



BUNBURY
PRIMARY SCHOOL



Kindergarten *Information Booklet* 2024



BUNBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL: Franca Dillon

Welcome to Bunbury Primary Kindergarten.

Our learning programs each term are based around themes, ideas, interests and experiences that promote the development of the whole child - that is, the physical, social, emotional, intellectual and creative aspects of the individual child. Our learning program reflects the Early Years Learning Framework and the Australian Curriculum. We have a strong focus on literacy and numeracy skills.

We allow for each child's different interests and ability levels by structuring activities so that they are flexible and allow every child to succeed as well as to be challenged. We maintain a balance between structured experiences, which all children participate in each day, and self-directed activities. Play is an important part of our program because it helps children to discover and make sense of their world. It is the child's single most important tool for facilitating intellectual growth.

Our kindergarten allows plenty of space and time for free play in "constant areas", such as the block corner, home corner, puzzle area and book corner, as well as space to set up special play centres which reflect our themes. In all of our activities we aim to develop in every child the skills and attitudes necessary for self direction, independence and the confidence to choose and pursue their own interests and ideas. We also offer the opportunity to function in both small and large group situations. We use a "thematic approach" to provide the content through which we develop our literacy, numeracy, social and creative skills.

Each morning when the children arrive at kindy we provide fine motor, literacy and numeracy activities for the children to participate in with their parents. This is a great opportunity for you to stay and settle your child in for the session each day. A child will ring the bell to signal the end of this time.

As parents, you are your child's first and most important teachers. Your participation in our centre is highly valued, not least by your child, and it is an integral part of our school life. Feel free to put your name on the roster to let us know when you will be coming to kindergarten as a parent helper.

We hope this booklet has all the information you need to ensure a smooth start to your child's Kindergarten year. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the school or Kindergarten.

We look forward to your participation in our program during the year.

Bunbury Primary School Expectations

- Be Responsible
- Be Respectful
- Be Caring
- Be your Best



Contacts

Principal:	Franca Dillon
Associate Principal:	Adriana Palermo
Manager Corporate Services:	Joan Davies
School Officers:	Shona Lever
	Lisa Robinson
Address:	2-18 Lovegrove Avenue Bunbury WA 6230
Phone:	9796 3050
School Email:	bunbury.ps@education.wa.edu.au
Website	www.bunburyps.wa.edu.au
Regional Education Office:	South West Education Office 5th Floor, Bunbury Tower 61 Victoria St BUNBURY WA 6230 Phone: (08) 9791 0300



School Year 2024

These are the dates children attend school

Term 1	Wednesday January 31 – Thursday March 28
Term 2	Monday 15 April - Friday June 28
Term 3	Monday July 15 - Friday September 20
Term 4	Monday October 7 - Thursday December 12

School Development Days

Your child does not attend school on school development days. Staff will be involved with professional learning, school planning, review and school development. School development days for 2024 will be advised.

Public Holidays (that fall during the term)

Labour Day	Monday March 4 (Term1)
ANZAC Day	Thursday April 25 (Term 2)
Western Australia Day	Monday June 3 (Term 2)

Parent Information

Starting Kindergarten

Kindergarten is an exciting place. Teachers encourage children to explore, discover, improvise, create, question, discuss and build. Above all your teacher wants to encourage in your child a lifelong interest in learning.

Being involved

Our school values a strong partnership with families. As the first and most significant teacher in your child's life you have much to offer teachers. We invite you to be involved as much as possible.

You can write your name on the parent roster and help with classroom activities. You may like to help on a more regular basis, such as assisting the students with activities on the interactive whiteboard.

Your child's eyes will light up when you join them at Kindergarten. Remember also that a solid parent-school relationship will help your child form a positive attitude to school.



Learning Really Does Begin At Home

The early years of your child's life are very important. As a parent/carer you can have a positive impact by creating a loving and safe environment for your family.

We know from research that nearly three quarters of a child's brain is 'wired' by the time they are five years old. That makes it the fastest period of growth and development in life. It is also the time when the foundations are laid for all later development and learning.

How children learn best

Children learn best when they are happy, feel safe and have interesting things to do and interested people to help them.



Children are naturally curious, full of ideas and keen to learn about the world around them. They learn by playing, watching, listening, asking, talking, having time to think, doing and trying new things, practising and repeating the things they do, and getting feedback.

Learning should be spontaneous and feel like fun. Natural, unrehearsed everyday experiences you do with your child provide interesting news items and conversation starters with their peers.

Did you know?

A three-year old child's brain is twice as active as an adult's brain. By the time a child is three their brain has formed about 1000 trillion connections – twice as many as adults.

Play is a child's work

Play is a powerful and natural way for children to learn. Through play children develop physically, socially, emotionally and cognitively (intelligence).

Play involves climbing, making cubbies, dressing up, pretending, dancing, writing, counting, doing puzzles, drawing, reading, imagining, building things, making choices, exploring materials, testing ideas, developing confidence and so much more

What you can do

- Allow children to play every day.
- Help them make up their own activities and games.
- Give them such things as cardboard boxes, balls, buckets, cushions, hula hoops and dress up clothes.
- Create spaces that are inviting and fun to play in; provide choice and activity; spark learning; and are safe.



- Join in the play – let your child lead and be a follower
- Know when to step away from the play – it's as important as stepping into the play.

Tips on helping your child

- Make learning fun.
- Follow your child's interests and choices – and build on them.
- Allow time for your child to solve problems and repeat things.
- Listen to your child and give them a voice.
- Be positive, patient and supportive.
- Teach them to watch, listen, think and question.
- Read books with your child

For more information about Kindergarten: www.det.wa.edu.au/schoolsandyou.

The **ZONES** of Regulation®

To help children understand the relationship between their feelings and behaviour, we talk about the Zones of Regulation. The Zones of Regulation Curriculum is designed to teach and foster self-regulation skills and emotional control. The strategies teach children about emotions, how these can impact on their behaviour and the tools they can use to get the best state of alertness for learning. The Zones of Regulation focuses on teaching children how to recognise and manage their Zone based upon the situation and the people around them. The four zones are:

Red Zone: describes extremely heightened states of uncontrolled alertness and intense emotion. This covers emotions such as alertness, devastation, terror and over-excitement

Yellow Zone: describes a heightened state of alertness, but the person still has some self-control. This includes emotions such as frustration, worry, silliness, anxiety and excitement.

Green Zone: describes a calm state of alertness. This includes being happy, calm, focussed and ready to learn.

Blue Zone: describes a low state of alertness and arousal, where a person may be sad, tired, sick or bored.

Attendance

Although kindergarten is not a compulsory year of schooling, it is expected that attendance will be regular, as it sets the habit for future years.

Parents/Carers are asked to inform the school on the first day of any absence by giving a reason for the absence and a likely date of return. Please inform the school by one of the following options (only one of the options is required):

- Using the school based Connect App. available for mobile phones
- Using the classroom based See-saw App for Mobile phones
- Via E-mail: bunbury.ps@education.wa.edu.au
- Contacting the school via telephone: **9796 3050**
- Calling in at the school office
- Speaking with your child's teacher
- Sending a note to the teacher or the school office
- Providing a medical certificate or doctor's note

Parents/carers are responsible for ensuring their child:

- Attends school regularly
- Arrives at school on time for each session
- Is picked up from school on time



- Is well rested and ready to learn
- Is only absent with reasonable cause and the school is informed on each occasion.

Bunbury Primary School takes school attendance and punctuality very seriously. Ensuring your child attends school regularly, punctually and is collected on time is an important part of our home/school partnership.

Attendance is recorded in half days. The school attendance register is marked at the beginning of each school session both morning and afternoon. Reasons for absence are recorded. Unexplained absences are followed up with a letter to parents to find out the reason for the absence. Parents/carers are contacted if their child is frequently late.

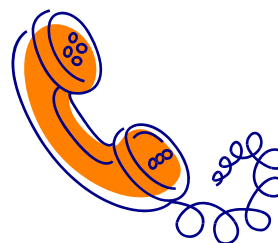
Session Times

Group 1: Mon and Thurs	8.50am – 3.00pm
Wed	12.20pm – 3.00pm

Group 2: Tues and Fri	8.50am – 3.00pm
Wed	8.50am – 11.30am

Permission Requirements

It is our school's practice that no child shall arrive or depart from a Kindergarten Centre unless accompanied by a parent or other adult. Please inform us of your arrangements if they involve sharing lifts with other children on a permanent basis. We would appreciate a phone call or written note informing us of a change in the usual pick up arrangements for a specific day. It is also extremely important that parents inform the school office of specific custody arrangements that may affect access to their child.



If you need to collect your child early, parents must complete the student sign in/sign out register in the school front office.

Contributions & Charges

Public schools are able to ask parents for a voluntary contribution as well as charges associated with optional programmes / activities and personal use items (Personal Items List). Parents will be advised at the start of December about the actual amounts for each area.

Contributions (Payable at School Office - Term1):

\$60 Voluntary Contribution – for oral language and further playground development, outdoor toys and equipment

P&C Voluntary Contributions (Payable at School Office - Term1):

Dollars for Scholars (support for online learning programs) \$28 per family/per year

P&C Voluntary Fund Contributions – Three optional amounts: \$50, \$75 or \$100 per family – to support school projects and programmes.

Payments can be made by EFTPOS through the office or by **DIRECT DEPOSIT (Account: Bunbury Primary School BSB 066-040 Acct 199 047 52)**

Personal Items list

Personal items lists are costed and sent out each year to enable parents to ensure their child has the correct personal stationery items at the start of each school year. As these are normally sent out in December a Personal Items List will be sent to you when they have been finalised.

Special Activity Charges (Easter, Mother's Day, etc.)

During the course of the year students have the option to participate in a number of incursions/excursions and other activities. Costs for these will be advised prior to the activity taking place and are usually paid to Class Teachers. They include:

- Class Excursions/Incursions
- Kindergarten T-Shirt
- Class/Individual Photograph
- School Performances



Each special activity will be costed and then a note requesting payment will then be sent home. Children whose parents choose not to pay the charge will be offered an alternative educational activity.

Parent Involvement

The time you spend at school is very precious to both your child and us. You can choose to help out with activities, join in with the regular routines and sessions, observe your child interacting with others and just enjoy playing with your child and their friends. We will put up a voluntary roster early in Term 1. Please write your name beside a day that suits you. Younger siblings are welcome to attend whilst you are on roster, however, they can be distracting for the kindergarten children, particularly during mat time sessions. We ask you to be aware of this when attending with younger siblings.

If you have any special skills, interests, supplies, talents, contacts or ideas that might enrich our program during the year, please share them with us and let us know.

Please sign in to the Authorised Visitors Register when you attend as a parent helper. If anyone other than parents/guardians would like to help on the kindy roster, it is Department of Education policy that they must have a current Working with Children Card.

P&C Meetings

Our Parents and Citizen's Association (P&C) actively supports the school through fundraising for specific projects and advocacy (in association with the School Board). These meetings also provide a forum for parents to find out more about our school.

The P&C meets each term at 7.00pm on a Wednesday in weeks 3 and 8 in the Staff Room. New members are always welcome. Membership cost \$1.00.



Birthdays



Birthdays are a wonderful time for children and most children enjoy a small celebration at school. Of course, this is not compulsory. Parents can inform us of any religious or other factors that may conflict with the celebration of birthdays. The easiest way to celebrate a birthday is to bring in cup cakes to share for morning or afternoon tea (the teacher can tell you how many to bring and inform you of any allergies).

Medical

When asked to complete a student information sheet for our records, please ensure that you include **all** relevant information that we may need in order to deal with long term medical conditions such as allergies, asthma or epilepsy.

Some parents may need to complete a Medical Care Plan signed by your GP and sent through the school office (e.g. Asthma Plan, Anaphylaxis).

Please let us know about any relevant infectious diseases that may affect your child or other family members in the course of the year. Current Health Department policy requires schools to temporarily exclude children who have not been immunised against measles in the case of an outbreak.



Coughs, colds and stomach upsets tend to go in cycles and it is best that children with these be kept at home to reduce the chances of other children contracting them. We realise that children often want to come to school in spite of these, but please, for their sake, keep them home.

Our School Health Nurse will also screen children's hearing, vision and general health during the year. Parents will be asked to complete the relevant forms. There will also be an Information session early in term 1. (date and time TBA)

Medication:

If your child requires medication whilst at Kindergarten, the medication instruction forms regarding dosage, times and any other relevant information must be completed at the school front office. These are then passed onto the classroom teacher who will administer the medication and stored appropriately by the teacher.

Immunisations:

4yr old immunisations can be given to a child from 4 years. Check with your GP or local Community Health Nurse for details.

Nut Allergies:

A number of children at Bunbury Primary School suffer severe reactions to nut products. Parents are asked to help us provide a safe environment for these children by not sending nuts or nut products to school (e.g. Nutella). If your child has any type of allergy, please complete the appropriate documentation available at the school office (medical care plan) and notify your classroom teacher.

Infectious Diseases Exclusion Information

Infectious Disease	Guidelines for exclusion
German Measles (Rubella)	Exclude from school until fully recovered. At least 5 days from onset of rash.
Measles	Re-admit on medical certificate or 7 days after onset of rash, if child is well enough.
Whooping Cough (Pertussis)	Exclude for 2 weeks from the onset of illness or for 5 days after starting anti-biotic treatment.
Head Lice	Exclude until the day after treatment has commenced.
Hepatitis A	Re admit on medical certificate recovery.
Ringworm	Exclude until the day after treatment has commenced.
Scabies	Exclude until the day after treatment has commenced.
School Sores	Exclude until 24 hours after anti-biotic treatment has commenced. Lesions on exposed skin must be covered with water proof dressings.
Mumps	Re admit on medical certificate recovery.
Chicken Pox	Exclude until the last blister has scabbed over.
Conjunctivitis	Exclude until the discharge from the eyes has ceased.
Diarrhoea	Exclude until diarrhoea has ceased.
Influenza like illness	Re-admit on recovery.

Road Safety

We believe that road safety is a very important issue around our school. Traffic can become congested at school start and finish times. To ensure the safety of your child as well as others, please ensure that your child is supervised by an adult at all times in and around the school, especially in car parks. Holding your child's hand and modelling safe pedestrian behaviours will help educate them about the importance of road safety and keep our school environment safe. If possible, park away from the school and walk to school. **Please do not park in Staff carpark (opposite Kindy door).**

What to Wear to Kindy

Please wear play clothes, i.e. clothes that will not be spoilt by a bit of stray paint. Some activities are messy! Most paint can be removed by washing in cold water. Please make sure children can manage buttons, buckles, and catches on their clothes. Shoes, joggers or soft-soled shoes or sandals are best for play at kindergarten. Velcro fastening is best. Slippery sole shoes can be a hazard on outdoor equipment.

During Term 1 you are offered the opportunity to provide a t-shirt which for a small cost can be printed with the Kindergarten logo.

Lost and Found

We encourage the kindergarten children to put shoes, jumpers, etc, into their bag as soon as they are removed, but it can be difficult to keep track of it all.

Parents should label ALL items of clothing and footwear for easy identification. Please ensure that school bags and drink bottles are also labelled.



Canteen

Children in kindergarten may order their lunch from the school canteen. Please see the extra information sheet with instructions on how to set up online ordering. Lunches are delivered to the classroom (at the designated lunch time). *Please note that during recess Kindergarten children will not be able to order food from the canteen, this will be their fruit time.* The canteen does not operate on a Monday.



What to Bring On the First Day of Kindy

1 large box of tissues

Your personal items (booklist to be provided separately).



What to Bring Every Day to Kindy

1. A drink bottle full of water (labelled with child's name).
2. A large bag (big enough to hold a lunchbox and some paintings and drawings). A large fabric or eco-friendly bag is best. ***Please do not choose a backpack as we don't have enough space to store them and the children find them difficult to get items in and out of.***
3. A piece of fruit or vegetable, labelled, in a container.
4. A labelled broad brimmed or bucket hat to wear every day. As a Sun Smart school, hats are required for outdoor play throughout the entire year.
5. A spare set of labelled clothes to be kept in a plastic bag in your child's bag.

Please Note: We discourage children from bringing toys as they can be extremely distressed if they either become broken or lost.

What to Do On the First Day of Kindy

Your child's first day at kindergarten can be a little nerve-racking and emotional for both your child and you. We hope that your child will be feeling comfortable about school and looking forward to kindergarten, but children are all different and we expect different levels of confidence in the first couple of weeks. Some children (and parents) may shed a few tears when you leave on the first day, but experience tells us that this is usually very brief and they are soon busy and happy.



You can help us provide a smooth start to the year by following these steps:

1. Arrive on time with your child, and wait out the front of the Kindy until the Teacher comes out to greet you.

2. Say goodbye, have a kiss and a hug, and tell your child you will be back soon to pick them up and hear all about their day. **Please do not linger once you have said goodbye.** If your child becomes upset, we will give them lots of extra T.L.C. If your child is still upset later in the session, we will phone you to discuss the best possible action to take. Remember that this first experience helps set the foundation for his / her attitude towards learning. We want to make it a happy one!
3. The children will be invited into the Kindy. We will show them where to put their fruit, where to put their drink bottle, where to hang their bag every day and where the toilets are.

We look forward to sharing a happy and rewarding year with your children.

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Bunbury Primary School Behaviour Expectations

