



# Welcome to the Pre-School Room



*Happy Valley Community Children's Centre  
Linda Street  
Happy Valley SA 5159*

*Phone: 8381 1380*

***Üdvözlük!***



## WELCOME TO THE PRE-SCHOOL ROOM



### Children

We believe that above all, this is a place for children – it is their space and therefore they should have a voice in how it should be. We value the children's ability to make decisions that affect them and others around them, so we aim to include children in the decision-making process and to listen to what they have to say.

### Our Curriculum

At Happy Valley Community Children's Centre we embrace play-based learning and an emergent curriculum in accordance with the Early Years Learning Framework.

Children learn best through play and when they are allowed to discover what they want to learn.

Our carefully-planned play environments are rich in stimulating resources that provide opportunities for children to learn as they discover, improvise, create and imagine.

Our team of educators supports children as they explore their environment and extend their play when required through programs that respond to, and build on, children's interests. Concepts and skills are presented and investigated, and then expanded through both structured activities and imaginative play that support cognitive, physical, social and emotional development.

Daily routines are flexible to accommodate children's changing needs. They involve individual, small group and whole group tasks with a balance of indoor and outdoor, as well as quiet and active activities.

You can expect not only the fundamentals such as language, literacy and numeracy, but art and music, social and life skills, problem solving and investigation – within an environment and curriculum designed especially to meet each developmental level.

We shall constantly monitor the children's learning and development using the framework by taking photos and observations of the children. Copies of photos, observations and Learning Stories are made available to parents in your child's information pockets from time to time. The children's Learning Portfolios are stored in the Pre-school Room and can be accessed by you at any time.





## **Programming**

In the Pre-School Room the children's development and learning progress is documented by all educators working in the room with the children. This approach gives educators the opportunity to look at the children as a whole and not just focus on one area of their development.

We are reliant upon your knowledge and understanding of your child, and also on your suggestions and input about the Pre-School Room so that we can incorporate them into the curriculum. We will endeavour to share as much information as possible with you through informal discussions, documentation and displays around the room, newsletters and your child's portfolio.

## **Parent Participation**

We welcome parent input and participation during your child's time at the centre. There are many ways to participate including assisting at working bees, sharing a special talent, reading stories and bringing in pets to visit. The centre also plans special events throughout the year that enables you to socialise with educators and other families. This gives you an opportunity to meet the parents of your child's friends in a relaxed atmosphere.

We encourage you to talk to an educator about your child's day at drop off or pick up times. It is important to ensure educators are well informed about your child including anything that has happened at home, illness or maybe visitors. These types of irregularities in your child's life may not seem important at the time but can impact on your child's day. Don't forget you can ring at any time of the day and speak to an educator.





Bonjour

## ROUTINE



*Routine times* are an essential part of our day. They are rich times for social interaction, conversation and developing skills. The children are encouraged to develop a sense of social responsibility. Therefore, they are actively involved in packing away, pouring drinks, serving foods, cleaning tables, sweeping floors etc.

7:00 Centre opens. The Kinder Room is set up with activities for the children to explore on arrival.

7.45- Breakfast is offered

8.15 There is a table set aside for children to have breakfast.

7.45 The Pre-School room is opened and set up with activities for the children as they continue to arrive.

8:30 Morning kindergarten children apply sunscreen, gather their bags and are taken over to the Happy Valley Kindergarten for their session.

Morning roll call. The children put on their sunscreen, wash their hands ready for free play.

9.00- Rolling Fruit, milk and water is offered.

9.45 Children's play is not interrupted during this time and they are encouraged to have fruit when ready during this time frame.

9:45 Free play indoors or outdoors depending on the weather. The outdoor environment is set up in conjunction with the Kinder Room and Pre-school Room.

11.00 Lunch for the all children. As well as a nutritious lunch, there is also a fruit platter. The children are provided with quiet reading time before moving into group time.

11.30 Group time

12.00 Relaxation is offered to all children in the room.

12.30 - Indoor or outdoor play time. This is a really focused part of the day 1:45 where children have lots of time to explore ideas through play.

1.45- Sunscreen is applied and afternoon tea is offered to the children.  
2.00

2:30 Free play indoors or outdoors is offered to all children in conjunction with the kinder and pre-school rooms.

3:15 Afternoon kindergarten children return to child care. They re-apply sunscreen and join us for outside play.

4.00 A late snack is offered with water to drink. Weather permitting children remain outside to play.

- 5.00 This is a flexible time of day where the children combine with the Kinder Room either indoors or outdoors. Yard is packed up.
- 5.30 The remaining children from the Pre-School, Kinder and Junior Room combine and move into the Junior Room area.
- 6:30 The Centre closes.



**The routine is very flexible and the above times can vary on a daily basis depending on weather conditions and the levels of children's interest in what is happening in the room.**



## REMINDER

→ DON'T FORGET!

Reminder!

Please label your child's hats and spare clothes including their bag, to ensure nothing is lost. In the event of something becoming lost, please check the lost property or speak to an educator. We would prefer if toys or special items stay at home to avoid breakage or getting lost, however, we do encourage children to bring in books to share with the group. Comforters are encouraged for use by your child to assist with settling or when they are feeling tired. Other reminders include:

1. Bring a sun smart hat **everyday**, beanies can be worn in the winter months.
2. At least one change of clothes.
3. Jacket and boots during winter.
4. Special comforter-eg blanket, cuddly toy for rest time.



*Merci*

### ~~~ Hats, Clothing, Sunscreen and Shade ~~~

**SLIP** - Please choose lightweight, loose fitting clothing that will help keep you child cool during the warmer weather. Clothing needs to cover most of your child's body, including shoulders, arms and legs. (PLEASE **NO** singlets or tank tops).

**SLOP** - It is recommended that sunscreen be applied to areas of children's skin that is difficult to protect using clothing. Sunscreen needs to be applied up to 30 minutes before going outside. We will endeavour to apply sunscreen when they arrive at child care and re-apply as we go outside. **If your child arrives after 9:00am or after 2:00pm**, please ensure that sunscreen has already been applied.



**SLAP** - Please provide your child with a named **legionnaire** or **broad brim** style hat each day. Caps are not acceptable as they do not protect the back of the neck or ears. **Centre hats are available for purchase from the office at a minimal cost.**



**SEEK shade** - We encourage the children to play in the shade as much as possible when outside, and equipment is set up in shaded areas to assist us in this endeavour. We are constantly observing the use of the yard to determine where increased areas of shade may be required in the future.





## Medication



The centre has comprehensive policies on administering medication and procedures for accidents and illness, copies of which are available upon request. **Under no circumstances are medications to be left in your child's bag for obvious safety reasons.** All short and long term medications, prescription or over the counter, must be accompanied by a Medication Authority form. We can supply you with copies of this form or they are available from our website at [www.happyvalleyccc.com.au](http://www.happyvalleyccc.com.au). Please contact the centre if your child is sick, and we request that children remain out of care during the prescribed incubation period detailed in the *Immunisation/Exclusion Policy and Procedures*. Child care is not a place for sick children.

## Meal Times

The centre follows the Australian National guidelines for nutrition and our cook offers a menu that is varied and exciting and one that the children thoroughly enjoy. The children eat regularly including:



- ❖ Fruit, milk or water in the morning
- ❖ A hot meal prepared by the cook at lunchtime accompanied by a fruit platter and water to drink
- ❖ An afternoon snack of yoghurt and fruit, frozen yoghurt cones, cheese and biscuits and dried fruit, dip etc with milk or water to drink
- ❖ An late afternoon snack and water to drink

Meal times provide wonderful opportunities for social interaction and learning. We aim for these times to be relaxed and enjoyable where we eat in small groups discussing healthy eating in a calm and relaxed environment.

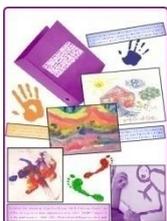
## Gowrie S.A.

Gowrie S.A. works with childcare educators to support the inclusion of children with additional needs and those from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. Inclusive Directions provide inclusion support, information and advice, specialised equipment/resources and training. Please speak to an educator for further information.



## Communication

Communication is essential in developing effective relationships and continuity of care between home and child care. We will endeavour to share as much information as possible with you about your child's day. We have various forms of communication in the Pre-School Room including the white board where we detail the meals for the day, morning and afternoon activities and anything of importance that occurs on a daily basis.



There are various displays and photographs around the room for you to read and every child has an individual Learning Story portfolio. The portfolios illustrate the exciting investigations and discoveries that the children have been involved in as well as developing friendships and a variety of creative experiences. Your feedback and comments regarding your child's experiences and relationships at childcare is important. Your knowledge of your child is vitally important to us and this information supports educators in programming and planning on going experiences for your child.

Technology is an important learning tool for children to support their development. Educators use iPad's for researching interesting facts and encourage the children to ask questions and be active participants in their learning.



## Happy Valley Kindergarten



Our close working relationship with Happy Valley Kindergarten allows us to communicate important information regarding your child at the beginning and end of each kindy session and relay this information to our families. We work collaboratively with the kindergarten to meet the preschool and child care needs of the local community. Before and after kindy care and lunch care is offered to existing families enabling parents to access care for a short duration during these times. Further details are available upon enrolment at the kindergarten or the child care centre.



## Messy Fingers

Sticky fingers tangled hair,  
scattered crayons, everywhere.

Fancy artwork on the wall  
drawn by midgets three feet tall.

Tell me why and tell me how  
that was mine I want it NOW!

Fix my bike. Buy me gum.

If you have it, I want some.

Dirty faces, grass-stained knees,  
learning words like pretty please.

Endless hugs & goofy wet kisses,  
learning respect with 'Mr.' & 'Mrs.'

Scraped-up hands, from falling down.

Tender tugs on my night gown.

Need more paper for Santa's letter?

I wasn't so bad but I've been better.

Watching a movie again and again

Mommy, please put the tape back in.

Messy fingers hair gone wild  
all in the life of a precious child!!

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