



# South Bunbury Primary School Kindergarten



**Information Booklet  
2023**

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

We welcome you and your child to the South Bunbury Primary School Kindergarten for 2023. We hope your child has an enjoyable and rewarding year and trust that you and your child will soon feel at home and enjoy the experience of making new friends.

In Kindy, teachers aim to help children learn that school is a safe and fun place to be. Children are provided with a play-based learning program through which they develop their social, emotional, physical and creative skills as well as learn important literacy and numeracy skills. Development of skills in all of these areas is necessary for later learning in school. The Kindy year is also a great opportunity for parents and caregivers to meet each other and become part of our school community.

South Bunbury Primary School Kindergarten maintains the required adult to child ratio, in classes larger than 20 children, by having one Teacher and two Education Assistants working with the children at all times. Staff members welcome the support and assistance of parents and carers throughout the year.

To assist us in helping your child, it is important that there is easy and free communication between staff and parents. Good communication results in better understanding and less confusion. Please remember if you have a question, please do not hesitate to ask; no question is too small.

We look forward to working with you and your child as they begin their school journey.

Kind regards,  
SBPS Kindergarten Staff

### **School contacts**

Phone: 9796 4600

Email: southbunbury.ps@education.wa.edu.au

### **Term dates 2023**

Term 1: 1 February - 6 April

Term 2: 24 April to 30 June

Term 3: 17 July to 22 September

Term 4: 9 October to 14 December

*The first Monday of Terms 2, 3 and 4 are usually School Development Days and students do not attend school. Please keep updated through Seesaw and school notices to confirm these dates.*

### **Kindy Class Times**

**NB: Please see the Kindergarten timetable each term.**

**Included in this pack is the Kindergarten Timetable Term 1 2023.**

### **What your child needs for each session**

- School bag with spare clothes in a packet/wet bag
- Water bottle
- Fruit or vegetables in own container for morning tea
- Lunch box
- Library Bag

**Please label all items sent to school.**

### **Before the First Day of Kindy**

You can help your child's first days at Kindy to go smoothly by using the weeks beforehand to provide your child with some practice time for:

- Going to the toilet by themselves, including washing hands after using the toilet,
- Trying out their water bottle to make sure they can use it,
- Opening and closing their lunch box and bag by themselves,
- Putting their shoes on and taking them off by themselves and storing socks with the shoes,
- Eating their morning tea and lunch by themselves. Perhaps talk with your child about what fruit they are going to have and let them try out a few different "school" lunches.

### **Arrivals/Departures**

Children must be brought to and collected from the door of the Kindy by an adult. To avoid unnecessary stress for your child it is important that parents are punctual at arrival and departure times. If you are going to be late at the end of the day, please contact the office so we can let your child know.

No child will be released to anyone but the custodial parent or the authorised person. Please make sure you have named the person(s) who are authorised to collect your child on the enrolment form.

**If there is a change, please inform us as to who will collect your child.** You will be asked to write your child's name in a book by the door so that the person collecting your child can 'sign them out'. Please ensure we have that person's telephone number, including daycare services.

### **Settling in**

Settling into Kindy is an important time for young children and their families. For some children this will be the first time they may have been left with another person and often the first time they have been left in a larger environment. The first few days of Kindy can be an emotional time for parents. If you know you will shed a tear (or two), then plan to say goodbye, kiss and cuddle and redirect your child's attention to the fun they are having. Maintain your smile and happy stance while you are in Kindy. When children see tears, they think something is wrong and panic – then you may find it even more difficult to get them unattached from your leg!

### **Our Daily Routine**

Upon arrival children and parents are asked to wait outside Kindy classes in the playground area until a member of staff opens the door and welcomes them in at 8.50am. Please encourage your child to take out their own water bottle and morning tea (see next note for information on morning tea). Their morning tea and water bottle is to be placed on the labelled shelf outside the classroom and their lunchbox in their pigeon hole inside the classroom.

## **Food/ Drink (Morning Tea and Lunches)**

**Morning tea:** Each child needs to have their own morning tea. Please make sure this is fruit and/or vegetables only; please no crackers, biscuits and so on. Put your child's morning tea in a small, named container or ziplock bag, separate to their lunch box.

**Lunch:** Children eat their own lunch from their lunch box.

South Bunbury Primary School encourages a traffic light system at lunch time; asking children to consume **green** foods first - a sandwich, a piece of fruit or vegetables and/or a yoghurt; before consuming one **amber** food such as a cereal bar or muffin. We ask that **red foods are not brought to school**; these include juice boxes, soft drinks, lollies, chocolates, fruit leathers and chips.

There are many fabulous websites and Facebook groups that provide ideas for school lunches. Simply search 'School lunchbox ideas'.

Please note we are a **nut aware** school, please avoid sending raw nuts, peanut butter or Nutella to school.

*Please advise the teacher if your child has any food allergies or food intolerances as cooking is included in the learning program.*



At Kindy, children need water only in drink bottles.

## **Canteen**

Kindy children will be able to order from the canteen from Term 2 onwards. Online ordering is through <https://quickcliq.com.au/>. Further information will be available closer to this time.

## **Clothing**

Many Kindy children wear the South Bunbury Primary School uniform. There is an order form included in this package. The uniform shop is located in the 1913 building, alongside the Queen St carpark. Opening times will be available early in the year. Please visit <https://quickcliq.com.au/> and sign up as a new user to order uniforms online.

**All** students wear a broad brimmed hat at all times for outdoor play. This is left at the centre for the term. School hats are recommended. Sunscreen will be available for all students, but please put sunscreen on your child before they come to school.

Please send your child in shoes or sandals with velcro fasteners if possible. Children are allowed to remove their footwear for outside play. On wet winter days it would be wonderful if you could send gum boots and a raincoat so that we can still enjoy some outside time.

Please **label all** clothing with your child's name.

### **Birthdays**

These are very special days in the children's lives and we like to encourage the children to share in these. Your child may bring a treat to share with the other children. The easiest way to celebrate is to bring **cupcakes**. Please let the teacher know if you are bringing a cake to allow for planning particularly for children with food allergies e.g. nut, gluten, dairy.

### **Change of Address or Phone number**

Please notify the school office and classroom teachers of any changes of address, doctor, telephone numbers etc, so that our information can be kept up to date. This information is essential in the event of an emergency.

### **Important Information**

Throughout the year various changes may occur in your child's life. Some changes have dramatic effects on children's behaviour at school. Please keep the Kindy staff informed of any changes in your child's life (new baby, family illness, moving house, parent separation, death of a friend or family pet, poor sleep the night before, etc).

### **School Communication**

Your email address will soon be added to Connect, a platform used to send school and class notices. You can access Connect via your computer or mobile device and there is a free app available for download called ConnectNow.

Seesaw is an app that is used as a communication tool at our school. You will receive a QR code in the first week of school that allows you and relatives to see how your child is doing at school. As teachers we also use this to provide important notices and information.

If you don't have internet access, please let the office know that you require a paper copy of notices and school reports. Paper copies are only printed to those families who register this request at the Office.

### **Parent help**

We welcome parents during the day to assist with activities or even to read a book to a group of children. Once the children are settled, Kindy staff will provide parents with a general timetable for the centre. This usually begins in Term 2.

### **School bag and Library bag**

A child sized backpack is an appropriate school bag. The bag needs to be big enough to hold large pieces of work, but not so big as to be cumbersome when your child walks with it on. Bags should be clearly named.

Kindy is about developing independence in managing their belongings. Please help your child to practise opening and closing their bag over the holidays.

Your child will require a library bag. This is kept in their school bag.

### **Spare Clothes**

Please make sure your child has a spare set of clothes in a plastic bag **throughout the Kindy year**. This plastic bag/ wet bag is kept in their schoolbag just in case an accident or spills occur. Please include in the plastic bag: underwear, socks, shorts/skirt/pants and a top.

If your child has had to change clothes during the day, Kindy staff will endeavour to let you know when your child is collected. However, the end of the day can become busy and staff may forget. So, check your child's bag each day for soiled clothes.

### **Toileting**

It is the school's expectation that all children starting Kindy are toilet trained. Summer is a great opportunity to encourage your child to become independent in toileting. At the beginning of the Kindy year, ***please let staff know as soon as possible if your child has not achieved this important milestone and is not fully toilet trained and/or not independent in toileting and needs reminding.***

We are aware that, at Kindy age, many children will still have toileting accidents.

If your child wets while at Kindy, we will supervise your child in changing and putting their wet clothes into a plastic bag.

If your child soils, we will supervise your child in changing their clothes, if this is possible, and encourage them to clean themselves as much as they can, putting the soiled clothes into a plastic bag. As we are unable to ensure your child is fully clean, we may contact you so that you can ensure their hygiene at home.

### **Absences / Illnesses**

Kindy is an important year for your child. It is not compulsory, however, we are required to keep a record of your child's attendance at Kindy. In case of absences from the program, please notify the school office of intended duration and the reason for the absences as soon as possible. This includes family vacations.

A healthy child is more likely to learn than one who is unwell or feeling tired.

Staff members are unable to administer medications without parental written consent and a medical plan. This includes antibiotics, Panadol etc. Please keep in mind that a child who needs even Panadol may need to be kept at home for the day rather than be at school. If your child needs regular medications, such as asthma medication, please see the front office staff who will assist you in ensuring the relevant documentation is completed.

Coughs, colds and stomach bugs 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 in spite of these, but please, for the sake of all children and staff, keep them at home.

There are certain notifiable diseases and conditions:

Measles	Mumps	Chicken Pox	Head Lice
Rubella	Scabies	Conjunctivitis	Whooping Cough

If your child contracts any of the above, please notify the school **immediately**. A period of exclusion from school is necessary for all of the above conditions. Below you will find further information.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES EXCLUSION TABLE

<b>General Sickness</b>	If your child is generally unwell (cold symptoms, fever, nausea) it is usually best to keep him/her home until the symptoms subside. This also helps to avoid the spread of any infection. Your child can return to school when symptoms have subsided.
<b>Chicken Pox</b>	Infectious from 5 days before the spots appear to 6 days after the last crop of blisters. Exclude from school until all sores have crusted.
<b>Cold Sores</b>	Young children unable to comply with good oral hygiene practices should be excluded if lesions are uncovered and weeping.
<b>Conjunctivitis</b>	Exclude from school – highly contagious. Child can return to school when discharge has stopped.
<b>Diarrhoea</b>	Exclude until diarrhoea has ceased for 24 hours.
<b>German Measles (Rubella)</b>	Exclude from school for at least 5 days after the onset of the rash, until fully recovered.
<b>Head Lice (Pediculosis)</b>	Exclude until 24 hours after treatment has commenced.
<b>Hepatitis A</b>	Re admit on <b>medical certificate</b> of recovery.
<b>Measles</b>	Child is infectious 5 days before the rash appears to 5 days after the rash develops. Child may be readmitted with a <b>medical certificate</b> of recovery or at least 7 days after the appearance of the rash.
<b>Mumps</b>	Re admit on <b>medical certificate</b> of recovery.
<b>Ringworm</b>	Exclude until 24 hours after treatment has commenced.
<b>Scabies</b>	Exclude until 24 hours after treatment has commenced.
<b>School Sores</b>	Exclude until 24 hours after antibiotic treatment has commenced. Lesions on exposed skin must be covered with a waterproof dressing.
<b>Streptococcal</b>	Exclude until 24 hours after treatment has commenced.
<b>Whooping Cough</b>	Exclude until 5 days after starting antibiotic treatment or for 21 days from the onset of the illness.





### A few things to expect at Kindy

- At the end of the day, ask your child what they enjoyed at Kindy. If they don't feel inclined to tell you all about their activities, please don't feel hurt or assume they have wasted their time. They may tell you later or some children prefer to keep some of their experiences to themselves; it is one expression of their individuality. Also at this age the child has a very short memory and may have honestly forgotten what they have done during the day. They may be tired and just not feel like talking. Some children are yet to organise their thoughts to recount a day. Your gentle coaching can help.
- Most of the activities we do at Kindy will not produce anything on paper or to take home. The value of activities mostly lies in the development of language, physical and social skills, or perhaps problem solving. Some of their work is kept for their portfolio which will come home at the end of Term 2 and then at the end of the year.
- When work does come home, make a huge deal about their efforts, even if the final product is less than a 'masterpiece'. Ask them about what they did, what it is and display it somewhere special.
- Please expect them to get dirty and in a mess. Kindy children can get paint on their shirt, sand in their shoes, grass in their hair and more! It is part and parcel of exploratory learning.
- All children develop at different rates. Teachers continually observe your child's progress and are always happy to share their observations with you. At times, it may be noted that your child is having some difficulties with aspects of their development and/or learning. To ensure that each child is catered for individually in the learning program, according to their needs and development, Teachers may feel that referral to other agencies is required for further advice. In these instances, Teachers will speak with you as soon as the issue arises.

*Early in the year there will be a **parent meeting** to refresh these ideas and further explain our teaching practices and how you can help.*

*We look forward to working with you, during the year, to provide an interesting and happy environment for your child to learn and grow in.*

*SBPS Kindergarten Staff*