

Brentwood Park Kindergarten

Let's Learn and Play Together

2025 Information Book



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We would like to acknowledge the Wurundjeri people, the traditional owners of the land on which we live, work and play. We would like to pay our respects to the Elders, both past and present of the Kulin Nation, and extend that respect to other Indigenous Australians present.

*Here is the land. Here is the sky.
Here are my friends, and here am I.*

*We thank the Wurundjeri people for the land
on which we learn and play.*

*Hands up, hands down.
We're on Wurundjeri ground.*



CONTACT INFORMATION

Address: Brentwood Park Kindergarten
25 Mandowie Crescent, Croydon Victoria 3136

Telephone: (03) 9723 3230 Mobile: 0480273179

General email: brentwood.park.croydon.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au

Committee President: president.bpk@gmail.com

Enrolments: brentwood.park.enrolments@kindergarten.vic.gov.au

Administration: brentwood.park.admin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au

2025 TERM DATES

Term 1 29 January to 4 April

Term 2 22 April to 4 July

Term 3 21 July to 19 September

Term 4 6 October to 19 December

Our Values

Being

We help children to build their sense of identity and find their strengths and interests.

Belonging

We help children to build positive relationships with others and feel a sense of connection.

Becoming

We help children to become confident and ready for new adventures.



Our Program – Let's Learn and Play Together

Our program is delivered by bachelor qualified Early Childhood teachers with the support of diploma qualified early childhood educators. Play based learning forms the foundation with opportunities to develop social and emotional learning, fine and gross motor skills, numeracy and literacy awareness and an overall curiosity of the world around them.

Play Based Learning

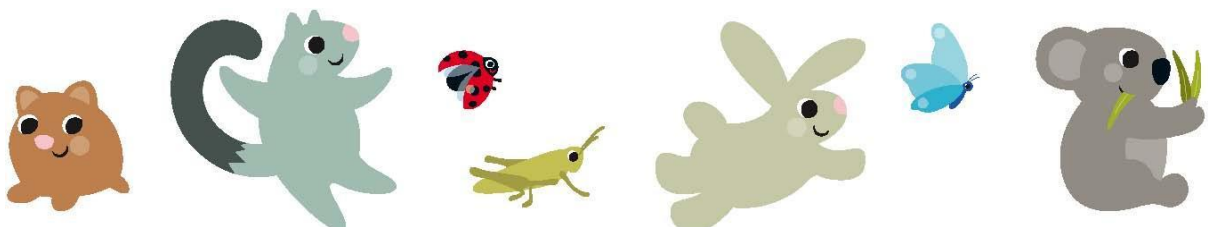
Open ended indoor and outdoor play spaces are planned and created to foster and enhance discovery, exploration, creativity and experimentation. Our play areas also provide quieter spaces to further explore each child's interests and curiosity. Play spaces regularly change and rotate to support the child's learning and social and emotional development.

Planning

Planning for each child involves implementing a planning cycle. This involves collecting information, analysing, acting and reflecting. Using this cycle allows us to provide experiences based on individual needs and support or extend on each child's learning.

Documenting

To document the learning cycle, we use 'snapshots' of learning through learning stories, observations and anecdotal records. We use StoryPark to reflect the learning that is taking place on an ongoing basis. You are welcome to discuss your child's progress and development with our educators throughout the year.



Important Details About Kinder

Kinder Communication

We use StoryPark App to send out information and newsletters. All families will need to download the free App so that they can receive updates and turn on notifications. Information about how to download this App will be included in your information pack. At times we also use email and text messaging and will occasionally have printed notes in children's individual pigeon hole.

Food

Please provide your child with a named lunch box with healthy food options and a named water bottle. Please note that we request **NO nut products** at kinder as per our Allergy and Anaphylaxis Policy.



Change of Clothes

As we actively engage in messy play, including water, sand, mud play, there may be times when your child will need to be changed. Please include a full change of clothes for your child in their kinder bag.

Footwear

To provide good support and ensuring your child's safety, enclosed shoes suitable for climbing and active play are recommended.

Kinder Hats

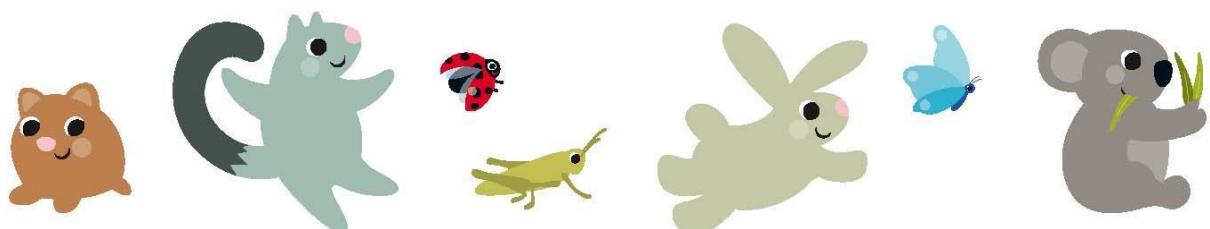
Your child will be provided with their own personal sun smart hat to wear outside, according to the UV rating. This time is usually between late August and end April. Hats are left at kinder ready to be worn again. We also provide sunscreen for children to apply, however you may prefer to supply a roll on sunscreen for your child.



Optional Uniforms

We have kinder t-shirts and jumpers that are available for purchase. Our range is available in size 4 & 6 and our logo is printed on the front of a variety of different coloured tops. Please note these uniforms are optional.

[Kindergarten Uniform](#)



Medical and Immunisation Information

Age	Vaccination	Date	Provider	Provider Type
2 months	Diphtheria Tetanus Pertussis Hib (Prevnar 7) Polio (Salk) Polio (Sabin)	20 Apr 2009	Superclinics C/O MURRAY PROFESSIONAL	GP
4 months	Diphtheria Tetanus Pertussis Hib (Prevnar 7) Polio (Salk)	20 Jun 2009	Superclinics C/O MURRAY PROFESSIONAL	GP
6 months	Diphtheria Tetanus Pertussis Polio (Sabin)	20 Aug 2009	Superclinics PROFESSIONAL	GP
12 months	Hib (Prevnar 7) MMR (Mumps Measles Rubella) MMR2 (Mumps Measles Rubella)	20 Aug 2009 20 Oct 2009	COMMUNA MURRAY PROFESSIONAL	GP
18 months	Hib (Prevnar 7)	20 Feb 2010	Superclinics	GP
4 years	MMR2 (Mumps Measles Rubella) MMR3 (Mumps Measles Rubella)	20 Feb 2010 24 Oct 2012	MURRAY PROFESSIONAL	GP Family Clinic

Immunisation

As part of federal government regulations, a 'No jab No play' policy has been implemented. You must provide a copy of an up to date immunisation history statement prior to starting the kinder year. This needs to be the official record from Medicare. More information can be found at myGov.

Medical

When completing enrolment information, it is vital that you provide us with specific information about any allergies or medical conditions, including asthma, that your child may have. If your child has asthma, diagnosed allergies or anaphylaxis, a current action plan needs to be provided prior to your child starting kindergarten. Children will not be allowed to attend until all medical forms have been completed and submitted to educators.



Any medications must be clearly labelled and provided to educators.

If your child has food allergies, you may want to consider providing alternative safe treats that your child can have when there is a birthday celebration. Please ensure they are clearly labelled and easily stored. Individually wrapped treats are a preferred option.



Family Involvement

Kinder Helpers

We value volunteer helpers in our kinder sessions. Helpers can be parents, carers, grandparents or other relatives or special people. When helping during a session, you may be given a small job from a teacher such as helping to write children's names on their art/craft or helping to wash paint brushes. When you spend time with us during the session, you need to "sign yourself in". The sign in register for parent helpers can be found next to the sign in book for the children. When you enter the kinder, you become an official volunteer, and as such, are covered by the kindergarten's insurance should an accident occur.

Special Family Events

Each year, both the Kinder teaching team and Committee plan for special events for families to attend. This may include afternoon tea at kinder with parents, carers or special people, grandparents morning tea, a family fun event held off-site, mums catch up and dads catch up. We value the sense of belonging and connection and strive to foster this within our community.

Ongoing Communication with Educators

Feel free to speak with our teachers about any concerns or progress regarding your child's development. Your child's wellbeing is of utmost importance to us and we promote open communication. This may include how your child is settling into kindergarten life, areas of strengths or needs and discussion of specific goals to further enhance further learning.

Celebrations

We celebrate a range of traditional festivities throughout the year valuing the diversity of our kinder families. Please let us know if there is a special occasion you would like to celebrate also. If you would like to celebrate your child's birthday at kinder, you are welcome to bring along treats to share. Please ensure these are Nut Free.

Working Bee

Four working bees are organised during the year. Each kinder group is allocated to one of these days. Working bee tasks can include spreading tanbark, weeding, sweeping, planting, or painting. Children are welcome to come and it can be a fun social event for families. Morning tea or afternoon tea is provided.

Laundry

The kindergarten provides smocks for the children to use during the sessions, and also some towels that are used during the sessions. Parents are asked to help by taking a turn in washing the items and returning to kinder on the next week.



Helping to Prepare your Child for Kinder

Starting kinder is a new and exciting adventure for both children and their parents/carers but it can also be a time where we feel nervous, shy or anxious. Here are some strategies to help prepare for kinder and support a smooth transition.

Positive mindset

- Be positive - talk to your child about the fun and exciting things they might do at kinder.
- Borrow library books about kindergarten to read together. Or talk about your memories of kinder.
- Visit the park next to kinder so that it becomes a familiar place. If you already know some families, organise a play date together.

Building independence

- Encourage independent toileting and discuss any additional needs with your educators prior to starting kinder.
- Encourage your child to dress themselves, so they can manage tasks like taking their jumper on and off.
- Support your child, and practise together, to open and close lunch boxes and drink bottles.

Getting organised

- Label all belongings that your child will take to kinder.
- Choose a backpack/bag together, checking that your child's lunch box, drink bottle and spare clothes will fit inside and they can carry the bag themselves (once inside kinder foyer).
- Talk with your child about some healthy food options they would like in their lunch box.
- Encourage your child to pack their own lunch box and drink bottle into kinder bag.
- Establish a routine for kindergarten mornings – this could include a chart with pictures outlining the different steps for getting ready.
- Create a routine around sleep - at this age, children need 10 to 12 hours sleep each night. Practice sticking to bedtime and wake up schedules in the weeks leading up to the start of kinder.
- Read over the family information the kindergarten provided to ensure everything is prepared.



Starting Kinder

At home

- Check what things you will need bring (eg.snack and lunch, water bottle, spare clothes).
- Prepare the night before, lay out clothing you both agree on and pack their bag together.
- Encourage your child to follow your morning routine and remind them of next steps.
- Be enthusiastic and positive.

At the beginning of kinder

- Talk to your child about what to expect and when you will pick them up.
- Remind your child of how much they are going to learn and enjoy their day.
- Let them know you will be thinking about them and how excited you will be to hear about their day when you see them after school.
- Talk to the kindergarten teacher about how you would like to settle your child in (e.g. you may want to stay for a while).
- If you are having trouble separating from your child, ask the kindergarten teacher or educators to help you.
- Make sure you say goodbye – Although it is tempting to ‘sneak away’ once you can see your child is settled, your child will feel more worried if you suddenly disappear without saying goodbye. This can cause greater distress and mistrust.

At the end of kinder

- Ensure you are on time at the end of the session to pick up your child.
- At the end of the day talk to your child about what happened during the day.
- Allow some down time or quiet activities at home after a big day. Starting new things and building new relationships is tiring!

Feeling anxious?

Create a goodbye routine - Having a goodbye routine provides comfort and familiarity, so your child knows what's to come. This could be anything you and your child decide on, such as a special hug or handshake followed by a "See you later, alligator!" Once you've said your goodbyes, it's best to leave. A long farewell may reinforce further anxiety.

Bring a comforting object -Have your child bring a little reminder of home to ease separation anxiety. Ideas may include bringing a favourite toy, blankie, family photo. These comfort items can provide a real sense of security for your child in an unfamiliar environment.

Reassure and remind that you will be coming back - At the end of each session, reinforce the idea that you came back, 'just like you said you would.' This way, each day's drop-off will be part of consistent routine for your child.

Talk with Educators - Sharing your concerns with educators about your child allows open communication and opportunity to develop caring and consistent routines.



Committee of Management

Brentwood Park Kindergarten is managed by a volunteer Committee of Management. The committee manages the operations of the kinder, while teachers focus on the delivery of the program. The Committee makes decisions about budgets, staffing, policies, strategic plans, resources, fundraising and social activities.

Each year at our AGM, the Committee is elected from within the parent body. Positions start in January and end in December.

Committee positions include

- President
- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Enrolment Officer/Mika
- Fundraising Coordinator
- Social Coordinator
- Maintenance Officer
- Scholastic Book club coordinator
- General Members

These positions require a police check

Monthly meetings are held in the evening, sometimes with shared supper to enjoy. Meetings typically include updates and reviews of the month, group discussions and sometimes breaking into small groups to work on documents or projects.

Being part of committee is a great way to meet new people and actively contribute to your kindergarten community. We welcome all new members and encourage new and current families to join the committee.

We invite you to attend our AGM in November. Further information will be sent closer to the date. If you would like to find out more information about being part of committee, please contact president.bpk@gmail.com



Enrolment Paperwork

Below is a list of further enrolment forms and information. This information is included in your child's information folder.

Forms that need to be completed and returned by the end of NOVEMBER 2024

- Enrolment paperwork
- Regular Outings
- Getting to know your child
- Uniform Order (optional)
- Current medical forms , where applicable, together with your child's action plan eg asthma, anaphylaxis, allergies. These forms must be current , signed by your doctor and in COLOUR. Please ask us if you need a specific form to complete.

