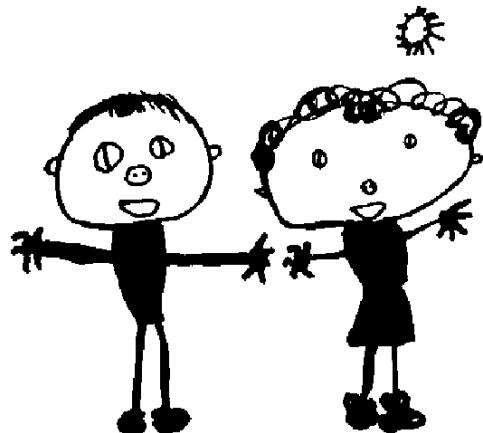


Geebung Kindergarten and Preschool Handbook



Physical address:

1 Maidenccombe Street, Geebung QLD 4034

Postal address:

PO Box 27, Geebung QLD 4034

Phone number:

(07) 3265 6609

Email address:

admin@geebungkindy.com.au

Website:

www.geebungkindy.com.au

Facebook Name:

C&K Geebung Kindergarten & Preschool-Geebung Kindy

Finance (Fees) :

Sue Diviney - suediviney@gmail.com



Where children come first

Table of Contents

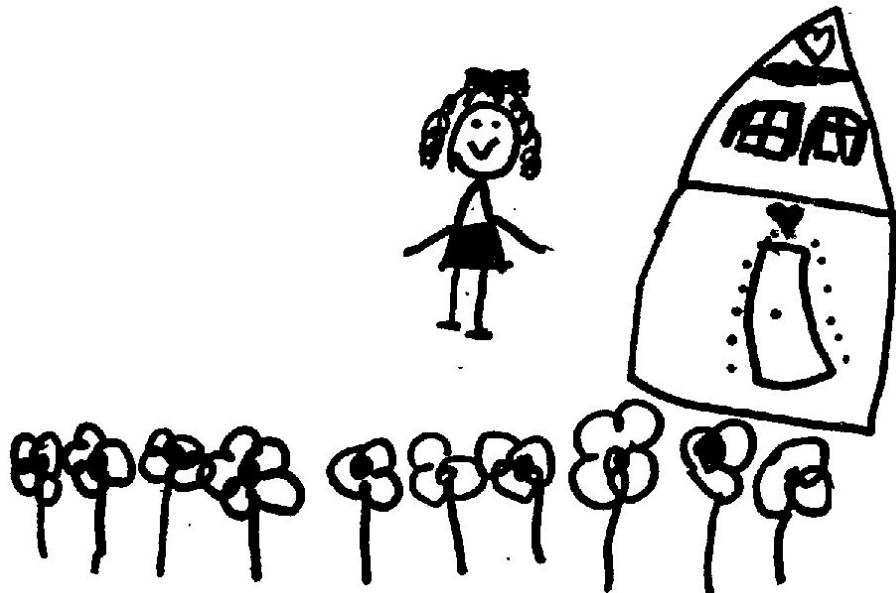
<i>Welcome to Geebung Kindergarten and Preschool</i>	6
Important Parental Responsibilities.....	6
Kindy Programs Available	6
<i>Centre Details</i>	7
<i>Service Statement of Philosophy</i>	7
<i>Section 1: Welcome to Geebung Kindergarten and Preschool</i>	10
GKP A Brief History	10
Our Centre Today.....	10
Our Affiliation with C&K.....	10
Service Approval.....	11
<i>Section 2: Management of the Centre</i>	12
Role of the President.....	12
Role of the Vice President	12
Role of Secretary.....	12
Role of the Treasurer.....	12
Role of the Committee members	13
<i>Section 3: Teaching Frameworks and Guidelines</i>	14
National Quality Framework.....	14
Teaching and Learning Guidelines	14
Quality Improvement Plan	14
<i>Section 4: Education, Care, Services and Curriculum Delivery</i>	16
Diversity.....	16
Child Protection.....	16
Workplace Health and Safety	16
Positive Behaviour Guidance.....	16
Environment and Building a Sustainable Future	16
Documenting the Curriculum.....	17
Rest, Relaxation and Sleep.....	17
Incursions, Excursions and Visitors	17
Multimedia and Technology	17
Staff	18
Director (Nominated Supervisor/Educational Leader).....	18
Teachers	18
Teachers Assistants	18
Inclusion Support Assistant.....	18
Financial Administrator	18
Administration Officer.....	18

Housekeeper	19
Relief Educators	19
Student Placement and Volunteers.....	19
Staff Support and Mentoring	19
Early Childhood Education Consultant (ECEC)	19
Blue Cards.....	19
First Aid	20
Section 6: <i>Connecting with GKP</i>	21
Parent involvement and participation.....	21
Communication	21
Portfolios.....	21
Newsletters	21
Facebook.....	21
Flyers placed in lockers	22
Daily Feedback.....	22
Notice Boards	22
Formal and Informal Discussions.....	22
Phone calls to service.....	22
Grievances and Complaints	22
CONCERNS, COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES.....	24
Code of Conduct.....	25
Section 7: <i>Keeping your child happy, healthy and safe</i>	26
Collection of and Access to Children	26
Restricted Access (Court Orders and Parenting Plans)	26
Illness in Early Childhood Education and Care Settings.....	26
Administration of Medication.....	26
Caring for Children with Chronic Conditions	27
Hygiene Practices	27
Nutrition and Physical Activity	27
Providing Meals for Your Child.....	27
Refrigeration of Food	28
Preventing Infectious Diseases	28
Sick Children.....	28
Accidents/Injuries	28
Insurance.....	29
Absences.....	29
Immunisation	29
Children Who Are Not Immunised.....	29
Exclusion Periods	30
Immunisation Schedule	30
Sun Safety	30

Smoking, Alcohol and Drugs	30
Emergency Drills	31
Before and After Doors Open.....	31
Manual Practices	31
Kitchen.....	31
Toddlers.....	32
Confidentiality and Privacy	32
First Aid Kits	32
Section 8: What to Bring	33
Toys.....	34
Birthdays	34
Section 9: Arrivals and Departures.....	35
Settling Your Child into Kindy	35
Hours of Attendance.....	35
On Arrival	35
On Departure.....	36
Section 10: Enrolling at GKP.....	37
Waiting List	37
Enrolments	37
Sign-In/Out	37
Make-Up Days	37
Notification of Sick Days.....	37
Termination of Enrolment.....	37
Updating Details	38
Delayed Exit/Entry.....	38
Fees 38	
<i>The Queensland Government has announced Kindy will be free for all Queensland families in 2025. Kindy will be free for eligible-aged children who attend a government-approved program offering free Kindy. This is 15 hours a week or 600 hours a year of free Kindy.</i>	<i>38</i>
<i>Some out-of-pocket fees are applicable for programs offering over 15 contact hours per week (our Wattle program). Please refer to the schedule of fees for further information.</i>	<i>38</i>
<i>Limited places may be available for early entry enrolments and children seeking an additional group. Funding is not available for these enrolments, please refer to the fee schedule for further information.</i>	<i>38</i>
Fee Payment Agreement.....	38
Non-Payment of Fees	39
How to Make Payments.....	39

Financial Administration Contact.....	39
Late Pick Up Fees	39
Section 11: Volunteering	40
Parent Participation Program.....	40
Special Days	40
Working Bees.....	40
Section 12: Parent Information	42
Family Resource Library.....	42
Useful Links	42
3 day week program and 5 day fortnight program.....	43
2 long day a week program	43

Please take the time to read this booklet.



Welcome to Geebung Kindergarten and Preschool

We look forward to getting to know you and your child better as the year progresses. We hope that the following information will help you become familiar with the centre and its policies.

Important Parental Responsibilities

It is the parent's responsibility:

- To sign in and to sign out your child on the sign on the ipad each day.
- To make sure you relay any relevant information about your child to the staff.
- To apply sunscreen to your child and to tick sunscreen register to say that this has been done.
- When medication is required for your child, completing a medication form and handing this and the medication to your child's teacher or assistant.
- To read all the information relating to the centre in order to be familiar with centre policies
- To comply with relevant health and hygiene policies.
- To comply with the workplace health and safety policies.
- To participate in the centre's activities and to talk with the staff about your child's day.
- To notify the child's teacher regarding changes in information including address, telephone numbers and emergency telephone numbers.

Kindy Programs Available

Banksia - 2 Long Day / Week Group – Mon, Tues – 8.20am – 4.00pm

Lilly Pilly - 5 Day / Fortnight Program – Mon, Tues, Alt Wed – 8.20am – 2.30pm

Wattle - 3 Day / Week Program – Wed, Thurs, Fri – 8.20am – 2.30pm

Grevillea - 5 Day / Fortnight Program – Alt Wed, Thurs, Fri – 8.20am – 2.30pm



Centre Details

Centre Name:	Geebung Kindergarten and Preschool	
Address	1 Maidenccombe Street, Geebung QLD 4034	
Phone:	(07) 3265 6609	
Fax:	(07) 3265 6029	
Email:	geebungkindy@gmail.com	
Directors/Nominated Supervisor:	Rebecca Sutherland	
Teachers	Lilly Pilly/Grevillea	Banksia/Wattle
	Rebecca Sutherland <i>Bachelor Education Early Childhood</i>	Gaye Lincoln <i>Grad Dip (Early Childhood)</i>
		Leah Murray <i>Bachelor Education Early Childhood</i>
Assistants	Lilly Pilly/Grevillea	Banksia/Wattle
	Tamzine Alcorn <i>Cert III Early Childhood</i>	Richelle Lorenz <i>Cert III Early Childhood</i>
		Emma Bowden <i>Cert III Early Childhood</i>
Administration Officer	Gemma Faint	Tues, Wed, Fri 8:45am – 2:45pm
Financial Administrator	Sue Diviney	0414 479 576
Inclusion Support Assistants	Richelle Lorenz Kristen Barnett Michelle Dukes	
Housekeeper	Michelle Dukes	Each day 12:30pm – 2:30pm
C&K Children's Services Manager	Beth Kerr	0482 161 755
Department of Education, Early Childhood Education and Care	Nundah Regulatory Office	07 3634 0532 email MNRNundah.ECRA@qed.qld.gov.au

*Staffing is subject to change

Service Statement of Philosophy

Our philosophy is developed and updated yearly through consultation with educators, children and families.

In relation to the children - we believe that it is important to:

- recognise that each child is unique and irrespective of gender, culture or ability, they should be treated with respect and dignity;
- acknowledge that children come from diverse backgrounds and bring unique strengths, experiences and understandings of their world;
- form meaningful supportive relationships with children through listening, playing, talking and questioning;

- support children as individual and social learners, and recognise that play is an essential means through which learning takes place;
- recognise individual learning styles and encourage children's active learning partnerships;
- support, challenge, extend and encourage all children's learning and development, so that children see themselves as capable, competent and able to meet the challenges, successes and joys of life and learning; and
- remain committed to child safety and to ensuring that all children are protected from harm.

Children's voice – “What is important to us”

- everyone will be kind and have fun
- everyone can play everywhere
- we need to look after our Kindy
- we all learn, some friends are still learning

In relation to our families - we believe it is important to:

- acknowledge that families are the children's first and most influential teachers;
- build relationships with families that assist them to develop trust, a sense of belonging, reciprocal communication and a partnership, regardless of input;
- value and recognise diversity; we recognise that each family brings their unique culture, values and beliefs and that acknowledging similarities and differences helps build and strengthen relationships; and
- recognise that children's experience and association within the family group is part of their total learning and, therefore, actively support and encourage continued parent involvement including open and reciprocal communication.

In relation to the wider community - we believe it is important to:

- recognise and acknowledge the Turrbal people as the traditional owners of this land; and
- develop relationships within our community, to utilise specialist services, to share resources and to use community resources to enhance the quality of our education and care.

In relation to our staff – we will:

- respect the different views, beliefs and values each staff member brings with them;
- acknowledge the personal strengths, professional experiences and diversity each individual staff member brings;
- promote our strengths and endeavour to improve our professional and pedagogical practice; and
- promote professionalism, confidentiality, ethical and respectful conduct.

In relation to the curriculum - we believe it is important:

- that the Early Years Learning Framework, Queensland Kindergarten Learning Guidelines and the National Quality Standards are imbedded into our daily practice;
- that we are guided professionally by the Early Childhood Australian Code of Ethics;
- to continue to support reflective practices, to monitor and evaluate the children's development and learning, to encourage children's active involvement in planning, to plan for continuous and ongoing improvement and to share this documentation with families in meaningful ways;

- to encourage respectful and socially just practices, and advocate for the rights of all children;
- to recognise, respect and support the contributions and strengths of all members of our community- educators, parents and children;
- to promote, support and value ongoing professional development and reflective practices; and
- to support inclusive practice.

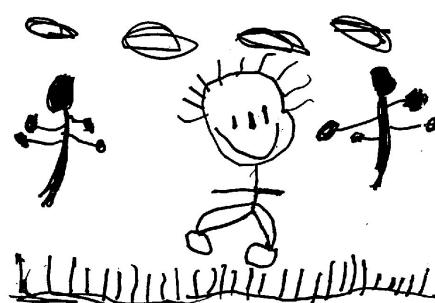
Families voices – “What is important to us”:

- To play and make friends
- To find learning fun
- To be happy
- To gain confidence and develop social skills
- To develop communication skills and numeracy and literacy

In relation to environments – we believe that it is important to provide an environment that:

- protects and promotes children’s safety, security, health and wellbeing;
- encourages children to experience, explore, create, observe, question, investigate and discover;
- supports children’s exploration and understanding of the natural world and the development of sustainable practices;
- assists children’s preparation for life in a changing world by helping them to develop the skills to listen, negotiate, share, respect, problem solve, think creatively, take risks, resolve conflict, compromise and develop resilience;
- supports children’s uniqueness while encouraging, supporting and extending their learning, interests, contribution, knowledge, experience and development; and
- encourages children to be active participants in their own learning; where exploration, discovery, curiosity and play are the main focus and where hands on learning experiences are valued.

As at May 2025



Section 1: Welcome to Geebung Kindergarten and Preschool

Welcome to Geebung Kindergarten and Preschool (GKP). Your family is now part of a long tradition in quality early childhood education and care. With more than 100 years of practical experience, curriculum development and proven positive outcomes for children, C&K claims to be the leaders in the early childhood sector.

To build genuine partnerships GKP believe it is important that staff value children and their families. Staff listen to parents* and appreciate the ongoing support of families who give their time and skills generously. GKP aims to engage children and families in a sense of community, cooperation and collaboration. We encourage you to become actively involved in this centre. Your involvement will enrich your child's learning experiences and promote positive self-esteem. Current research confirms what C&K has always advocated, that the experiences of young children have a profound effect on their future.

* *GKP recognises that families are as individual as the people in them. With this in mind we will use the term "parent/s" throughout the handbook to encompass all primary caregivers.*

GKP A Brief History

Eight women started our Centre originally as a child-minding centre on the 24th March 1949. They moved from the Geebung Memorial Hall into an army disposals hut on Robinson Road in 1952. This hut was then moved to Weenga Street in 1960, where a kindergarten and childcare centre was conducted. A big demand for preschool saw an end to our childcare days in 1965. A new centre was built in Maidencombe Street and was officially opened on the 5th March 1966. The Association was incorporated in 1986.

Our Centre Today

GKP is a two-unit centre providing facilities for up to 88 children. Our aim is to provide a foundational play based, educational curriculum for children, the year prior to entry into prep. We provide a warm caring environment with quality care and education for all children and value gender, culture and social justice.

Our Affiliation with C&K

C&K was a voluntary non-profit association formed in 1907 to establish and promote the establishment of community controlled kindergartens, childcare centres and other early childhood services. For a centre to be affiliated with C&K, it must fulfill standards set by the C&K thus ensuring eligibility for maximum government funding. C&K is our Central Governing Body (CGB) and all funding is paid to C&K as our CGB and then distributed to individual centres when all of the relevant details and documents are provided.

By enrolling your child at GKP, the centre may be entitled to claim the Queensland Kindergarten Funding Scheme on behalf of their child from the Department of Education and Early Childhood - Education and Care Funding Scheme (QKFS). Funding is only provided to eligible age children (turning 4 by 30th June in the year they attend Kindergarten) for the equivalent of one 15 hour per week program for a minimum of 40 weeks per year. This funding contributes to the overall costs of running our centre, however, our Management Committee is then responsible for the remaining operational

costs, which are obtained through term fees. As we are a community based not for profit association, any surplus income is reinvested into our centre for the benefit of children and the community, now and into the future.

Service Approval

Our centre complies with the Department of Early Childhood Education and Care's Act and Regulations including the requirements about activities, experiences and programs, the number of staff members and children and staff qualifications (these documents can be provided if you wish to view them). As per the Act and Regulations we have a **compliance log book** on site and this is available for parents to view: please do not hesitate to request access if you wish. You can also contact the Department of Education, Early Childhood Education and Care, Nundah Regulatory Office, PO Box 3376, Nundah QLD 4012, email MNRNundah.ECRA@qed.qld.edu.au or phone 3634 0532.

Section 2: Management of the Centre

Our kindy is a not-for-profit, community-run centre that **requires a Parent Management Committee to legally operate**. This committee is made up of parents and carers of currently enrolled children and plays an essential role in overseeing the running of the kindy.

The committee meets once a month and is supported by outgoing committee members, our Director, and the C&K Association, so you don't need any prior experience to get involved. Your time and contribution—no matter how big or small—help ensure the kindy can continue providing high-quality early education for all children.

We truly rely on and appreciate the support of our families to keep our kindy thriving!

Each parent is required to become a financial member of GKP. A membership fee is payable upon enrolment (for the year of attendance) and each subsequent year in which the parent has a child enrolled at the centre. The committee shall determine the annual fee.

Any financial member shall be eligible to nominate for any of the positions on the committee. The Annual General Meeting of the Association is usually held mid-February. If you would like to be on the committee, please inform the Director before the Annual General Meeting. At this meeting the committee is voted in and the members of the committee hold office for a term of 12 months.

All parents are invited to attend these committee meetings regardless of if they are a committee member.

The committee is generally made up of a President, Vice-president, Treasurer, Secretary and general committee members.

Role of the President

- Leadership;
- Co-coordinator;
- Motivator; and not limited to
- Chairperson.



Role of the Vice President

- Support the president in his/her role; and not limited to
- Replace the President in his/her absence.

Role of Secretary

- Handle all correspondence, record minutes of meetings; and not limited to
- Maintain the files, membership records and personnel records.

Role of the Treasurer

- Supervising of all accounting records, fees and financial reports prepared by the administrator;

- Supervising the preparation of the budget prepared by the administrator;
- Presentation of financial reports;
- General supervision of administrator, finances of the association; and not limited to
- Provide advice to committee.

Role of the Committee members

- Provide support and assistance to the main office bearers;
- Be involved and participate in decisions, actions and activities; and not limited to
- Take responsibility for a specified activity e.g. public relations, fee and levy collection, and organising social events, collecting mail and seeing to small maintenance jobs.

Section 3: Teaching Frameworks and Guidelines

National Quality Framework

The National Quality Framework (NQF) encourages services to provide a high quality and consistent standard of early childhood education and care across Australia.

The NQF includes:

- a national legislative framework that consists of the Education and Care Services National Law and Education and Care Services National Regulations
- a National Quality Standard (NQS)
- an assessment and rating system
- a regulatory authority in each state and territory who have responsibility for the approval, monitoring and quality assessment of services
- a new national body responsible for providing oversight of the new system and ensuring consistency of approach – the Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA)

Services are assessed and rated against seven quality areas, 18 standards and 58 elements that make up the National Quality Standard. The standards cover children's development and education as well as relationships with families, educator qualifications, and the service environment. All C&K services aim to exceed the NQS.

C&K have a dedicated Quality, Policy and Legislation team which supports all C&K services through the implementation of the NQF.

At Geebung Kindergarten and Preschool we received a rating of Meeting National Quality Standard in all seven Quality Areas on 28 March 2024.

For more information regarding the NQF see your service director or go to <http://acecqa.gov.au/families/>

Teaching and Learning Guidelines

Our educational, play based program is based on current best practice in early childhood, underpinned by the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF), which emphasises the importance of belonging, being, and becoming and the Queensland Kindergarten Learning Guidelines (QKLG).

We believe that children are capable of making their own choices about learning and that experiences should be rich and personally meaningful for them. Children will experience many opportunities to explore, solve problems, develop friendships, imagine, use their creativity and extend their capabilities in language, literacy and numeracy. The process of learning is what is important, not the product and children learn best through engaging in purposeful, focused play that is relevant to them.

Quality Improvement Plan

All centres have an ongoing Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) that ensures we are continually striving for improvement in all of the seven quality areas. QIP also ensures that there is an obligation upon the Management Committee to maintain high standards of qualified staff, educational curriculum, buildings, grounds, equipment and close parent/teacher involvement.

Parents are encouraged to view and contribute to our QIP. Copies are available on the Family Resource Library USB (found in the family library near the lockers); hard copy - in the main office; and electronic copy – on the desktop in the main office.

Section 4: Education, Care, Services and Curriculum Delivery

Diversity

Early Education is a journey with a partnerships between the children, families, educators and the community. We strive to make all parties feel welcome, respected and included. We respect the diversity of families, cultures, values, beliefs, abilities and capacities within our centre. We acknowledge the Turrbal People who are the traditional owners of the land upon with our Kindergarten is built. Our educators recognize and value our indigenous heritage and believe it is important to teach the children to respect and value our heritage too. We recognise and embrace the children's diversity and we support the children in building strong and confident social and cultural identities.

Child Protection

GKP staff are trained in child protection procedures and staff are mandated to report suspected child abuse.

Workplace Health and Safety

C&K has policies and procedures in place to ensure an optimal level of safety is maintained and relevant legislation is complied with. GKP have a Workplace Health and Safety (WH&S) Officer (outlined in Centre Details) who oversees WH&S at the centre.

Emergency procedures and practices are evaluated regularly at the centre. All parents and visitors are advised to make themselves familiar with emergency procedures which are displayed at the service.

Positive Behaviour Guidance

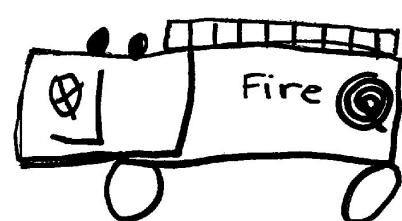
Just like most skills, behavior is learned and developed in social situations. GKP focuses on the positive aspects of a child's behavior and looks to engage children in experiences that will maintain and build continued positive behaviour. Staff build relationships with each child through techniques such as directional language, guidance strategies and behavior modeling processes to facilitate and encourage children to understand and choose positive behaviour.

Families are consulted about issues or problems regarding their child's behavior. For further information, please speak with our Director.

Environment and Building a Sustainable Future

At GKP we offer an environment that:

- is caring and accommodates different points of view;
- is peaceful and inclusive;
- reflects the everyday lives of children and their families;
- incorporates children's ideas;
- is open to many possibilities;
- offers many opportunities for expression through music, art, drama, movement and dance.



Engaging children in the care of their physical environment, both natural and built, models to children that we respect, value and care for our environment. Connecting children to nature creates a sense of belonging which is essential for healthy individuals and communities. Our service endeavors to contribute towards the preservation of the environment and the conservation of resources.

Documenting the Curriculum

GKP staff will document and assess your child's learning through a variety of methods:

- observations that focus on social interactions, relationships and learning processes;
- writing, drawing and painting;
- sound and image recordings;
- stories and photographs of group and individual projects; and
- contributions from families.

We encourage parents to ask about and discuss their child's learning experiences with staff.

Rest, Relaxation and Sleep

GKP staff remain sensitive to changes in children's energy levels and recognise there are many ways rest and relaxation time can be incorporated into the day. As part of our 6-hour program, opportunities for rest and relaxation, as well as sleep are provided.

Incursions, Excursions and Visitors

We occasionally organise excursions to the park next door for Teddy bears picnics, running races or nature walks. For this to occur we require all parents to be in agreement and to complete a form stating this. You will always be informed of the outings well in advance and risk management strategies are given to you to peruse. We leave by our back gate and exit directly into the park. Children will leave the centre only if there is the required ratio of adults to children.

During the term we also arrange visitors to attend our center to engage the children in a range of experiences and to develop an understanding of the communities they live in.

All incursions are conducted in accordance with C&K policy and legislative requirements.

Multimedia and Technology

Multimedia and technology are integrated within the curriculum. Experiences using multimedia are offered in ways that extend learning possibilities and ways of exploration. The use of technology aims to develop an understanding that different formats can be used as an information source, for relaxation and entertainment, and as an educational tool. Technology is planned for and used as a resource within the curriculum, as an extension of play or a way of gathering information. All content will be viewed and assessed for use first by staff, have an educational base or context and be integrated into the children's current curriculum interests. When children use technology, staff are always present to support them through their questioning and to extend their interests and ideas. When children use technology, online safety is considered and planned for.

Section 5: Who is Working With and Supporting My Child?

At GKP you will see:

- personalised, sensitive and relaxed interactions between children and educators;
- supportive environments that allow children to make mistakes without fear of failure;
- that your child is safe, nurtured and cared for, valued and treated with dignity;
- warm, nurturing and sustained relationships between adults and children; and
- adults who encourage children to think about possibilities by modeling curiosity and wonder.

Staff

Director (Nominated Supervisor/Educational Leader)

Our Director facilitates the provision of a high-quality early childhood education and care service. This involves, but is not limited to, conducting educator training and professional development, guiding the implementation of EYLF and QKLG, and ensuring that effective day-to-day operations of the service are maintained. Our Director holds university early childhood qualifications and meets the minimum requirements to hold a nominated supervisors/Educational Leader positions as outlined in the *Education and Care Services National Law Act 2011* and the *Education and Care Services National Regulations*.

Teachers

GKP employs university-qualified early childhood teachers. Our teachers develop and implement an educational program in collaboration with children and families.

Teachers Assistants

GKP employs assistants to work with a specific group of children, supporting the teacher in implementing the education and care program. All our assistants hold early childhood qualification.

Inclusion Support Assistant

GKP is committed to providing inclusive environments and programs to meet the diverse needs of all children and their families. In our service there may be an additional needs assistant working to facilitate the inclusion of a child. The additional needs assistant works with staff and may have a variety of qualifications and experiences.

Financial Administrator

GKP employs a financial administrator on a part time basis who is responsible for supporting the director in completing the financial administration side of the centre such as paying wages, invoicing fees etc.

Administration Officer

GKP employs a clerical assistant on a part time basis who is responsible for supporting the Director in completing administrative duties.

Housekeeper

GKP employs a housekeeper on a part time basis who is responsible for ensuring the centre is clean and hygienic and takes care of general kitchen and other associated duties. A cleaning contractor is also employed to clean the whole centre on the weekend.

Please see Centre Details on page 2 for all current staff details.

Relief Educators

GKP may require the use of relief educators. Where possible, relief staff from our own pool of quality professionals will be utilised. However, at times relief staff from external agencies may be required. All families will be advised of any changes in staff and the inclusion of relief staff. All relief staff are screened for their qualifications and suitability before being placed on our relief list.

Student Placement and Volunteers

Decisions to accept any student and volunteer to work at GKP will be dependent on the present needs of the children and the centre. All students and volunteers are expected to adhere to C&K policy, state and commonwealth legislation. All students and volunteers are supervised, work under the guidance of qualified staff and will not be alone with children at any time. You will be notified when any student is on placement or a volunteer is working at the centre. Permission will be sought during enrolment for your child to be included in a student's observations and/or images they may take for study purposes. For further information please speak with our Director.

Staff Support and Mentoring

To support and mentor our staff to achieve high quality care, education and operations within the service, C&K provides support in the way of an Early Childhood Advisor (ECA) and a C&K Children's Services Manager (CSM).

Early Childhood Education Consultant (ECEC)

The ECEC is responsible for visiting each C&K service, providing curriculum support, advice and information. ECEC's have significant experience and qualifications in the early childhood education and care profession. They are available to discuss curriculum and learning expectations and welcome enquiries from families. In addition, we have a specialist ECEC that works with educators and families to support the integration of children with additional/special needs. Please see Centre Details for contact details.

Blue Cards

All GKP staff and volunteers working with children are required to hold a current suitability Blue Card or a Positive Exemption Card. The Blue Card is issued by Blue Card Services – Queensland Government to an individual after a criminal history check is conducted and the person, having no criminal record, is therefore deemed to be suitable for working with young children. Blue cards must be current at all times and are renewable every two years.

Parents who take on positions in the Management Committee must hold or apply for a Business Blue Card.

First Aid

All staff at GKP in contact with children holds a current Senior First Aid Certificate, CPR, Anaphylaxis and Asthma management certificates. Staff are required to renew their CPR, Anaphylaxis and Asthma management certificates every 12 months and their First Aid training certificate every 3 years. Up to date records are recorded on staff personal files.

Section 6: Connecting with GKP

Before your child starts at GKP, you are encouraged to visit and observe the program and speak with our staff. Spending time at the service helps you to gain a deeper understanding of the learning environment and can assist you to feel confident about contributing your ideas to the curriculum. A variety of events are organized throughout the year for you to meet with other families and to build a sense of community and connection. When your child starts the program, feel free to spend time settling your child in and becoming familiar with the staff and program

Parent involvement and participation

You, as parents, are the primary nurturers, educators and role models for your child. You can foster educational links from the home to the service by being actively connected to your child's learning. Research consistently shows that parental involvement maximises the effectiveness of early childhood education and care programs. At GKP you:

- are welcomed and treated respectfully;
- are a participant in your child's learning;
- are included in the process of documenting your child's learning;
- are encouraged to contribute new and interesting ideas and possibilities; and
- are encouraged and supported to ask for information about, and share your views and opinions on, the centre's philosophy and goals for learning.

Communication

Communication between you, your family and GKP can occur in a variety of ways. You may find our service using a range of the following:

Portfolios

Your child's portfolios are used to gather examples of their learning, growth, interests and achievements across the year. You are encouraged to share information, experiences and ideas that connect your child's learning at home with their learning at GKP. Your child's portfolio will be a mix of a physical portfolio with your child's artwork and a digital portfolio with your child's learning journey.

Newsletters

Newsletters are regularly uploaded to KindyPortal outlining important and relevant information. GKP prefers, where possible, to send newsletters and information digitally. This is part of our commitment to sustainability. Please ensure the service has your correct and current email address. We also encourage parents to regularly visit our website and Facebook page to keep up to date with the most recent C&K news.

www.geebungkindy.com.au

Facebook

Geebung Kindergarten and Preschool has a Facebook page. Information will be posted on this site periodically to give families an idea of what has been happening at kindy as well as important information for the service such as photo days, pyjama days, share a plate, events etc. Authority for your child's images to go up on our Facebook page will be

sought when kindy commences. If you do not feel comfortable with your child's image on our Facebook page, please note this next to your child's image on the authority note when sought by your teacher. Please like the page to enable notifications to be sent to you – **C&K Geebung Kindergarten and Preschool – Geebung Kindy**.

Flyers placed in lockers

From time to time as a community service, brochures and flyers are placed in lockers advertising products and services of local businesses. However, please note Geebung Kindergarten and Preschool do not endorse or promote these services or products. The onus is on you to use or discard any of this material.

Daily Feedback

Each day you are given information about your child's day. This may be in the form of short notes, slide shows, or displays in your child's room. Please ensure you make the time to chat briefly with staff at the beginning and end of each day. You are always welcome to ring or email at any time.

Notice Boards

Information about early childhood issues, the program, family information nights, staff qualifications, current information about groups and staff and other relevant items will be displayed on our notice boards or on top of the lockers.

Formal and Informal Discussions

GKP staff will engage in regular informal discussions with you about your child's day, and we encourage you to share any thoughts, ideas or feedback. Mutually convenient times may also be organised by either staff or family members to discuss important issues in a relaxed, confidential environment. GKP understands that different families have different needs, and that face-to-face meetings are not always the best medium for engagement and communication. Parents and families are encouraged to share their ideas, provide feedback and connect with others in their service through a variety of communication methods. Please speak with your teacher to share your preferred method of communication.

Phone calls to service

We encourage families to call our office to transfer information. However please be aware that during program times, your call may go to voicemail and the Director or Administration Officer will then retrieve messages and make return phone calls during breaks, before or after program times.

Grievances and Complaints

Should you have any concerns, complaints or grievances regarding any issues with GKP, please first speak with your child's educators, and if the issue is not resolved to your satisfaction, progress your concerns through the following nominated persons: All matters are taken very seriously and dealt with in a professional timely and confidential manner. Please do not hesitate to raise any concerns.

CONCERNS, COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES

Should you have any concerns, complaints or grievances regarding any issues within the Geebung Kindergarten and Preschool, you may wish to contact one or all of the following nominated persons:

In the first instance:

Rebecca Sutherland

Directors/Nominated Supervisor
Geebung Kindergarten and Preschool
Phone No) 3256 6609
Email) admin@geebungkindy.com.au

or:

Shauna Ayres

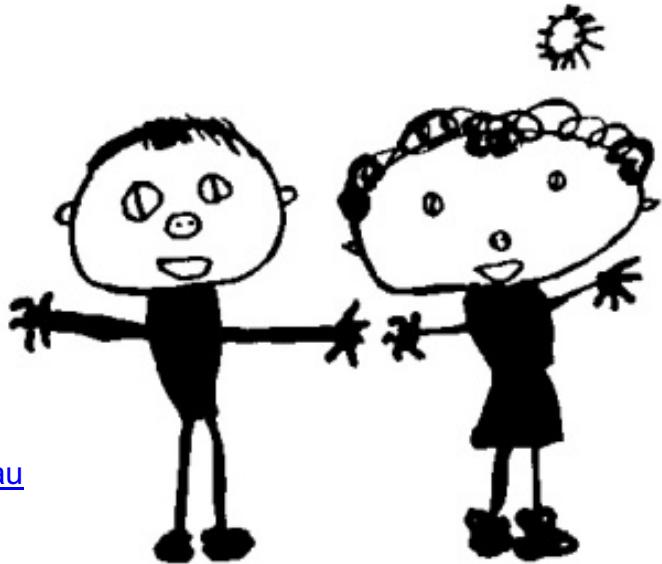
President
Geebung Kindergarten and Preschool
Mobile No) 0456 789 775
Email) committee@geebungkindy.com.au

or:

C&K Early Childhood Education Consultant is:

Beth Kerr

C&K Early Childhood Education Consultant (Metro & North Coast)
Mobile No) 0482 161 755
Email) b.kerr@candk.asn.au



Regulatory Authority

Office of Early Childhood Education and Care

Phone No) 1800 637 711

Department of Education, Early Childhood Education and Care – Nundah Regulatory Office

Phone No) 07 3634 0532
Email) MNRNundah.ECRA@qed.qld.gov.au

All matters are taken seriously and dealt with in a professional, timely and confidential manner.

Please do not hesitate to raise any concerns.

Code of Conduct

The highest standards of ethics and conduct have a direct relationship with the core values of GKP. They are essential in meeting GKP mission and vision for the future and are paramount to GKP providing services that enable every child the opportunity to access quality early education and care.

Our codes of ethics and conduct reflect these values, and the principles and values that underpin sound organisational governance, best practice in early childhood education and care, and good and decent values for society. They clarify for GKP staff what is expected of them, their colleagues and other stakeholders, and C&K as an organisation. Parents are also bound by this code of conduct.

Please refer to GKP's Code of Ethics and Conduct Policy and Procedures for more information (Available in the Family Resource Library).

Section 7: Keeping your child happy, healthy and safe

GKP strives to ensure that your child is happy, healthy, and safe through the provision of environments, experiences and practices that support children and their families. GKP staff follow well researched, thorough, policies, procedures and guidelines to ensure that your child's experiences at the service are ones that promote and enhance their well-being and safety. C&K policies and associated documents address a broad range of issues, from sun safety to clothing, illness and emergency procedures.

Collection of and Access to Children

Enrolment at GKP requires that you provide the names, addresses, telephone numbers and ID numbers of adults (18+) that you authorise to collect your child. These adults will need to show proof of identity before signing out and taking your child from the service. For further information please speak with our Director.

Restricted Access (Court Orders and Parenting Plans)

Parents who wish to restrict another parent from collecting their child must provide a certified copy of any court order (stamped with an official seal) to the service upon enrolment or immediately after a law enforcement agency has provided you with one. The service will only be able to follow instructions as per court orders. Staff will respect and adhere to the restrictions stated in the order whilst respecting each individual's right to privacy. For further information please speak with our Director.

Illness in Early Childhood Education and Care Settings

Illnesses and infectious diseases can be serious especially when groups of children are in contact with each other. It is extremely difficult for educators to provide the appropriate care for children who are ill and still provide the program for the rest of the group. The Director has the discretion to decide when your child is unfit to attend.

Please keep your child home if they are sick.

If your child becomes ill, staff will contact you immediately to collect your child. We ask you, or your contact person, to collect your child as soon as possible. It is essential the service has current work and emergency contact phone numbers, if there are any changes, please let your teacher or our Director know.

Administration of Medication

Staff will administer prescribed medication appropriately, accurately and safely in accordance with C&K policy and procedures. All medication must be labeled by a chemist that details the child's name, instructions and dosage.

For the safety of all our children, under no circumstances is medication to be left in your child's bag, on top of lockers or any other unsecured location. Please give any medications to your teacher and they will place them in the designated area.

Non-prescribed medication, (including cough mixtures and homeopathic remedies) will not be administered by our staff. Should your child require these you are welcome to come to the centre and administer this yourself.

For further information please speak with our Director and request a copy of C&K's administration of medication procedures.

Caring for Children with Chronic Conditions

If your child has a medical condition, such as anaphylaxis, asthma, diabetes or epilepsy please provide a detailed medical management plan from your child's registered medical practitioner. This will need to be updated every 12 to 18 months or if there is a change to your child's condition or treatment. Please also talk regularly with your educators to ensure that we have the necessary information to make your child's experiences at kindy safe and enjoyable. Please use the enrolment booklet to detail information and begin conversations with educators. For further information please speak with our Director and request a copy of C&K's medical conditions procedure.

Hygiene Practices

GKP follows policies and procedures to ensure that a hygienic environment is provided and maintained for all who enter the service. These policies and associated documents are well researched and based on best practice. Hand hygiene plays an important role in infection control. For further information please speak with our Director and request a copy of C&K's WH&S Policy.

Nutrition and Physical Activity

A balance of good nutrition and physical activity is essential for children's good health, growth and learning. GKP provides engaging programs that encourage physical activity and discussion of nutrition and wellbeing.

Providing Meals for Your Child

Upon enrolment please advise staff of any specific dietary requirements your child may have. These may include foods that your child is allergic to, or foods that have specific cultural or religious meaning.

GKP encourages you to provide meals that are nutritious and healthy based on basic food groups. Fruit and vegetables are promoted as appropriate snack foods and the child's water bottle is always readily available for your child.

Children's appetites change from time to time. Any uneaten food will be left in your child's lunch box and returned home at the end of the day. If teachers observe that your child is not eating enough or if they do not have enough food packed in their lunch box, we will let you know at drop off or pick up time. Any concerns please see you teacher.

We encourage all children to drink water only at Kindy. The children can access their water bottle at any time, and they are encouraged to drink at morning tea and lunchtime to ensure their daily intake of liquid is met.

Food ideas and options:

Visit:

www.taste.com.au www.healthy-kids.com.au
www.fresforkids.com.au www.healthykids.nsw.gov.au www.heartfoundation.org.au

Refrigeration of Food

GKP has policies and procedures to ensure your child's food is stored and served in a safe and healthy manner. Please ensure that you place lunchboxes that need to be kept cool into the refrigerator provided near the lockers.

Preventing Infectious Diseases

One of the most obvious hazards in a kindy environment is that of infection. We can all play a part in reducing the risk of spreading infection by using basic hygiene steps and more importantly by teaching our children the importance of:

1. Covering their faces when coughing and sneezing;
2. Using tissues to blow their noses and then discarding them into the bin;
3. The correct method of hand washing and emphasizing the importance of doing this prior to eating or cooking etc and after toileting, nose blowing, touching animals etc; and
4. The use of antibacterial hand gel.

Sick Children

GKP does not have the facilities to care for sick children. We ask that you don't send children to the center if they are unwell. It is most important that parents inform the Director should your child contract or come into contact with any infectious/contagious disease e.g. chicken pox, head lice etc. If your child develops symptoms such as unusual spots or rashes, a temperature, diarrhea, vomiting, conjunctivitis, severe coughing, sore throat etc. please advise the director.

The director or teacher will contact you if your child is showing symptoms of an illness that may affect the health and well-being of other children and staff.

Should parents or emergency contacts not be available in the event of an accident or illness the teaching staff will take whatever steps are considered necessary to ensure the child's wellbeing. For further information, please see relevant policies located in the Family Resource Library near the lockers or ask your teacher for a copy. If you have any questions or concerns, please see our Director.

Accidents/Injuries

If a child sustains an injury at the service, first aid is provided immediately. In the case of an incident requiring an ambulance or doctor, the Director will immediately authorise such help. Parents must agree to this upon enrolment.

All incidents are recorded, and parents are asked to sign these forms when the staff members have informed them of the incident. If the incident is serious and/or requires parent or medical assistance, a parent or nominated emergency contact will be notified as soon as possible after the incident. Small knocks and scrapes will be reported to the parent at collection time.

An illness, accident and incident register is kept at the centre to comply with the WH&S Regulations, C&K policies and the Office for Early Childhood Education and Care.

Insurance

GKP is insured with the *Guild Insurance Co Ltd* for building, personal, public liability and workers compensation.

Absences

If a child were to be absent for illness or holidays etc, it would be considered courteous to inform the teacher concerned. Full fees are payable during this time.

Immunisation

As part of the GKP enrolment procedure, parents are required to provide evidence of their child's immunisation status. Parents are also required to update GKP's records at the time of each immunisation thereafter. If unsure of your child's immunisation history, you may wish to seek advice from your child's registered medical practitioner or the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register.

Children Who Are Not Immunised

GKP recognises that not all parents can or wish to have their child immunised. No child will be discriminated against if their parent does not wish their child to be immunised. Parents of non-immunised children must detail this in the enrolment booklet. Parents of non-immunised children will be advised that in the event of an outbreak of a vaccine preventable infectious disease their child may be required to remain at home, if advice is provided to GKP by the Public Health Unit. Full fees are payable during this time where applicable.

Exclusion Periods

GKP follow the recommendations outlined in the Queensland Government's Time Out Poster. https://www.health.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0022/426820/timeout_poster.pdf

Immunisation Schedule

Australian Immunisation Schedule Birth to 4 years – as at May 2025

Age	Vaccine
Birth	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hepatitis B
2 months AND 4 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• DTPa-hepB-IPV-Hib• Pneumococcal• Rotavirus• Meningococcal B
6 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• DTPa-hepB-IPV-Hib• Meningococcal B• Pneumococcal
12 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Measles-mumps-rubella• Meningococcal ACWY• Pneumococcal• Hepatitis B• Meningococcal B
18 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Measles-mumps-varicella• Haemophilus influenzae type b• DTPa• Hepatitis A
4 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• DTPa-IPV• Hepatitis A• Pneumococcal

Sun Safety

Children are required to wear broad brimmed hats during outside play. Parents are asked to apply a broad-spectrum 4 hour (50+) sunscreen before kindy. There is sunscreen register by the sign-in book, which should be ticked, daily, to verify that sunscreen has been applied. Staff and children will reapply sunscreen throughout the day which will also be recorded in your child's sunscreen register. If you do not wish for sunscreen to be reapplied to your child throughout the day please provide a letter to your teacher advising this. If your child has sensitive skin, please provide their own sunscreen in a named and clearly labeled bottle and let your teacher know. We have spare hats and sunscreen available should you forget.



Smoking, Alcohol and Drugs

The centre has a strict **No Smoking, No Alcohol and No Drugs Policy**. For the safety of the children, it is requested that parents do not smoke in or near the centre or grounds.

Emergency Drills

Emergency and Lockdown Drills are regularly carried out according to regulations each term by staff and children. Evacuation procedures and maps are displayed in both units. Parents are encouraged to familiarise themselves with this information. If parents are in the centre at the time of an emergency evacuation drill, it is essential they cooperate with the staff and follow the necessary directions to ensure a quick and safe evacuation. Meeting area is on the grass by the fort. Fire extinguishers and fire blankets are located in easily accessible places in the centre and are maintained accordingly. Please refer to our Emergency Evacuation Plan for details of exact locations. All staff complete fire safety training yearly.

Before and After Doors Open

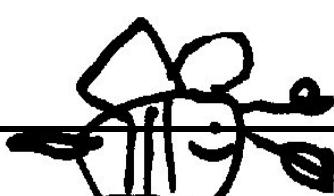
Staff ask that children do not play on play equipment before or after kindy starts and ends. Books are available for children to sit and play with while they wait for the doors to open. This is a WH&S requirement.

Manual Practices

- Please ensure children adhere to the basic safety rules of the Centre;
 - walking inside and on cement;
 - barefoot for climbing;
 - hats for outdoors; and
 - using toys in the manner in which they are intended
- Please do not lift children or heavy equipment. If it is necessary to do so, enlist adult assistance. If children need your attention, bend down to their level, or sit down to hold them;
- Follow safe lifting practices;
- Use a stepladder to access anything above shoulder height;
- All spills on floors must be wiped dry immediately;
- At all times be diligent as to potential hazards and dangerous situations as you move around. Please inform or discuss with a staff member immediately any potential hazards you identify in or around the centre;
- Do not wilfully or recklessly move, or interfere with or misuse equipment provided in the interests of health and safety; and
- Follow standard safety practices for using all electrical equipment.

Kitchen

- No hot drinks to be consumed around children please;
- Empty sink of hot water once you have finished washing up;
- Knives and other sharp implements should be kept in shields when not in use;
- All washers used are colour coded for the area they are to be used in and this must be strictly adhered to; and
- If you are using any cleaners or chemicals at the centre, please refer to the Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) provided in the kitchen for how to use. No cleaning or chemical products are to be brought to the centre unless they:
 - are accompanied by the relevant MSDS; and
 - it is first reported to the Director and/or our Workplace Health and Safety Officer.



Toddlers

Toddlers are the sole responsibility of the parent/guardian and should be supervised at all times whilst on the premises. Staff ask that children do not play on play equipment before or after kindy starts. Books are available for children to sit and play with while they wait for the doors to open.

Confidentiality and Privacy

All staff have a legal and ethical responsibility to maintain confidentiality and to respect and be sensitive to the right of children and their families at all times.

First Aid Kits

GKP major first aid kit is located on the wall in the children's toilets. It is marked with a green +. All injuries must be reported to the Director and a record is to be made for the centre files.

Section 8: What to Bring

Item
1 carry bag or backpack (named on the outside)
1 morning snack in a separate bag or named container (i.e. a couple of crackers, some cheese or a piece of fruit etc for an early snack) *1 afternoon snack in separate bag or named container for Monday & Tuesday long day group only.
1 lunchbox to contain all of the food for the day (please name your child lunchbox clearly)
1 large water bottle (clearly named also). Only water to be brought to the centre please
1 hat (wide brim/bucket/legionnaire)
1 set of spare clothes (in child's backpack daily)
<p>Sheet Bag containing a set of cot sheets with elastic around <u>all sides</u> of the bottom sheet. The elastic must be in good condition so that they stay on the bed properly. (Cot sheet sets are available at a reasonable cost at Spotlight, K, Mart, Target etc.)</p> <p>All sheets etc should be clearly named- dimensional paint works well or indelible felt pen. We need <u>large names</u> so that they can be seen easily.</p> <p>1 small pillow (optional) 1 small blanket (optional - for winter months)</p>

All items should be **clearly named**, as should jackets, socks, shoes and jumpers, which may be removed during the course of the day. Spare clothes are needed in case of accidents or if the child becomes wet or muddy.

A hat must be worn at all times during outside play and we ask that parents apply sunscreen to their child's skin at the beginning of the program. Please ensure that you sign the appropriate form next to the daily sign in sheet. You may also choose to apply insect repellent at home or provide repellent for your child to be kept at Kindy.

Children are best sent in old clothes so that their participation in the program is uninhibited. Sometimes it does get a bit "messy".

We encourage children to develop responsibility for removing and replacing their shoes themselves, so please ensure they have appropriate shoes to enable them to do so. Many children choose to remove their shoes when they arrive at Kindy as bare feet enables them to develop sensory awareness.

Spare hats, drink bottles and bed sheets are available at the centre should you forget to bring them on the day. These will be thoroughly cleaned by staff at the end of the day once the child has used it, in order for the item to be used again by another child. Please see your teacher if you need to borrow any of these items for the day.

Toys

Toys are best left at home as they sometimes get lost or broken, which may cause heartbreak. Children may bring a comfort/cuddly toy and/or a blanket for rest time if required.

Birthdays

Your child is welcome to share a birthday cake with the other children. Cupcakes are best as they are easiest for the children to share with their friends. To avoid hurt feelings, please be discreet in handing out birthday invitations to friends at the centre. Should your child have allergies, please talk to your child's teacher or the director about alternative choices for your child.

Section 9: Arrivals and Departures

Settling Your Child into Kindy

Before your child's first day, you might want to talk to them about the centre and a little about what will happen. Please participate in our orientation visit and play dates for further information.

Plan your morning so you don't have to rush in and out of the centre. The first month or longer can seem rather overwhelming at first, for children and parents alike. Your child may be hesitant and tearful when saying good-bye to you and this may continue for some weeks. Do not despair! This is quite natural, especially if your child is not used to being away from you. The staff will cuddle your child and settle them in. You can help your child settle more easily by following the advice given by your child's teacher.

Don't slip away when they are engrossed in something. Always tell them you are going and when you will return. Be prompt in returning to collect your child and try not bombarding them with questions. A kindy child isn't able to give a detailed account of the day but will give you unrelated snippets of what was of interest to them. Usually within a short time, the children have settled into the familiar routine and can hardly wait for their kindy days to come around each week.

Hours of Attendance

- 8:20 am to 4:00pm daily for Banksia 2 long day program (Mon, Tues)
- 8:20 am to 2:30pm daily for:
 - Wattle 3 day a week program (Wed, Thurs, Fri);
 - Lilly Pilly 5-day fortnight program (Mon, Tues, Alt Wed); and
 - Grevillea 5-day fortnight program (Alt Wed, Thurs, Fri).

The hours of attendance are to be strictly observed. No responsibility can be taken for children outside these hours. If you are going to be late to collect your child for any reason, please contact your teacher or the office as soon as possible. A late fee may be applied if late pick-ups continue (Refer Late Pick Up Fees).

On Arrival

- Wash your child's hands with sanitiser gel provided;
- "Sign your child in" on the ipad;
- Put your child's bag in their locker;
- Place your child's lunchbox in the fridge provided (no insulation bags in the fridges please);
- Place your child's sheets in the sheet box;
- Place your child's shoes in the shoe box (if they choose to remove them);
- Please make sure you relay any relevant information about your child to educators;
- Apply sunscreen at home prior to arrival at Kindy. If you are unable to do this, please apply sunscreen to on arrival. Please make sure that you tick your child's sunscreen register if you have applied sunscreen;
- When necessary complete a medication form and hand medication to your child's educator; and
- Say "goodbye" to your child before leaving.

On Departure

- Sign your child out on ipad;
- Talk with educators about your child's day;
- Collect your child belongings; and
- Wash your child's hands with sanitiser gel provided.

Section 10: Enrolling at GKP

Waiting List

Names may be placed on the waiting list at any time before the child is old enough to attend. It is advantageous to place names on the list as early as possible to obtain priority in enrolment. We prioritise (in this order) current families with repeating children, followed by all other interested families (by date, in order received). It is the responsibility of parents to advise the centre of any changes of address and/or telephone number that may occur once their child's name has been placed on the waiting list.

The Administration Officer is responsible for the maintenance of the waiting list register.

Enrolments

Around May/June, families on the waiting list for the following year will be contacted and given the opportunity to provide group preferences. Offers will then be made via our online enrolment system, parents are then given a specified period to notify the centre of acceptance of the positions offered. A play afternoon will be held to assist your child/children to become familiar with the centre and the teachers.

Enrolment will be effective when:

- enrolment forms are completed; and
- non-refundable enrolment deposit of \$100 is received.

Sign-In/Out

It is a licensing requirement to sign your child in and out each day. Therefore, it is **imperative that each child is signed in and out** on the day of attendance.

It is the law and a requirement of the Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority that the signing of an attendance record is strictly adhered to. Children will only be allowed to leave the centre with an authorised person.

Make-Up Days

Make-up days or 'swap' days are not offered to replace absences for any reason.

Notification of Sick Days

If your child is going to be away from the service due to illness please notify the service of this absence and the reason for absence. This helps with awareness of infection risks. Fees are payable for all sick days at the usual rate.

Termination of Enrolment

If your child is absent for four weeks and no reason for the absence has been received and the centre is unable to contact you, the enrolment will be automatically terminated.

If you wish to terminate the enrolment, you should do so in writing, giving at least four weeks advance notice.

Updating Details

GKP request that you update your family and contact details on a regular basis to ensure that the service has the most up to date information on hand.

Delayed Exit/Entry

A process is available to those families who wish to discuss the possibility of delaying their child's entry into and/or exit from kindy and ultimately into prep at a primary school. C&K have policies and procedures in place to govern the delayed entry and exit process. Please consult our Director for further information.

Fees

The Queensland Government has announced Kindy will be free for all Queensland families in 2025. Kindy will be free for eligible-aged children who attend a government-approved program offering free Kindy. This is 15 hours a week or 600 hours a year of free Kindy.

Some out-of-pocket fees are applicable for programs offering over 15 contact hours per week (our Wattle program). Please refer to the schedule of fees for further information.

Limited places may be available for early entry enrolments and children seeking an additional group. Funding is not available for these enrolments, please refer to the fee schedule for further information.

Fee Payment Agreement

Each Wattle family and any family not accessing Free Kindy Funding will need to complete and sign a fee payment agreement during the enrolment process. The fee payment agreement will detail the payment method available at GKP and an agreed schedule for the paying of fees. It will also include information about the non-payment and collection of outstanding fees. The agreement will also clearly explain that non-payment of fees may result in your child's enrolment being suspended or cancelled.

Fee Schedules

Invoices for each term's fees will be distributed at the start of the term during term one and at the end of the previous term in subsequent terms and are **due within three weeks of term commencement**.

Should the payment of fees by the due date indicated, cause severe financial hardship; the Financial Administrator should be contacted to discuss alternative arrangements.

Please note: if the Financial Administrator is not advised by due date a \$25.00 late fee will be incurred.

Non-Payment of Fees

If fees are not paid in full by the end of any term, families will be asked that their child does not attend until payment arrangements are made. If arrangements are not made the child's position at the centre may be filled by another child from our waiting list. Appropriate measures will be taken to recover the outstanding amounts owing.

How to Make Payments

Payments can be made by cheque or money order or internet or direct deposit:

Bank: NAB
BSB: 084-209
A/C No: 50847-9702

Cheque or money order payments should be returned in an envelope and deposited in the locked fees box in the Director's office. A copy of the receipt for internet or direct deposit should be placed in the fee box as proof of payment. Please ensure that the child's name, locker number and the amount is clearly written on the envelope. Due to security reasons, we **do not accept cash payments**. Receipts will be issued for all payments received

Financial Administration Contact

Sue Diviney
suejdiviney@gmail.com
M) 0414 479 576

Late Pick Up Fees

Parents are requested to be at the service to pick up their child by 2.30pm (if in the 3 day week program or 5 day fortnight program) or by 4.00pm (if in 2 long day program). We are aware and understand that circumstances may prevent a parent from picking up on time, however continual late pickups will incur a late fee. Late fees are charged at a flat rate of \$20 for the first 10 minutes or any part thereof, for each minute after this another \$1.00 will be charged. For further information please speak with our Director.

Section 11: Volunteering

Parent Participation Program

This is a community kindergarten and the roster program gives parents, the opportunity to share their child's experiences within the centre. The aims of the program are:

- To show your child that you are interested in what he/she is doing, thus combining kindy and family interests;
- To enable you to understand and share in your child's learning;
- To encourage common and wider talking points away from kindy;
- To help you understand, more fully, aspects of child development and education; and
- To enable ideas to be exchanged with teachers, advice to be given and opinions to be shared.

Parents will have the opportunity to nominate a day on which they wish to attend kindy for a few hours and assist the teacher and observe their child in the learning program. Parents are also encouraged to share skills, hobbies, interests and/or culture if they wish. It is a voluntary roster for mothers and fathers.

Parents are encouraged to talk with the staff regarding their child, but please refrain from long conversations within program hours. Teaching staff need to be with the children at these times. Contact with the staff is best made after each session, so please make a time to speak with teachers outside of this time. This also gives the teacher the opportunity to refer to developmental records and observations beforehand. You may be asked to prepare curriculum materials for use at the centre. We are always very grateful if you can assist in any way with the preparation of collage and art/junk material.

Special Days

Open days are held to provide an opportunity for members of the community to visit the centre with their child. This provides an opportunity to talk with staff about the services offered at the centre.

Working Bees

At certain times of the year we ask parents to help with working bees. This ensures that our equipment, grounds and gardens remain safe and attractive. We hire a gardener to regularly mow the lawns and keep the gardens tidy but require parents to help with extra maintenance jobs.

Notification of upcoming working bees will be sent out via email, posted on Facebook, placed in the newsletter and a notice placed near the sign in books. These notices will outline the dates, equipment that may be required and jobs to be completed.

GKP tools (for many tasks) are located in the lawn locker behind the centre building, however, if your task is a specialist one it may be necessary for you to bring your own

tools. Please wear protective eyewear and footwear during working bees. Children must remain your responsibility if brought into the grounds.

It should be noted that any parents volunteering for these working bees should comply with GKP WH&S Information Booklet - Section 16 - Maintenance Work/Working Bee – Safety Procedures. This available in the Family Resource Library near the lockers.

Section 12: Parent Information

GKP gives parents the opportunity to loan a variety of books from our Family Resource Library. If you would like to borrow a book please see your teacher or our Director. All loans will need to be returned by the end of each term.

Family Resource Library

GKP have a Family Resource Library located near the lockers which has a wide variety of information for parents. A USB is also provided if you wish to take home any information provided in the library. If you find that what you are looking for is not available or if you have any suggestions or ideas, please contact the Administration Officer and they will try and arrange or locate relevant information.

Useful Links

Kidsafe Australia www.kidsafe.com.au	Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority www.acecqa.gov.au
Diabetes Australia www.diabetesaustralia.com.au	Nutrition Australia www.nutritionaustralia.org
Queensland Health www.health.qld.gov.au	Anaphylaxis Australia www.allergyfacts.org.au
Grow Me Safely: www.kidsafensw.org/growmesafely	Raising Children Network www.raisingchildren.net.au
NAPCAN (Preventing child abuse) www.napcan.org.au	Asthma Australia www.asthmafoundation.org.au
Immunisation Australia www.immunise.health.gov.au	Autism Australia www.autismspectrum.org.au

Section 13: Daily Timetable

3 day week program and 5 day fortnight program

Time	Activity
8.20am – 12.30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Small group times for welcome and planning * Indoor and outdoor creative play and learning sessions * Snack time offered around 9.30am * The children have morning tea at approx. 11.00am * Children come together to share ideas during stories, sharing and group discussions, music and movement, singing, finger rhymes, learning about our world, early math's and science learning etc are all planned for these sessions depending on the children's current interests and exploration * Routines for toileting and hand washing: including supervised hand washing before meals are incorporated into the day
12.30pm – 1.00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Bathroom, lunch, making beds
1.20pm – 2.00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Rest time
2.00pm – 2.20pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Tidying beds, putting on shoes and quiet activities * Story/group time/discussions
2.30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Parents collect children

2 long day a week program

Time	Activity
8.20am – 12.30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Small group times for welcome and planning * Indoor and outdoor creative play and learning sessions * Snack time offered around 9.30am * The children have morning tea at approx 11.00am * Children come together to share ideas during stories, sharing and group discussions, music and movement, singing, finger rhymes, learning about our world, early math's and science learning etc are all planned for these sessions depending on the children's current interests and exploration * Routines for toileting and hand washing: including supervised hand washing before meals are incorporated into the day
12.30pm – 1.00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Bathroom, lunch, making beds
1.20pm – 2.00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Rest time
2.00pm – 2.20pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Tidying beds, putting on shoes and quiet activities
2.20pm – 2:40pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Group session – reading/music and movement
2.40pm – 3.00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Afternoon tea
3.00pm – 4.00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Indoor/Outdoor creative play and learning session
4.00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Parents collect children

All of the above times are a rough guide only. We have a very flexible approach to the day to allow for the unexpected, to allow the children time to explore, to follow their interest and to develop skills. However, by giving children a routine it also gives them a sense of security as they have some idea of what will happen next during their day.

Thank you for choosing to send your child to GKP.

We are looking forward to getting to know you and your child.

We hope your time at our centre will be enjoyable and rewarding.

