

Hello Kindergarten 2024





Welcome

Welcome to Kindergarten at Riva Primary School.

Respect, Inclusion and Achievement are at the heart of all that we do.

At Riva Primary School, we provide intentional and inclusive programs for our students.

We nurture the whole child, building on their strengths, and strive to develop each child's unique abilities.

Our Kindergarten programs are planned to support each child's physical, cognitive, social emotional and language development.

Our Early Childhood staff promote and support children's learning by:

- Developing positive relationships with children and their families
- Being responsive to children
- Intentionally planning and implementing play-based learning
- Creating engaging and supportive learning environments
- Valuing the cultural and social contexts of the children
- Assessing children's learning and development.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to make your child's first year at school the perfect start to their learning journey.

Monday
8.40am to 2.50pm

Tuesday
8.40am to 2.50pm

Alternate Wednesdays
(**'Odd' Weeks**)
8.40am to 2.50pm

GREEN

Monday
8.40am to 2.50pm

Tuesday
8.40am to 2.50pm

Alternate Wednesdays
(**'Odd' Weeks**)
8.40am to 2.50pm

PURPLE

Monday
8.40am to 2.50pm

Tuesday
8.40am to 2.50pm

Alternate Wednesdays
(**'Odd' Weeks**)
8.40am to 2.50pm

GOLD

Thursday
8.40am to 2.50pm

Friday
8.40am to 2.50pm

Alternate Wednesdays
(**'Even' Weeks**)
8.40am to 2.50pm

BLUE

Thursday
8.40am to 2.50pm

Friday
8.40am to 2.50pm

Alternate Wednesdays
(**'Even' Weeks**)
8.40am to 2.50pm

RED

Thursday
8.40am to 2.50pm

Friday
8.40am to 2.50pm

Alternate Wednesdays
(**'Even' Weeks**)
8.40am to 2.50pm

TEAL

Educational Program

The program for Kindergarten at Riva Primary School provides a balance between explicit instruction and play-based learning. Our staff use the Western Australian Kindergarten Curriculum Guidelines when planning for learning and teaching in Kindergarten.

The five Learning Outcomes in Kindergarten are:

IDENTITY - children have a strong sense of identity.

CONNECTING & CONTRIBUTING - children are connected with and contribute to their world.

WELLBEING - children have a strong sense of wellbeing.

LEARNING & THINKING - children are confident and involved learners.

COMMUNICATING - children are effective communicators.



Your child will experience many different learning activities in Kindergarten at Riva Primary School, including:



Creative experiences such as painting, drawing and cutting.



Puzzles and construction play.



Listening and engaging with stories.



Talking and listening.



Dressing up and imaginative play.



Singing, listening to and playing music.



Dancing and drama.



Physical activities such as climbing, running and jumping.



Playing with play dough, sand and water.



Using Digital Technologies.



Interacting with others, learning to share and take turns.



Developing independence and self-care skills.

Play-based learning

At Riva Primary School we understand that play-based learning is an important part of a balanced approach. Play-based learning involves careful decisions and support from teachers, so your child grows to accept responsibility for their learning while still receiving purposeful guidance and feedback. It promotes important opportunities for your child to understand how to learn, develop critical thinking skills, adapt to change, and work independently as well as with others.

Through play, children can discover their own interests, abilities and limitations; they imagine, investigate and explore. They develop memory skills, build vocabulary, learn new skills and knowledge, and learn how to get on with adults and other children. Play also supports the development of both large and small types of movement.

Play is an essential part of childhood and is the natural way children learn. When children play, they:

- socialise
- think creatively
- negotiate
- notice new things
- repeat favourite things
- overcome barriers.

Research shows that learning through play supports positive attitudes towards learning, providing a good foundation for ongoing success at school and skills for life-long learning.



At home

You can support your child's development at home by:

- Talking with your child each day. This helps to build connections between home and school.
- Playing outside. Visit playgrounds or play in your backyard. This helps your child to grow stronger and confident, and uses the part of the brain that helps them to concentrate and solve problems.
- Reading books together. This helps your child to develop understanding about language and increases their vocabulary.
- Drawing, painting, and creating. Encourage your child to express themselves creatively (these activities also help develop fine motor skills).
- Maths is everywhere! Playing games, counting with your child, measuring, sorting and comparing items helps them to see, hear and practise maths ideas.
- Singing songs, making music and dancing. These activities help your child to develop their memory and express themselves.
- Building things – with toys, sand, natural materials, cardboard. This helps to develop your child's fine motor skills; problem solve and be creative.
- Imaginative play such as playing "shop". This helps your child to learn to share and take turns. They also practise their communication skills and simple mathematics skills.
- Encourage effort and accept mistakes when learning.





Every day is important

At Riva, your child's teacher plans programs and activities that build on previously learned skills.

Developing the habit of going to school regularly is vital so your child does not miss out on important ideas and skills they need for future learning.

While attendance is not compulsory in Kindergarten, we strongly encourage regular attendance. The school will follow up all unexplained absences.

You can help by:

- Talking positively about Kindergarten.
- Showing interest in what your child is doing at school.
- Setting play dates to help your child develop friendships.
- Arriving at school and collecting your child from school on time.
- Where possible making appointments with the doctor, dentist and specialists after school or during the holidays.
- Taking family holidays during the school holidays.

Staying Healthy

A healthy body helps your child to be their best self, each and every day.

Sleep

Make sure your child is getting enough sleep. 3-6 year old children need 10-12 hours of sleep. Have a regular wind-down routine and time for bed.

Breakfast

Having a nutritious breakfast sets your child up for the day - it's hard for children to learn on an empty tummy.

Lunchbox

Pack a lunchbox of healthy food that you know your child will like and eat. Help your child learn how to unwrap their food and eat it independently.

Immunisation

Your child's immunisation schedule needs to be up to date (appropriate to their age and any limiting medical conditions) for them to go to Kindergarten. Speak with the school or Kindergarten teacher if you do not have these records and they can assist you.

Toilet Training

Help your child manage going to the toilet on their own by giving them lots of practise to undo, pull down and do up their clothes, use toilet paper, flush the toilet and wash their hands by themselves.

Medical

If your child has any allergies or medical requirements, you must let the teacher know so that a plan can be put in place to manage them.

Children will begin school with varying levels of self-care skills. Build upon your child's existing skills to promote independence and participation.

Healthy Food

Crunch and Sip

Each day the students will be given a short break where they snack on fruit and vegetables only (Crunch) and drink water (Sip). Please provide your child with a small fruit/vegetable snack in a separate labelled container every day.

Morning Tea

We recommend 1-2 pieces of fruit or vegetables and other healthy snacks for their morning break (recess). You might like to send their morning tea food in a separate container.

Lunch

Please provide your child with a nutritious and healthy lunch. We recommend avoiding or limiting chips, cakes and processed foods. All food should be brought to school in a named lunch box.

Water bottle

Please send a named water bottle every day. Please ensure it is filled with water (no juice or cordial please).

To support your child please ensure that you provide containers that your child is able to open and show them how to unwrap or open packaged food.



The First Day

Starting school can be an anxious experience for both you and your child. Here are some tips to get ready for starting the school year:

- Go past the school and talk to your child about the exciting things they will do and the friends they will make.
- Establish a routine for Kindergarten mornings. This might include a chart with pictures with each step for getting ready.
- Check that your child has the listed requirements.
- Practise using their school lunchbox so that they get used to opening it independently.
- Organise holiday play dates with friends or children who will be going to Kindergarten.
- Explain that Mum/Dad or a caregiver, will drop them off and then pick them up when school has finished.
- Ensure your child receives adequate sleep.

On the first day of school, it may be helpful for your child (and you) if you:

- Acknowledge your child's emotions and explain that you will leave and they will be safe with the teacher.
- Speak with your child's teacher. If your child is upset, they may like to stay with a staff member as you leave or ask them what they would like to do to help them as you leave. Say "Goodbye" so that they are aware that you are leaving. Remind them that you (or another carer) will pick them up at the end of the day.



General Information

Allergy Aware School

Please be aware that we have students at our school who have severe and potentially life-threatening allergies to certain foods including nuts and eggs.

Birthdays

You are welcome to send a birthday treat to school with your child. Small cupcakes are preferable. Please do not send food that contains peanut products. The school will advise if there are other foods or products that are a risk to students in our Early Childhood classes.

Celebrations

Throughout the year the students will be involved in learning about different celebrations and cultures. Please let your child's teacher know if you do not wish your child to participate in celebrations such as birthdays, Christmas and other cultural celebrations.

Communication

Staff may be contacted via Seesaw for day-to-day matters. If you have a more detailed enquiry, please email riva.ps@education.wa.edu.au

If you would like to speak to your child's teacher with a concern or to discuss your child's progress, please make an appointment with the teacher.

Drop Off & Pick Up

Children in Kindergarten are required to be taken to their classroom in the morning and picked up from the classroom in the afternoon by their parent or caregiver. Please contact the school if someone other than those listed on the student's details list will be picking up your child.

Family Involvement

Parent involvement is encouraged to maintain important home and school connection. Your interest and involvement greatly encourages your child.

All persons, including parents and family members, must complete a Parent & Child Volunteer Declaration Form prior to engaging in any child-related volunteering at the school. These forms can be completed once, and will remain in effect for the entire school year.

A family roster chart will be developed by class teachers to facilitate parent assistance and involvement that is suited to the needs of the children and the classroom.

Families will be informed of opportunities to be involved throughout the year.



Illness & Accidents

If your child is sick, it is important to keep them home or arrange alternative care for them. When your child is unwell, please telephone or SMS the school to let us know. If your child becomes ill during the day, the staff will contact you and ask that you take your child home. Please keep your child home if they are experiencing any of the following:

- Live head lice
- Fever
- Cold/flu symptoms
- Weeping sores
- Diarrhoea or vomiting (do not attend school until 24-48 hours after it has ceased)
- Any infectious diseases e.g. influenza, measles, chickenpox, whooping cough, school sores etc.

If your child is involved in an accident, it will be recorded and treated appropriately. You will be notified by the school of the incident that occurred and any first aid provided. If it is serious, the parent/guardian will be contacted.

Further information

Comprehensive information about Riva Primary School is available in the 2024 Handbook. This is available from the school website at www.rivaps.wa.edu.au

Family partnership

At Riva Primary School we acknowledge the important role families play in their children's learning. To support your child and the school we ask that families:

- Keep in touch with your child's teacher on matters concerning your child's development.
- Connect with your child's learning on Seesaw.
- Encourage independence and allow your child to unpack their belongings and carry their own bag.
- Read notice boards outside of your child's classroom.
- Notify the teacher of any changes in normal routine at home.
- Adhere to pick up and drop off times.
- Notify the teacher if your child is receiving any therapies outside of school (eg Speech or occupational therapy)
- Notify the office of any emergency contact information changes or medical updates.
- Ensure that a parent/carer or nominated adult collects your child from Kindergarten.





More ideas for you and your child

Talk with your child

At school your child learns about the importance of communication. You can help by talking with your child about the things they do at school. Ask them to explain or describe things that happened during the day. Ask questions to draw out more information if they can't think of anything. Ask 'open' questions so your child answers with more than 'yes' or 'no'. For example: *What was your favourite thing you did at Kindergarten today?* rather than *Did you have fun at Kindergarten today?* Be sure to talk about your day too!

Read together

Children love being read to! The time you spend reading together helps your child develop a love of books and words.

The earlier you start, the better – your child is more prepared for school if they are familiar with language and the many ways it is used.

The local library is a treasure trove of books and reading materials – let your child pick out those that interest them.

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