



## **A child's right to play!**

When I play, I use my imagination,  
I characterise, I explore, I discover,  
I organise, I lead, I delegate, I contribute  
And relate my ideas, I question,  
I compromise, I follow.

I work both cooperatively and  
Independently, I create, I socialise,  
I practise caring and sharing, I regulate my  
Emotions, I indulge my senses,  
I re-enact my experiences and tell stories  
through games. I negotiate and problem solve.

I am making sense of my world  
and my place in it.



# 3+ Early Learning Program

## Parent Information Booklet 2022

Karingal Neighbourhood Centre  
88 Anzac Place  
PARABURDOO, WA 6754  
(08) 9189 5579

Proudly supported by

**RioTinto**

# Welcome

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to all the children and families commencing at Karingal's 3+ Early Learning Program. We look forward to working together as a team to provide the best learning environment for your child.

Our 3+ Early Learning Program builds upon all of the wonderful things that you have taught your child at home whilst also providing skills to set the foundation for school readiness and future learning. We are looking forward to having lots of fun together!

## Who can attend the 3+ Early Learning Program?

The 3+ Early Learning Program is a play-based educational program for children who have turned three or who are turning three by June 30<sup>th</sup> 2022. Please provide birth certificate and immunisation record on enrolment so they can be sighted for our records.

## 3+ Early Learning Program

**Session times and duration are dependent on numbers and you will be notified once these are finalised.**

Venue: Karingal Neighbourhood Centre  
Start Date: Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2022

The sessions run in line with the school terms and do not operate on Public Holidays or pupil free, Staff Development Days at Paraburdoo Primary School will be on a to be confirmed basis. A calendar outlining confirmed session dates will be distributed prior to the commencement of each term.

## Sunscreen/Hat

Please apply sunscreen to your child before they come to 3+ Early Learning.

## Guiding Children's Behaviour

We aim to foster socially acceptable behaviour by using a positive, caring and developmentally appropriate approach. Children are made aware of the basic rules that ensure the happiness and well-being of all the children at 3+. If unacceptable behaviour occurs, children are encouraged to have a little supervised 'quiet time out' and are soon reintroduced to activities.

## Preparing your Child

You can help to prepare your child for the start of 3+ Early Learning by;

- Driving/walking past regularly and commenting "That's where you'll go to 3+ Early Learning"
- Talk about starting 3+ in a positive way "You'll have so much fun, I wonder what things you'll do?"
- Talk about friends who will be attending 3+.
- Read books about starting school.
- Talk about your child's teacher and assistant.
- Prepare and talk about items needed at 3+ such as a hat, water bottle and school bag with your child and label with your child's name.
- At home, practise and pretend attending the 3+ Early Learning Centre with your child.

We are looking forward to meeting all of you and sharing a special year with you and your children.

## Toileting

While we prefer that children are fully toilet trained to attend the program, we understand that accidents may still occur. Please try to take your child to the toilet before they come to 3+, but be assured that we respect each individual child, and will deal with any accidents discreetly and with a minimum of fuss.

## What to bring

- A backpack with your child's name marked clearly on it.
- A change of clothes in a plastic bag, kept in their backpack.
- A broad-brimmed hat with your child's name marked clearly on it. (No hat – no outside play)
- A water bottle with your child's name marked clearly on it. (Filled with water only)
- A small box of cut up fruit for morning tea.

**(Please ensure ALL items are clearly labelled with your child's name)**

## Wear appropriate clothing and footwear

Children need to wear comfortable play clothes to 3 + that you don't mind getting a little wet, dirty, painted or glued. We do use aprons and take every precaution to protect your child's clothing, however accidents do occur. Also, please send your child in shoes that they can manage to take off and put on by themselves. Shoes that are safe and supportive include velcro sandals, buckle sandals or sneakers. **Thongs are not appropriate for 3+**

**(Please ensure ALL items are clearly labelled with your child's name)**

# Program

Our Program is guided by the Early Years Learning Framework, which is a National Framework for children from birth to 5 years. The framework's vision is for all children to experience play-based learning that is engaging and builds success for life.

Educators will be guided by the framework and in partnership with families, will develop programs that are responsive to children's ideas, interests, strengths and abilities and recognise that children learn through their play. By using this framework we will guide your child's play by carefully designing stimulating indoor and outdoor environments and creating interesting learning experiences.

Fundamental to the Framework is a view of children's lives as characterised by 'belonging, being and becoming.

**Belonging** – Belonging acknowledges who we are, with whom we belong and who we can become.

**Being** – Childhood is a time to be, to seek and make meaning of the world

**Becoming** – Becoming reflects the rapid and significant changes that occur in the early years as young children grow and develop.

Through the frameworks 5 learning outcomes, we will assist your child to develop:

1. A strong sense of their identity,
2. Connections with their world,
3. A strong sense of wellbeing,
4. Confidence and involvement in their learning and,
5. Effective communication skills.

## Aims

The 3+ Early Learning Program aims to:

- promote and develop school readiness in the children and their families
- encourage self-help and independence in young children
- enhance development of the whole child across the physical, social and emotional, language and cognitive domains
- assist children to develop and use appropriate health and hygiene practices
- assist children to develop a positive self-image and care for others
- provide a developmentally appropriate program that values the uniqueness of each child and respects the importance of being three
- create a safe, secure and nurturing environment for children and their families.

## Portfolio of Learning

Children may not always bring home a product because their project is ongoing, they are working with others, they are working with concrete materials or their energies are engaged in experimenting and exploring rather than completing. We will capture samples of your child's experiences through work samples, photographs and individual portfolios. These provide a wonderful keepsake of your child's journey at 3+ Early Learning Program.

## Parent Concerns/Questions

If a parent has any questions or concerns regarding their child or the program, please speak to the program coordinator or email on **karingalmanager@bigpond.com** to arrange a suitable time to discuss your issues.

Please don't stew on things. If it's important to you or your child, it's very important to us!

Please note: All written correspondence to parents will be made through this email. Our staff have been advised not to respond to communication made through private social media accounts.

## Privacy/Confidentiality

We are committed to protecting your privacy as the security of your personal information is important to us. We conduct our program with respect, integrity and confidentiality. Please ensure you help us to respect the privacy of others in our care by not discussing the progress or behaviour of individual children in the program

## Birthdays

Birthdays are a very special time in the lives of young children. To celebrate your child's birthday you may like to bring in cupcakes to share with each child in the class. However, please keep in mind our **NUT FREE** policy at 3+.

## Toys and Treasures

Please ensure your child leaves toys and special treasures at home, as they are easily lost or damaged. We will provide opportunities during the year for children to share interesting things from home.



## Illness

If your child is unwell please do not send them to 3+ and ensure that they remain at home until fully recovered.

## Infectious Diseases

Please let us know if your child has an infectious disease such as chicken pox, measles, whooping cough etc so that other parents can be notified.

## Food Allergies

Some children live with anaphylaxis. This is a sudden severe and potentially fatal allergic reaction to certain foods such as peanuts, nut products and eggs. It is important to understand that even trace amounts of nuts and egg can cause anaphylaxis. The sensitivity is such that these children can have a reaction from just touching another child's hand or sharing toys and equipment with others who have been eating foods that trigger a reaction.

We ask for your cooperation to minimise the risk of these children coming into contact with the allergens by following these simple steps:

- Foods containing nuts or peanuts are left at home, this includes younger siblings who will accompany the parent to the Parents Lounge.
- Please encourage thorough washing of hands and face after eating and before coming to the Early Learning Program.

This is a great opportunity to teach the children about the need for health and hygiene and to raise awareness of caring for others in their community. We appreciate your support!



# General Information

## Parent requirements for each session

As a requirement of the 3+ program, parents are required to remain onsite during the session at all times.

The Function Centre will be divided into 2 areas:

**The Parent's Lounge** (with couches, coffee and some toys for siblings), and

**The 3+ Early Learning Area** (where we will be engaging your 3+ children in the Early Learning Program).

Parents are required to sign their children in and out of all sessions.

Parents are required to assist in settling in their children once the doors have been open. You can assist by:

- Encouraging your child to place their fruit in the bowl, put their water bottle in the tray and their bags along the wall.
- Find their name tag and put it on for them
- Find an activity to do with your child, and once your child is settled you may leave and go to the Parent's lounge.

This is a wonderful opportunity to meet other families, form friendships and share information.

## Term Fees/Payment

Parents are required to enrol their child for a term. A regular, consistent routine helps young children feel safe and secure and builds confidence as they learn to participate fully and actively in the program.

To secure your child's position please pay for 1 term in advance. You will be notified of the total cost once the number of sessions for the term has been finalised.

Unfortunately, we are unable to offer refunds for missed sessions due to holidays or illness. Where a child is absent due to the birth of a new sibling, an allowance of 4 consecutive lessons is made where no payment is required. Please speak to our Karingal administration staff to ensure that this arrangement is put in place if required.

## **Leaving and Collecting the Children**

Parents are asked to enter Karingal using the front door and wait in the parents area until the 3+ area is opened. The Teacher will open the door at the beginning of the session. Please sign your child in when entering the 3+ area.

We welcome and encourage you to accompany your child and help them to settle with a puzzle, book or activity. We will ring a bell to signify the start of the session. Always say goodbye and tell your child you will see them after 3+ and leave with confidence. Enjoy your time with other families and siblings in the adult area.

At the end of the session, the teacher will open the door and release your children. Please sign your child out when they leave 3+.

Please note: Due to Karingal's Insurance policy, you are required to stay on-site at all times, for the duration of the session. If you leave at any time, this will place us in a compromising position if we have an emergency or evacuation that takes place. We thank you for your co-operation with this important matter.

## Attendance Records

Please sign your child in and out of the session for attendance records and future planning.

## Parent Participation

We encourage all families to be involved in the 3+ Program through rosters and special events.

Our parent roster will give you time to be with your child while they learn through play at 3+. The benefits to your child's self-esteem in having their close family to share '3+' with cannot be underestimated. We also appreciate the extra adult help and you may be asked to assist with an activity, to cut up the fruit or to help with other preparation and cleaning needed for the program.

A parent roster will be put up in the parent area once we feel the children have settled into the routine.

We will let you know in advance of any special events that all family members will be invited to.

## Exclusion

If a child has had a temperature over 37.5C, been vomiting, or had diarrhoea within 24 hours prior to attending the program, parents/guardians are asked to keep their child at home. If the child has had a temperature and is medicated on paracetamol or ibuprofen, parents are asked to keep the child at home until the temperature is normal without administering medication for at least 24 hours.