



St Mary Star of the Sea Catholic School



**3 year old Kindy
Little Stars
Information for Parents**

What is 3 year old Kindy?

3 year old Kindy is an educational program for pre-kindergarten children aged three years. At St Mary Star of the Sea Catholic school our program is called “Little Stars”. The program is play based and provides children with meaningful experiences that follow the Early Years Learning Framework. The teachers will create a caring, safe and stimulating environment that will nurture your child’s disposition to wonder, explore and construct meaning about the world.



Who may attend?

The program is offered to children who are three years old. Regulations prevent us taking a child until they have turned three years old. If your child has not turned three years old when the program commences in February they may be enrolled and we are happy to hold their place for you until after their third birthday. Please note that enrolment in the St Mary Star of the Sea 3 year old Kindy program does not guarantee a place in the Four Year old Kindergarten. For further enrolment information please contact the school office.

Operation

The 3 year old Kindy Program operates one day per week on a Monday 9.00am – 3.00pm

Educators

The program will operate with a qualified Teacher and if numbers allow a Teacher Assistant.

Venue

The 3 year old Kindy is located on school grounds and uses school facilities.

Curriculum

In Little Stars we will follow the Early Years Learning Framework which focuses on Being, Becoming and Belonging.

Outcome 1: Children have a strong sense of identity

Outcome 2: Children are connected with and contribute to their world.

Outcome 3: Children have a strong sense of wellbeing.

Outcome 4: Children are confident and involved learners

Outcome 5: Children are effective communicators.

Daily Requirements

Each day your child needs to bring:

- A water bottle
- A hat—we recommend the legionnaires design
- A healthy snack for morning recess. All food is shared with the rest of the class and needs to be in date and unopened.
- A healthy packed lunch in an easy to open lunch box along with a juice box if desired.
- A back pack or bag which is big enough to fit all of the above in as well as note folder and art work.

N.B. Hats should stay at school in their children's hat box and taken home at the end of each term to be washed.

Morning Requests

Please ensure you do not leave your child unsupervised before the doors open at 8.45am and collect them promptly at 3.00pm. This will save the children from becoming distressed. Upon arrival, please wait under the verandah and always escort your child to the classroom door.

Children and siblings are not permitted to play on the outdoor equipment before or after school due to school supervision requirements.

To develop the children's independence we ask that parents allow their child to unpack their bags in the morning and bring water bottles and fruit into the classroom. Lunch boxes can remain in their bags until needed. After children have unpacked you are welcome to enjoy some of the activities with them.

Recess

We eat in small groups at recess time to encourage and promote a sociable meal time atmosphere. Families are required to send in one or two pieces of fruit or vegetables to be cut up and shared between the class. You also may like to send in an occasional treat such as biscuits or popcorn.

Outdoor Play

Children will have access to the outdoor equipment. This encourages the development of many skills ranging from social, emotional to gross motor.

Lunch Time

As a school we encourage healthy school meals. We recommend something like sandwiches, noodles or rice accompanied by a piece of fruit and water. Keep treats to a minimum. Little Stars will eat lunch on the small tables located on the verandah.

Rest Time

Children will have a rest time after lunch. They are encouraged to relax, cool down and unwind. This is a skill which we feel is important for individuals to learn. We do not request that everyone must go to sleep but we do ask that they 'relax'.

Parent/Teacher Communication

Little Stars operates using an open door policy. If you have anything you wish to discuss, please inform the teacher and an appointment will be made for you

Clothing

A uniform is not compulsory in Little Stars, but a Kindy uniform is available if required. We do recommend that you send your child to school in clothes suitable for outdoor play and activities such as painting gluing, etc.

All children **MUST** have a hat and well fastened flexible shoes which will enable them to run and climb safely on the outdoor equipment. No thongs or crocs please.

Intimate Care

Children should always have a spare pair of clothing in case of an accident.

Absences

If your child is absent from school you need to inform us in writing. Please find forms with the correspondence book.

Parent Roster

Parents will be expected to assist in the Little Stars program, a roster will be available. Please see the teacher to add your name. Only parents on the roster will be able to visit the children throughout the day. If you aren't available on the days allocated please come and see a member of staff and we can arrange an alternative time.

Excursions

We may go on excursions during the year and will be asking parent helpers to join us. There may also be incursions for us to join in.

Birthdays

Children are welcome to bring in a cake or cupcakes to celebrate their birthday. We will enjoy these during morning tea.

Sunscreen

Please ensure that your child is wearing sunscreen to school and we will reapply before lunch. Inform the school by writing if your child is allergic to any sunscreen.

Note Files

All notes go home in the notice folders. Please return folders the following week. Place any return slips or notes in box the provided in class.

Communication Book

This is located near the hat boxes. Please write in the book if someone else is picking your child up or if there are any changes to bus arrangements. Children will need a written note if they are going on a bus with another family.

Fees

The 3 year old Kindergarten fees and charges are revised annually. Fees are charged annually or pro-rata when the child commences.

The fees charged cover salaries and other associated costs required to run the 3 year old Kindy Program at St Mary Star of the Sea Catholic School. Fees are calculated from the date your child commences the program. We are unable to offer fee discounts for this Program. There is no remission for time spent away from 3 year old Kindy for family holidays.

The school offers BPAY and Eftpos facilities as well as direct debit on a weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis. Fees are expected to be paid in full by the end of Term 3.

Change of details

Please notify the school immediately of any change of address or phone number of yourself or your alternative contact. A Change of Details Form is available from the school office or online.