

# Yuluma Primary School



K i n d e r g a r t e n

**2024**



# Learning and Growing Together

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## School Information

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### 2024 TERM DATES / PUPIL FREE DAYS

#### Semester 1

Term 1	Wednesday 31 January – Thursday 28 March
Term 2	Monday 15 April – Friday 28 June

#### Semester 2

Term 3	Tuesday 16 July – Friday 20 September
Term 4	Tuesday 8 October – Thursday 12 December

### School Development Days 2024 (*Students Do NOT attend*)

2024	
Term 1	Monday 29 January & Tuesday 30 January
Term 2	Friday 31 May
Term 3	Monday 15 July
Term 4	Monday 7 October

### Public Holidays during School Terms

2024	
Term 1	Monday 4 March – Labour Day Friday 29 March – Good Friday
Term 2	Thursday 25 April – ANZAC Day Monday 3 June – Western Australia Day



# Introduction

Starting kindergarten is a major milestone for you and your child and the start of a new phase of life for you both.

Your child's first years of school will be exciting and engaging and this booklet will help make the kindergarten experience at Yuluma Primary School as smooth and enjoyable as possible.

The Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) and the Kindergarten Guidelines underpin our Yuluma Primary School Kindergarten program. The teaching and learning environment has a balance between intentional play-based learning and explicit teaching of literacy and numeracy skills.

Each group will be taught by an early childhood teacher and an education assistant who both have a wealth of knowledge about how children learn, grow and develop. The learning environment is a happy, safe and stimulating place and caters for individual needs and differences. Our aim is to form a trusting, respectful and caring relationship with each child and each family.

Your child will be introduced to a range of age appropriate and motivating topics in the learning areas of English, Mathematics, the Arts, Science, Humanities and Social Sciences. These sessions are child centred and hands-on learning experiences designed to build on current knowledge and skill level.

It is widely recognised that a powerful way young children learn is through play. Play is both active and interactive and it fosters children learning together. Children use play to develop their relationships, to experiment, imagine, create, practise, problem solve and role play. Play is directed and intentional as per National Quality Standard (NQS) and (EYLF) guidelines.

## Curriculum

The W.A. Kindergarten Curriculum and the EYLF - form the basis of the Kindergarten classroom programs. The curriculum is delivered through a variety of modes with a specific emphasis on structured play.

### National Quality Standard

The Australian Government has recognised the importance of increasing the focus on the early years to ensure the well-being of children throughout their lives and to lift the productivity of our nation. The drive for change is based on clear evidence that the early years are very important for present and future health, development and well-being. A National Quality Framework for Early Childhood Education and Care has been developed. This sets the National Quality Standard (NQS) that all early childhood programs, including schools from K-12, must meet. There are seven quality areas: educational program and practice, physical environment, children's health and safety, relationships, collaborative partnerships with families and communities, staffing and leadership.



## Beginning Kindergarten – Our Kindy Day

Kindergarten sessions commence at 8:30am and conclude at 2:40pm on your child's designated day of school. In 2024 these days will be Monday, Tuesday and alternate Wednesdays OR Thursday, Friday and alternate Wednesdays.

Classroom doors will be open at 8:15am. Please ensure you allow plenty of time to say goodbye and for your child to join others inside.

Once your child has settled into class, a short and reassuring goodbye encourages independence. Always tell your child that you are leaving and who will be picking them up at the end of the day.

Your child will be released from the teacher at the end of the day into the care of the parent or nominated person ensuring the safety of your child, only when staff sight their parent/carer and call the child's name. Parents are asked to wait outside the door for their child to be called and allow children to exit a few at a time. The importance of this practice is to ensure that all students are safely collected by their nominated person at the end of the day. Please let staff know if your child will be collected by someone other than yourself. If you know you are going to be late or if arrangements change, please ring our school administration so that we can let your child know and prevent them from becoming distressed or worried at the end of the day.

Children are requested not to play on the playground equipment before or after school. This is a duty of care issue as staff are not available to supervise children.

### Correct Pencil Grip

While technology has impacted on the different ways we communicate, the ability to handwrite legibly remains a vital skill in many aspects of everyday life. It is important to establish and reinforce a proper pencil grip as early as possible. The tripod grip is the preferred grip as it allows for proper control of the pencil. In the tripod grip the thumb, index finger and middle finger form a triangle to hold the pencil with the ring finger and the little finger supporting the middle finger. The pencil should be positioned between the three fingers so there is equal pressure. The index finger should rest on the top of the pencil. All fingers are slightly bent.



# What to Bring

Please provide your child each day with:

## Large Bag or Backpack

Your child will need a large bag to fit work and creations, notes, lunch box, water bottle and spare clothes. **All items should be clearly labelled**, as well as the bag with your child's name. Bags will be placed on the bench outside the classroom. Please ensure your child can open and close their bag.



## Morning Tea and Lunch

We promote healthy eating and encourage all children to bring along to school a healthy morning tea and lunch. Foods such as lollies, chips and soft drink are strongly discouraged.

Canteen orders are available on Fridays at the canteen in the undercover area.

## Change of Clothes

Please ensure there is a change of clothes including underwear in a named plastic bag and inside your child's school bag.

## Hats

The school has a 'no hat, no play in the sun policy'. This means that children's outdoor activities will be limited to shaded areas if no hat is available. Hats are required for outdoor play all year round. It is also a good idea to apply four hour sunscreen on your child before coming to school for the day. Each classroom has sunscreen which has been donated by our

P&C. A broad brimmed hat or bucket hat (no caps) can be purchased through the Yuluma Uniform Shop.

## Shoes

Please provide shoes that can be easily put on and taken off by your child.

## Toys and Jewellery

Please leave toys at home. The wearing of jewellery is discouraged with the exception of sleepers/ stud earrings and medic alert bracelets. This is for safety reasons.

## Booklist Requirements

A booklist will be provided to each child with their requirements for the school year. Please ensure your child has these items on the commencement of school.





## Clothing

Children are encouraged to wear the school uniform.

Our Yuluma P&C Uniform Shop is open on Friday mornings from 8.00am – 8.30am to purchase a uniform for your child. Alternatively, you can place an order at the front office which will be filled when possible for you to collect on an alternative day. The uniform shop is run by hard working parent volunteers.

Paint: Kindergarten children will paint. Painting smocks are supplied, however some paint may get on their clothes.

Please see below for instructions on cleaning:

### Washing Instructions for Reeves Liquicryl Paints

*Should this material be spilt on clothing, please observe the following cleaning instructions as stated by the suppliers, Winson and Newton.*

- \* Soak garment overnight in cold water.
- \* Rub stained area with laundry bar soap.
- \* Wash as normal in the washing machine.

**IMPORTANT:** Please note that under no circumstances should hot water be used to remove the paint as this will result in a permanent stain.



## Parent Involvement

### Classroom Help

Parents and relations are encouraged and welcome to join their child in educational activities during the year. A roster will be displayed in the classroom where you may like to nominate a time to come in as a parent helper. If you have any special talents or interests that you would like to share with the children, please let us know. Children love learning and your child would be especially happy for you to share your talent.

Classroom volunteers must complete a “Confidential Declaration Form” prior to assisting in the classroom or on an excursion. Relations must have a current Working with Children’s card.

Younger brothers and sisters are welcome when parents / caregivers are on roster, but remain your responsibility.

### Parent Interviews

Parent interviews may be requested at any time during the year to discuss your child's progress or any concerns you may have while your child is at Kindergarten.

Parents are welcome to contact the classroom teacher or principal over any matters they wish to discuss. The teacher is available before or after school for appointments. The principal and the teacher may be contacted by appointment through the front office staff.

### Laundry Roster

Parents are asked to help with a small amount of washing, like towels, tea towels and dress ups. They do not need to be ironed, just neatly folded and returned back to class as soon as possible.

### Birthdays

We are more than happy to celebrate children's birthdays, even if they have a birthday that occurs over the school holidays.

Traditionally, birthdays are celebrated with cakes which are to be shared by all the children as a celebration. Cup-cakes are preferred over cakes as they are easier to serve. Please include an ingredient list with any cakes brought for sharing. (Available from the front office)

### Notes between home and school

Notices will be given to your child. Please check your child's bag each night for notes from school. A weekly notice is sent via Connect from the school administration team every Monday for important upcoming events. Please ensure your email address is kept up to date and checked weekly. A newsletter is sent home twice a term, via Connect.

### Forms

Approval forms must be completed by all parents and are included in your child's information pack. Once completed, these forms need to be returned to the office.

We request parents to indicate if you are willing / not willing to give your approval for your child to appear in publications and activities that take place regularly, e.g. newsletters. Please see the principal if you would like clarification of any aspects of these forms.

These approvals include:

- General permission which allows the school to publish photos and have written and verbal samples of work published in the school newsletter or website.
- Digital release – publication of online content
- Permission for online access
- Confidential Declaration Form; is required before any parent can be allowed to participate in classroom programs. Eg: parent help
- Student Health Care Summary if your child has any previous health care needs.





### Student Health Care Summary Forms

The Department of Education document entitled 'Student Health Care Summary' describes procedures relating to students with medical problems and students requiring prescribed medication while at school.

For your information, a summary of this policy, has been incorporated into the school's policy and is listed below. Copies of both documents are available at the school.

1. Parents are asked to contact the school with information or procedures for dealing with emergency situations that may arise due to their child's medical condition. If this applies to your child, a medical detail form must be completed and submitted to the front office. Parents should also notify the school promptly if their child's medical condition changes or a new medical condition is discovered.
2. Schools are required to document all administration of medication to students, whether the medication is self-administered or assistance is required by a staff member.
3. Medication should be in properly labelled containers showing the name of the substance, the name of the student and the appropriate dose and frequency. Unlabelled medications are not able to be administered by staff. A copy of the prescription will suffice if the details are not included on the medication container.
4. Parents and the school develop procedures to:
  - Reduce the risk of an emergency situation arising
  - Cope with an emergency if it does arise
  - Emergency drills are practiced once per year
5. The Emergency Action Plan is updated annually. A copy of the plan is available on the school website.
6. Long term occupancy of the school's sick bay by students who are unwell is not considered appropriate. Parents will be contacted to take children home in this situation.



## Absences from School

If your child is unwell, please keep your child home from school. Children should be well enough to participate in both indoor and outdoor programs. The school does not have a school nurse. It would be appreciated if parents advise the teacher of any illnesses or future absences where your child will not be attending school.

If your child will not be attending school you may also text our **SMS Absence on 0418 949 529**.

Kindergarten is a non-compulsory year of schooling, however there is an expectation that all children enrolled in kindergarten will attend each session. Patterns of attendance are established early and form the foundation for primary attendance. Regular attendance is critical to provide your child with the best opportunities for future success and engagement in education.

### Infectious Diseases

If a child has any of the following, then they must be excluded from school. The period of exclusion varies, so contact the school for further details regarding; Whooping Cough, Chicken Pox, Scarlet Fever, Impetigo (School Sores), Measles and Mumps.

Please advise the school immediately should your child be diagnosed with any of these conditions.

### Head Lice

Head lice are tiny insects which can live in human hair. They are not caused by poor hygiene, and do not carry disease. Head lice are transferred between humans when their heads are close together while playing or doing schoolwork. For this reason head lice are quite common in schools.

Head lice can be easily treated. You can download this information from the Health Department's website at;

[http://www.health.wa.gov.au/docreg/Education/Diseases/Communicable/Parasitic/HP0149\\_head\\_lice\\_FS.pdf](http://www.health.wa.gov.au/docreg/Education/Diseases/Communicable/Parasitic/HP0149_head_lice_FS.pdf)

Head lice in schools is a constant source of frustration for parents, children and staff. We ask that parents remain vigilant with regular checks of their child's hair and take appropriate action. All long hair should be tied back and hats are not to be shared.

If head lice are detected at school, parents / caregivers will be contacted to collect their child from school for treatment at home. The child may return to school after treatment and symptoms of lice have been eradicated.

### OSH Club

Yuluma Primary School provides a Before and After School Care Programme through OSH CLUB and is located on the school campus in our Kalari block. OSH CLUB provides the highest quality of Before and After School Care onsite at our school in an environment in which children feel safe and have fun. This programme is for all children enrolled at YPS. At each session, OSH CLUB provide a selection of structured and unstructured activities, offering children plenty of choice. The structured activities teach children a variety of skills based on their core principles of play, discover, engage and share. Their unstructured activities give children the opportunity to relax and play with their friends – and just be children! They also provide children with healthy nutritious snacks.

OSH CLUB is managed by caring and well trained staff. If you require further information or would like to enrol you can go online to [www.oshclub.com.au](http://www.oshclub.com.au) or by calling them on 08 9261 3200. Permanent and casual bookings can be requested, prior to your child attending OSH.



## School Chaplain

Yuluma Primary School has a YouthCARE Chaplain, Louisa Read, who works 2 days a week at the school. Chaplaincy is funded at a state and federal level, and YouthCARE is the service provider of the chaplaincy program. Yuluma Primary School has had a YouthCARE chaplain since 2002. The chaplaincy program primarily offers pastoral care to students, parents, staff and the broader school community to address social and emotional wellbeing. Any one on one appointment of a specific nature with a student must have parental consent.

The chaplain's role also includes supporting students as required, organising lunch time activities, running small groups to target identified issues and providing opportunities for parent learning through seminars. The chaplain contributes to the general day to day running of the school in a support role by assisting teachers and students in class where required, helping out at assembly and at various school events throughout the year, as well as on excursions.

Students call our chaplain 'Miss Louisa' and her office is located in room 5 in the Djidi-Djidi block.

## Helpful Hints

Following are some helpful hints for you to follow to help your child and teachers have a smooth start to the year.

- Morning tea is at 10:30am so a substantial breakfast is important.
- Help children to recognise their printed name. Print in lower case letters (e.g. Susan not SUSAN)
- Help children learn how to undo and do up shoe laces and how to put on shoes and socks. Alternatively, send children in slip-on or velcro fastening shoes.
- Help children learn how to do up buckles, sandals, zips and buttons.
- Please allow your child to practise opening and closing back packs and lunch box containers.
- Teach children how to use a tissue.
- Teach children to attend to their own toileting needs – if they are not already doing so.
  - Practise separation. This is very important, especially at the beginning of the school year, as we do not want to cause too much distress to your child. Remember, once you have said goodbye **it is best to leave straight away** as your child then becomes focussed on the class activities.
  - Ensure that your child attends regularly and arrives on time.
  - Take an interest in the work your child brings home.
  - Listen to what your child has to say.
  - Talk together.
  - Read as often as you can to your child.
  - Do not criticise the teacher, school or friends within hearing distance of your child. If you have concerns please ask to speak to the teacher in private. An appointment may be necessary for extended discussions.

Patterns established in kindergarten pave the way for future success in many aspects of life eg; attendance, learning and socialising. Enjoy the kindy experience and engage in as many aspects of the school as you are able. You and your child will benefit from being a part of our school community.

*"It takes a whole village to raise a child"*





