kindy classroom by their parent or guardian.
- Parents are welcome to stay and settle their child until approximately 9.00am.
- Please keep in mind that it can be distressing for your children when they are not picked up on time, so please ring Administration if you are inadvertently running late.
- Please notify us if your child is going to be collected by anyone other than yourself. This may be another parent, family member or friend. If there is a regular arrangement for this person to collect your child, a note written in the log book once for the year will be adequate.
- We realise that unforeseen circumstances may arise; therefore, if there is a change of person collecting your child, please telephone the school to let us know.

WHAT DOES MY CHILD NEED?

- A bag large enough to carry all necessary items.
- A **bucket** hat for outdoor play. Please note that the school has a "NO HAT, NO PLAY" policy.
- A piece of fruit (or vegetable) for a snack at morning tea. Cheese, crackers or dried fruit, may also be brought in. No sweet foods please. This item of food will be for your child only (ie. not shared).
- A packed lunch of sandwiches, wraps or cracker biscuits etc.



- A drink bottle of WATER ONLY so children can help themselves to a drink throughout the day.
- A spare change of clothes (suited to the season) in a plastic bag in your child's school bag to allow us to attend to accidents or spills.
- A spare change of underwear
- A small pillow for rest time.



Please ensure all your child's items are clearly labelled with their name.

The children are asked not to bring toys or personal belongings to school as items lost or broken may cause unnecessary stress.

WHAT TO WEAR

Children need to wear comfortable play clothes that can get messy and that are easy to manage for quick dashes to the toilet. We encourage developing independence, so shoes that they can manage to take off and put on by themselves are recommended. Please apply sunscreen to your child before they come to school. We will have sunscreen available to reapply when needed.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Health

Please keep your child home if they are unwell. Also, please inform us of any condition that may affect your child's wellbeing, or of any circumstances that may affect behaviour as this helps us to cater for your child's needs. The Health Department has school policy documents that give directives, so if you are in doubt please call the school and we can inform you of the time periods necessary to keep your child at home.



Medications and Allergies

As a matter of general policy, staff are not able to accept the responsibility of administering medications without the completion of appropriate forms which are available at the school office. You are most welcome to come to the school to administer the medication yourself.

Please let us know of any allergies or medical concerns, so that a Medical Action Plan for your child can be put in place.

Toileting

Children are required to be fully toilet trained.

Child Safety

No child should arrive or depart unattended. If someone else is picking up your child, please write it in the communication book.



EXTRAS

Absentees

Please phone the office if your child will not be attending Three Year Old Kindy for a session.

Newsletters/Communication

- School newsletter
- School website
- Seesaw
- School Facebook page