



Welcome to All Saints Preschool Yarra Junction

We are excited to be taking enrolments for both our 3 year old and 4 year old 2021 Programs.



Our wonderful kindergarten has been independently run in Yarra Junction since 1952 with dedicated and experienced educators.

Our early childhood educators provide a welcome, safe and encouraging environment that will nurture your child's sense of wonder.

Please find attached our 2021 Information Pack which will provide you with all the relevant information about our kindergarten and educational programs.



INFORMATION PACK

2021



Established in 1952, All Saints Preschool has a proud tradition in community-based early childhood education. Our dedicated and experienced Educators pride themselves on enhancing each child's social and emotional development through creativity and self-directed learning in a happy and secure environment.

Families are an integral part of our Kindergarten community. Our programs and activities foster the involvement of all families and provide opportunities for you and your child to meet other families in the community.

We welcome enquiries and invite you to view our Kindergarten and meet our Educators. Please ring to arrange a mutually convenient time.

All Saints Preschool Yarra Junction
2438 Warburton Hwy, Yarra Junction 3797
Ph: 5967 1117

all.saints.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au
www.allsaintspreschoolyj.com.au

Our Programs

We currently offer three-year-old and four-year-old groups.

Our Kindergarten offers intentional and incidental teaching delivered via an Emergent Curriculum. It is a play-based curriculum that gives the children the opportunity to learn and develop via hands on meaningful experiences. The children are valuable and capable contributors to our days together.

There is a particular emphasis on:

- the needs and interests of individual children providing the focus for learning
- fostering a child's natural curiosity
- recognising the significance that self-esteem and confidence play in each child's learning

The children have daily opportunities for movement and music, outdoor time, art/craft, free play, group experiences where information is exchanged and decisions are made. Yoga and relaxation may also be incorporated during sessions.

Other Activities

Each year we use a variety of resources to expand the activities on offer to the groups.

This may include:

- Animal education
- Responsible Pet Ownership program
- Excursions to local services

- Family Days
- Grandparent/Special Person morning teas
- Book Week dress-up days
- Teddy Bears Picnic
- End of year group Twilight Concerts
- Road Safety Awareness

Our Environment

Our spacious indoor and outdoor environments is wheelchair accessible and is continually updated.

The outdoor area is large, private and peaceful. Our beautiful oak trees along with our large UV protected shade sail structure provides an abundance of shade. There are opportunities for the children to further develop their physical skills and extend their learning. Climbing structures, sand play area are some of the features. We have a water tank installed so the children can experience water play in a sustainable manner. Our dry creek bed and pump enhance the natural focus of our area.

Our open plan room allows educators to provide learning spaces to suit the changing needs of the children. Educators are able to enhance the learning opportunities for children by providing a variety of spaces, solitary/group area.

Feedback

Along with regular newsletters from our Teachers, families are provided with regular documentation of their child's Kindergarten experience via digital photography and written records of learning.

Parents are encouraged to sign on to the duty roster each term. This is an excellent opportunity to participate in and fully experience a Kindergarten session. The children love to have a parent/special person "on duty".

Outcomes

Through their involvement with our programs your child will have the opportunity to:

Develop self-confidence through the ability to participate as an active hands-on group member

Develop language skills so that they will better be able to express feelings, negotiate with others and form relationships

Learn to express themselves through art, music and movement

Flourish as concentration and independence expand in our nurturing environment.

Develop independence, responsibility, respect (self, others, environment)

Our Educators

Our experienced and enthusiastic Teachers and Educators are highly qualified in early childhood education. Most importantly they love their work and the children. All Educators have current First Aid, CPR, Epilepsy, Asthma and Anaphylaxis training. We are happy to discuss individual needs prior to commencement.

Our teachers are experienced in liaising with outside agencies and having Additional Assistants working with the group. Educators also liaise with outside agencies to help support families with challenges that they may be experiencing.

Enrolment

Enrolment is made through our Administration Officer. An enrolment form can be downloaded from: <https://allsaintspreschoolyj.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Enrolment-Application-Form-2020.pdf>

or by emailing a request to: admin.all.saints.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au

Eligibility

To be eligible to attend four-year-old Kindergarten, your child must be four years of age by 30th of April in the year of attendance & be fully up to date with immunisations for their age.

To attend three-year-old Pre-Kindergarten, your child must turn three prior to 30th of April in the year of attendance and be up to date with immunisations. Children cannot commence at the Kindergarten until they have turned three years of age.

Many children born between January and April start three-year-old Pre-Kindergarten the year they turn four. This will then coincide with older school age entry.

Four-year-old Kindergarten places are partially funded by the Government. To receive a repeat year of funding for four-year-old Kindergarten a child must exhibit at least two areas of developmental difficulties and the Teacher needs to lodge information to the Department for approval. Therefore, it is important to carefully consider your child's starting year as "being young" is not grounds for a second-year application. If you are unsure please discuss your concerns with the kindergarten teacher.



Frequently Asked Questions

Does your Kindergarten follow a particular teaching philosophy/curriculum?

At All Saints Preschool, we acknowledge that children first learn within the context of their family culture. We understand that learning is enhanced when Educators and families form strong collaborative partnerships. We provide a stimulating, safe, caring and welcoming learning environment where children will develop confidence in their own abilities. Educators listen and respect the child's opinions and support them in decision making processes.

It combines intentional teaching with:

- children's interests
- staff interests
- Community interests/celebrations/significant days (ie. ANZAC day, Naidoc Week, Children's Week etc)
- developmental domains and skills
- physical environment
- people working together as a group
- family & community values
- spontaneous learning experiences & unexpected events

This is offered via a play-based program that enables children the opportunity to learn and develop via hands on meaningful experiences. It is our belief that the children are valuable and capable contributors to their learning. The children can play, explore and develop their own ideas and understanding of their world in a safe and friendly learning environment.

The Educators use free play time to scaffold and support the children's learning by responding intentionally to teaching moments as they occur naturally throughout the session. Reflections and documentation at the end of the session gives the Educators an opportunity to reflect on how the session and experiences unfolded and where the children's interests lie for integration into future learning experiences.

Our curriculum is developed from the Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework and the national Early Years Learning Framework for Australia. This Framework's vision is for all children to experience play-based learning that is engaging and builds success for life. The Early Years Framework describes childhood as a time of Belonging, Being and Becoming.

What is your Australian-Wide Quality System of Education & Care Services National Quality Standard rating?

Our rating is Exceeding National Quality Standard.

What are your class sizes and staff/child ratios?

Our 3 year old classes have a maximum of 20 children and are taught by experienced qualified Early Childhood Teacher and Diploma qualified Educator. Our 4 year old group sizes vary according to demand. Staff/child ratio is never more than 1:11. The Teacher is also University trained with over 30 years' experience in the profession. Our Educators are all diploma trained, again with many years' experience in the profession.

What will my child learn at Kindergarten?

During your child's Kindergarten experience with us we aim to:

- Foster your child's natural sense of curiosity, wonder and creativity
- Enhance your child's sense of self, with particular emphasis on confidence in tackling new tasks, as well as confidently contributing as a member of our group
- Develop the "whole child": language and literacy, numeracy and problem solving, creativity and self-expression, gross motor planning and co-ordination, social and emotional development, investigation and discovery of knowledge. Please note – Literacy and Numeracy skills in Kindergarten look different to primary school prep year.

My child attends Child Care. How is Kindergarten different?

- Both 3 year old and 4 year old Kindergarten programs are delivered by qualified Kindergarten Teachers who plan and deliver a developmentally appropriate program which caters for children's individual needs, the group needs, as well as delivering a program which reflects the Teachers Specialist Knowledge of child development.
- Children at Kindergarten have a sense of belonging to a particular "group" i.e. yellow, green, blue or red group
- Children within a particular group feel secure in the fact that all children arrive and depart at the same time of the day. The friendships that are formed on one day are followed through on the next day of attendance as children are in a particular group.
- Kindergarten programs are planned in order to meet the specific needs of 3-4 year old's who attend 3 year old Kindergarten programs and 4-5 year old's who attend 4 year old Kindergarten programs
- Kindergartens are Community based which provides children with the opportunity to develop friendships with other children in your local area, as well as children who may attend the local Primary School that your child will attend
- Consistent Staff/Educators

My child has allergies – does your Kindergarten have policies in place to allow them to attend?

Absolutely! The following policies have been adopted by our Kindergarten Committee and form the basis of our daily practice: Anaphylaxis, Asthma, Accident, Injury and Medical Emergency. Please consult our POLICY folder located in the Kindergarten foyer or speak to one of our Educators in relation to your child's particular situation.

All of our Kindergarten Educators have current First Aid training, as well as training in the administration of an EpiPen.

My child suffers from Asthma. Are the Educators trained to administer Asthma medication?

All children with Asthma are required to submit a copy of their Asthma Management Plans so Educators are aware of the children affected and the appropriate action to take. Educators are trained in First Aid including Asthma. All Educators have current training in Asthma management.

How do I enrol?

All Saints Preschool is independently run; therefore, we are not part of the Yarra Ranges cluster Kindergartens. Enrolment is conducted via direct contact with All Saints Pre School.

All Saints Preschool Yarra Junction, 2438 Warburton Hwy, Yarra Junction 3797

Ph: 5967 1117 Email: all.saints.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au

What is “No Jab No Play”?

From 1 January 2016 all parents/guardians seeking to enrol their child at an early childhood service in Victoria must provide evidence that their child is fully immunised for their age and maintain their vaccination schedule once enrolled. At enrolment you will be asked to supply a copy of your child's most recent Immunisation History Statement from the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register before your enrolment can be confirmed. Children cannot attend until immunisation history is provided (infant welfare records are not accepted).

How old does my child need to be to attend Kindergarten?

For 4 year old Kindergarten, children must be four years of age by 30th of April in the year they are attending the 4 year old program.

To attend 3 year old Kindergarten, your child must turn three prior to 30th of April in year of attendance. Children cannot commence at the Kindergarten until they have turned three years of age.

I am not sure that my child will be ready for Kindergarten when they are eligible. What should I consider?

A few of the issues you might consider: does your child still need a nap during the day; are they toilet trained; can they communicate their needs easily to others; do they follow instruction & able to comply with class routines/limits.

Increasingly evidence suggests children benefit from being older when attending Kindergarten and school and so we suggest children born between January and April enrol into 3 year old Kindergarten the year they turn four; thus making 4 year old Kindergarten the year they turn five and a later school age entry.

If my child doesn't attend 3 year old Kindergarten can they attend 4 year old Kindergarten the following year?

Yes. There are fewer 3 year old places available than 4 year old places due to the way 4-year-old Kindergarten places are funded by the Government. However, it is important to note that our enrolled 3-year old's have priority access to our 4 year old programs.

There are many other things children can do if they miss out on a 3 year old Kindergarten place while they wait to start 4 year old. Yarra Ranges Council Family Support or your Maternal Child Health Centre are good sources of information. For example playgroups, library story time, occasional care.

Can my child have two years of either 3 year old or 4 year old Kindergarten?

It is possible to have a second year of 3 year old Kindergarten if you and your Educator believe it will be of benefit to your child. However, it will be subject to availability.

4 year old places are partially funded by the Department of Education and Training. To receive a repeat year of funding a child must exhibit at least two areas of developmental difficulties. The Teacher must lodge a Declaration of Eligibility for a second year of funding during the year prior to the repeat year. You and your child's Teacher may consult with the Preschool Field Officer from Yarra Ranges Council regarding eligibility for repeat funding application.

Why are there less 3 year old places than 4 year old? Why are the 3 year old program fees high in comparison to 4 year old program?

The Dept of Education & Training in conjunction with the Federal Government provides partial funding for 15 hours of 4 year old Kindergarten for each enrolled child. There is no subsidy provided for 3 year old Kindergarten. For this reason, Kindergartens give priority and maximize their 4 year old places for funding and to try and provide enough spaces for all the four-year old's to attend. The Victorian Government will not commence funding for 3 year old in our area until at least 2022.

Who runs the Kindergarten?

Our Kindergarten is an Incorporated Association run by a volunteer Committee of Management. The Committee is made up of eligible members – under our constitution, this is defined as parents who have a child enrolled at the Kindergarten or other relevant people that the Committee may nominate for membership from time-to-time.

We are an independently run Kindergarten. We do not receive any funding from Yarra Ranges Council. We have formed and maintain positive interactions with the other preschool and early education facilities in the valley.

We follow the National Quality Framework set by the government that aims to provide each child with the best start in life through access to high quality early education and care.

What are the parent's obligations for involvement in the Kindergarten?

Each group has a parent duty roster and we hope parents (or another special person such as grandparent /aunt /nanny) can put their name down each term to attend and help out with sessions. This is a fantastic opportunity to see the group in session and the children love it when Mum/Dad or another special person is “on duty”. Everyone will be required to present a current Working with Children card prior to joining the group and must be over 18 to help; if under 18 they must be accompanied by an adult.

At the Annual General Meeting we ask for parents to volunteer for the Committee of Management in a variety of roles. In addition, you may have a special skill or area of expertise that we can call on if necessary, throughout the year.

There is a working bee each term, coordinated by the Maintenance Officer for all the families to join in and have fun whilst getting to know other families. Fundraising also co-ordinate many activities throughout the year, such as sausage sizzles - either at Bunnings Lilydale or at the Yarra Junction leisure Centre and ask many parents for their help and participation in these activities.



Getting the right documentation

Scenario	Advice
Lost AIR Immunisation History Statement	Use your Medicare online account through myGov or Express Plus Medicare mobile app to access a copy or call the AIR on 1800 653 809 and request a copy be posted to you. It can take up to 14 days to arrive by post.
Incorrect information recorded on the AIR Immunisation History Statement	If immunisations are missing from a statement, contact your immunisation provider to check if they have sent to the AIR. Once the information is recorded on the AIR, you can access an updated copy using your Medicare online account through myGov or Express Plus Medicare mobile app.
Overdue for a vaccination	See a doctor or immunisation nurse. The doctor or nurse will provide the vaccination and advise the AIR. Once the AIR has been updated you can access a copy using your Medicare online account through myGov or Express Plus Medicare mobile app.
Overdue for multiple vaccinations	See a doctor or immunisation nurse to discuss a 'catch-up schedule'. As each vaccination is given they will update the AIR. Once the information is received by the AIR, you can access a copy of your child's Immunisation History Statement using your Medicare online account through myGov or Express Plus Medicare mobile app.
Medical reasons	<p>If your child can't be fully immunised for medical reasons, you will need to visit an eligible doctor who may provide an immunisation medical exemption. This information will be recorded on the AIR, noting the vaccines your child cannot receive for medical reasons.</p> <p>If your child has an immunisation medical exemption recorded on the AIR, information will appear at the bottom of the statement noting the vaccines they are unable to receive.</p>
Questions or concerns about immunisation	Seek advice from your doctor or contact your local council immunisation service.

Better Health Channel

www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au

Australian Government Department of Health & Ageing Immunise Australia Program

www.immunise.health.gov.au

For translated versions of this document search 'starting childcare or kindergarten' on www.healthtranslations.vic.gov.au



Translating and interpreting service call 131 450

Early childhood services and immunisation providers can order free copies of this brochure online:

www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/immunisation/immunisation-resources-order-form

To receive this publication in an accessible format phone 1300 882 008, using the National Relay Service 13 36 77 if required, or email immunisation@dhhs.vic.gov.au

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Starting childcare or kindergarten?

Immunisation information for parents enrolling a child



Enrolment requirements in Victoria

By law¹, to finalise enrolment for your child in long day care, kindergarten, family day care or occasional care you must provide the service with a current Immunisation History Statement from the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) that shows your child is up to date with all the immunisations that are due or able to receive for their age.

What is an Immunisation History Statement?

It is a statement from the AIR that shows what vaccines your child has received and, if applicable, which vaccines are due in the future and when.

All vaccines recorded on the AIR will appear on your child's Immunisation History Statement. You don't need to do anything to get your child on the AIR. Your vaccination provider will tell the AIR when they give your child a vaccine and which vaccines they have given.

Vaccines on the National Immunisation Program Schedule are provided free.

What is this document used for?

To finalise enrolment. To accept an offered place at a service, you must provide the service with a current Immunisation History Statement. This is usually done within two months before your child is due to start at the service.

To keep children safe. If there is a disease outbreak at the service, the document is used to identify children at risk (for example, children too young or those who can't be fully immunised against a disease) who may need to stay away from the service until it is safe for them to return.

What if I cannot get a statement?

In some circumstances a 16 week 'grace period' can be applied, so your child can start at the service while you arrange to get a statement. The service can advise if this applies to you.

How do I get an Immunisation History Statement?

The quickest way to get your child's statement is by using your Medicare online account through myGov or the Express Plus Medicare mobile app.

Alternatively, you can call the AIR on 1800 653 809 to request your child's statement be posted to you. It can take 14 days to arrive by post.

What if my child has had immunisations overseas or they are not eligible for Medicare?

You can get overseas immunisations added to the AIR. You need to take a translated copy of your child's overseas immunisation history to your Australian immunisation provider. They will check the vaccines your child has had and tell you if any additional ones are required. They will update the AIR with immunisations given overseas as well as any new ones.

When your child's immunisations are recorded on the AIR, ask your immunisation provider if they can print an Immunisation History Statement from the AIR for you to give to your childcare or kindergarten service.

Alternatively, you can call the AIR on 1800 653 809 to check if your child's immunisations have been recorded and request a statement to be posted to you. It can take up to 14 days to arrive by post.

A translating and interpreting service is available by calling 131 450, Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 4.45pm.

How do I tell if my child is 'up to date'?

Look at your child's current Immunisation History Statement. 'Up to date' will appear at the top of the Immunisation History Statement.

At the bottom it will show 'Next due immunisation(s)' or 'No vaccines due'. If the date of the next due immunisation is in the future, then your child is up to date for their age.

If your child has completed all their childhood immunisation it will show 'No vaccines due'.

What do I do when my child has immunisations AFTER enrolling?

After each immunisation, you should provide an updated Immunisation History Statement to the service to include in their records. Your service will periodically remind you that you need to do this.

More information

National Immunisation Program (NIP) schedule

Vaccines listed on the NIP schedule are provided free to children at birth, 2, 4, 6, 12 and 18 months and 4 years of age.

To find out what immunisations your child needs:

- see your doctor or contact your local council immunisation service
- search 'childhood immunisation' on www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au
- receive reminders when your child's immunisations are due by downloading the free VaxOnTime Victoria app, available for iOS and Android devices.



¹ Under the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*, in effect from 1 January 2016

We are SunSmart - a note for families



Too much UV can cause sunburn, skin and eye damage and skin cancer.

Overexposure to UV during childhood and adolescence is a major factor for future skin cancer risk.

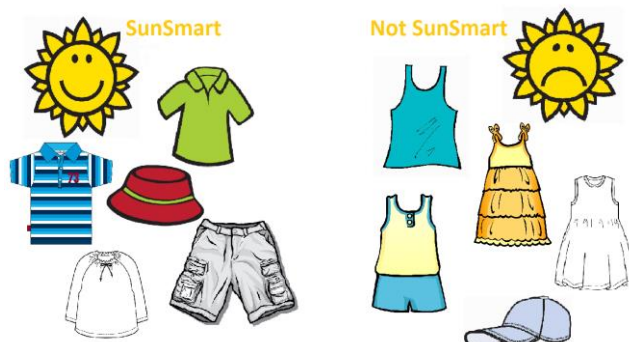
You can't see or feel the sun's UV so don't be fooled. Whatever the weather, if the UV levels are three or more, it's important to **Slip, Slop, Slap, Seek and Slide!**

Our service aims to protect children and staff from too much UV to help minimise future skin cancer risk. We are a registered member of the Cancer Council Victoria's SunSmart Program. Please help support our SunSmart membership by ensuring your child follows the SunSmart measures encouraged by educators.

During the daily local sun protection times (issued whenever UV levels are three and above), use these 5 SunSmart steps – even if it's cool and cloudy.

1. **Slip on a shirt** - dress your child in clothing that covers as much skin as possible (e.g. elbow length tops with a higher neckline or collar and longer style shorts or skirts). Densely woven fabrics are best.
2. **Slop on SPF 30 (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen** – apply a generous amount of sunscreen at the start of the day and provide permission for sunscreen to be reapplied to your child before they go outdoors. This should be applied every two hours. From 3 years of age, please help your child apply their own sunscreen so they can start to learn independent skills.
3. **Slap on a hat** – one that protects the face, neck and ears such as a broad brimmed, legionnaire or bucket style hat. Peak caps do not offer enough protection and are not recommended by SunSmart. Please help your child remember to bring and wear their approved sun hat.

4. **Seek shade** – choose shady spots for play whenever possible.
5. **Slide on some sunglasses** - if practical and approved by the service. Make sure they are labelled AS 1067 and cover as much of the eye area as possible.



Sun protection times

Don't just wait for hot and sunny days to use sun protection. Check the sun protection times each day so your family can be protected when they need to be.

Daily local sun protection times and weather details are available on the free SunSmart app or widget, in the weather section of the newspaper and on the SunSmart website at sunsmart.com.au. Sun protection times can also be found at the Bureau of Meteorology website and live UV levels are available from ARPANSA.



Further information contact SunSmart
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