

### **Who are we?**

Gordon Community Preschool is a community based preschool providing care and education for children aged 3-5 years.



The preschool is managed by a Board of Management comprised of preschool parents who work in conjunction with the Preschool Director.

The preschool is partly funded by the NSW Dept Education and is licensed for 74 children each day. Parent fees, levies and occasional fund raising are invested back into the operation of the preschool.

### **Hours of operation**

Children attend the preschool for either two days per week (Monday/Tuesday or Thursday/Friday generally 3-4 year olds) or three days per week (Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday or Wednesday/Thursday/Friday 4-5 year olds) Our hours are 8.00am – 3.30pm every day.

### **Educators**

All teachers at Gordon Community Preschool have tertiary qualifications within the area of Early Childhood Education. There are four classes at the preschool. Each class has 18 or 19 children with an Early Childhood Teacher and an assistant teacher in each class. Additional staff may be employed on a part time basis, to facilitate the inclusion of all children, in particular those children with additional needs.

### **The programme**

We aim to provide a learning environment, rich in possibility, engaging children's interest and curiosity. Teachers are involved in a continual process of observing and collaborating with children. The programme is thoughtfully planned and provisioned for by teachers, drawing on these observations and the interests of children as a starting point for planning.

The programme also includes visits from performing artists and a number of excursions throughout the year.

### **Welcome**

Gordon Community Preschool stands on the land of the Guringai people. We welcome families from all cultures and ethnic backgrounds. We aim to honour and respect diversity.

### **A typical day may look like this:**

**8.00-9.15** Indoor activities while children arrive. Transition to outdoor play – sunscreen, hats.

**9.30-11.15** Outdoor play – climbing, sand play, obstacle course, dancing to music, drawing, painting, socialising & building relationships.

**10.30-11.00** Morning Tea (brought from home) eaten while outside.

**11.15-1.00** Indoor experiences – painting, puzzles, work with clay or dough, block building, craft, books, games, dramatic play, cooking, science. Children are encouraged to make independent choices during this time. Teachers are responsive to children, supporting, guiding and facilitating learning, growth and development within the context of play.

**1.00 – 1.15** A story circle, music time or small or large group experience – discussion, a game, exploration of an area of interest.

**1.15-1.45** Lunch (children bring lunch from home).

**1.45-2.00** Relaxation time –resting on mattresses, listening to music, looking at books, puzzles.

**2.00-2.30** Group time (music, story, dancing, yoga, news)

**2.30-3.30** Indoor experiences

It's a stimulating and engaging preschool day. We try to remain reasonably flexible in our day, modifying the routine to match the needs and interests of the children.



### **Philosophy**

The programme places an emphasis on socialisation and relationship building, problem solving, development of a positive self esteem, and a sense of independence as well as learning about being part of a community. We value communication, collaboration and the sharing of ideas. It is our belief that if children are confident and competent in these areas that it will not only prepare children for school, but more importantly for life.

In addition to a number of theoretical and pedagogical influences, we draw on the principles and practices outlined in the Early Years Learning Framework for Australia. That is – we adopt a holistic approach to teaching and learning “[paying attention to] children’s physical, personal, social, emotional and spiritual well being as well as cognitive aspects of learning”. We recognise the importance of the physical environment in facilitating and enhancing learning and we endeavour to honour and respect a multiplicity of “cultural ways of knowing, seeing and living”.

### **Community Focus – Partnering with families**

Gordon Community Preschool has a long established history within the local community and also places a value of building a sense of community amongst the preschool children, families and educators. We provide a number of opportunities and experiences within our programme to build connections between home and preschool. We have an open door policy – parents are welcome to visit and share in our classroom experiences.

Opportunities also exist for families to participate on the Board of Management, Social Committee or parent help rosters. We also endeavour to have a broader community focus, sponsoring a child, supporting Lifeline and a number of other causes.



★ Fees  
Schedule of Fees @ January 2021

Please head to our website for the

[current fee schedule](#)

Families who hold a low income health care card listing both parent and child's name are eligible for fee relief, with applications made to the Preschool Director.

### Enrolment

The earliest point of entry into the programme is for children who have had their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday before and inclusive of the 31<sup>st</sup> of January in the year of attendance – ie. children who turn 3 after this date are ineligible for entry that year.

### Priority of Enrolment

**First Priority** All children currently enrolled at Gordon Community Preschool are offered a priority place for the following year. Within this category, places are offered according to date of application.

**Second Priority** - Special circumstance – The decision to offer a special circumstance place is made by the Director in consultation with any or all of the following:

- Parents of the child
- Department of Education representative
- Other professional personnel (Therapist, Doctor etc)

Tours around the preschool  
on  
Tuesday or Friday mornings  
by appointment only.  
Please Ph 9498 4114  
Online booking system for  
tours coming soon!

**The third priority** is given to children who fall into one or more of the categories as listed below.

- children who are at least 4 years old on or before the 31 July in that preschool year and not yet in compulsory schooling
  - children who are at least 3 years old on or before 31 January **and** from a disadvantaged background (ie from a family holding a Health Care Card and/or is Aboriginal).
  - children with English as a second language (ESL)
  - children with disabilities
  - children who are at risk of significant harm (from a child protection perspective).
- While GCP places the aforementioned categories among the third of our priority groups, consideration is given to:

- date of application
- available staffing, budget, resources to appropriately meet the needs of children with specific needs or requirements.

**Fourth Priority** - children who have had a sibling attend the preschool, according to date of application. In order to receive priority parents must put their child's name on the waiting list before his/her first birthday, otherwise the child's name will be placed on the list according to date of application only

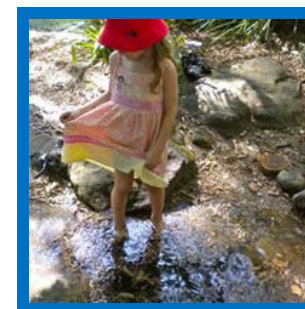
**Fifth Priority** - all other eligible children according to date of application. (That is, children who have turned three before January 31<sup>st</sup> in the year of attendance).

### How to Enrol

An application form is available on the preschool website. We are happy to answer any of your questions or show you around the preschool, call the preschool for an appointment.

**Please ensure that when you return your application form that you do so with a copy of your child's birth certificate or passport.**

Payment is best made via direct deposit. Head to our website for the online waitlist application form and banking details.



**Relationships - community -  
connections - caring- learning -  
fun**

**Gordon Community Preschool is a  
non profit preschool with a long  
and established history within the  
local community.**

**Gordon Community Preschool has  
been assessed as Exceeding in all 7  
Key Quality Areas under the  
National Quality Standards**

