



# Kindergarten Program



# Why should my child attend ECCC?

- Extended hours care with a Funded Kindergarten Program.
- Two Qualified Kindergarten Teachers with an enthusiastic team
- To develop strong language, communication and socialisation skills
- To build confidence, independence, resilience and self-regulation.
- To engage in creative experiences such as drawing, painting, singing dancing, role playing and sensory activities.
- A range of educational incursions and excursions including a sports and yoga program.
- Learn through play in our and welcoming Kindergarten Room with an Indoor/Outdoor fortnightly program.
- We provide healthy and organic meals provided by two talented cooks – morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea.
- Connections with wider community such as Alistair Knox Park and St Vincent's Aged Care Eltham.





# What dispositions of learning will occur?

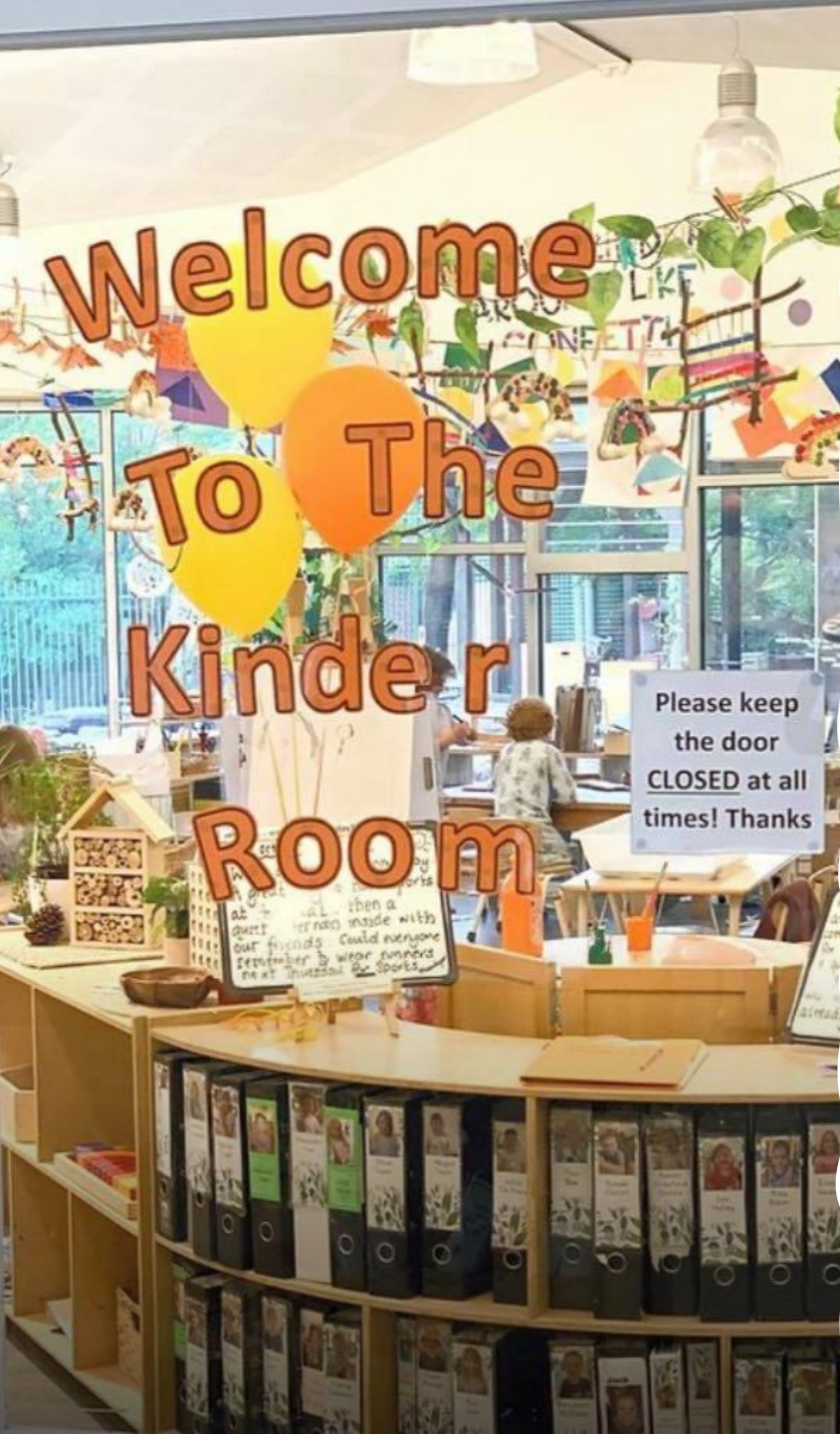
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Through our Funded Kindergarten Program your child will develop a variety of dispositions for learning, supporting them in all areas of learning and development.

These include:

- Curiosity
- Cooperation
- Confidence
- Creativity
- Commitment
- Enthusiasm
- Persistence
- Imagination
- Reflexivity
- Problem solving
- Inquiry
- Experimentation
- Hypothesising
- Researching
- Investigation





# Kindergarten Program

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We are a play-based curriculum and our fortnightly Funded Program is based on children's individual interests, and their development needs (so that being their social, emotional, cognitive, language and physical needs). The Kinder Room curriculum follows the Early Years Learning Framework and the Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework. These frameworks, focus on the children's strengths and interests, using photos and conversation to develop observations. 'Learning stories', which are our main form of documentation, which get filed into each child's individual portfolio.

Our program provides an opportunity for all children to develop their independence, self-confidence and resilience in a secure and safe environment. This is where they can imagine, create and explore through a wide range of open-ended experiences and diverse materials.

We focus on developing skills to assist children and families with the transition to school. It is our goal in the Kindergarten Room, for our children to develop the skills through play and intentional teaching and to thrive when they get to school.

We also offer a range of incursions and excursions based on the children's interests. These experiences can include sporting programs, yoga classes and music/dance sessions. Creating partnerships within the local community is important in our Kindergarten program with walks around Eltham, visits to the local Aged Care Home, story times at Eltham Library and more.

Children require an environment that reflects and respects their interests and ideas, provides creative and open-ended experiences, offers opportunities to work alone or alongside each other and promotes a sense of choice. The learning environment is one of the most important ways to personalise learning and we are very proud of our environment here. Ours is informed by our intentional planning of the children's development and their current interests. The attention to detail in our set ups provides the richness of the learning and the overall engagement of the children.



# Routine

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- 7.30am Centre Opens – *Family Grouping*
- 8.15am Move into Kindergarten Room
- 9.30am Group Time  
**Morning Tea**
- Indoor/Outdoor Program
- 12pm Group Time  
**Lunch**
- 12.45pm Quiet/Relax Time – *Activities on individual mats for around 15-20 minutes (Include yoga, meditation, drawing, books, puzzles, etc)*
- Indoor/Outdoor Program
- 3pm Group Time  
**Afternoon Tea**
- Indoor or Outdoor Program
- 5.30pm Family Grouping
- 6.30pm Centre closes



*What  
Learning  
looks like in  
our room...*

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# Literacy

Literacy includes talking, listening, visual literacies such as viewing and drawing and critical thinking – not just reading and writing.

When supported to develop early literacy skills (reading, writing, speaking and listening) through play and other meaningful day-to-day activities, children develop more positive views about how to express themselves.

Experiences that promote literacy skills include dramatic play spaces, small world imaginative play, letter recognition (Upper and Lower case), art and craft, reading areas, instructional activities and more.





# Numeracy & Science

Through play we develop children's mathematical thinking and strategies using different resources and experiences. Activities include a variety of open-ended materials and tools for counting, measuring, timing, calculating and weighing.



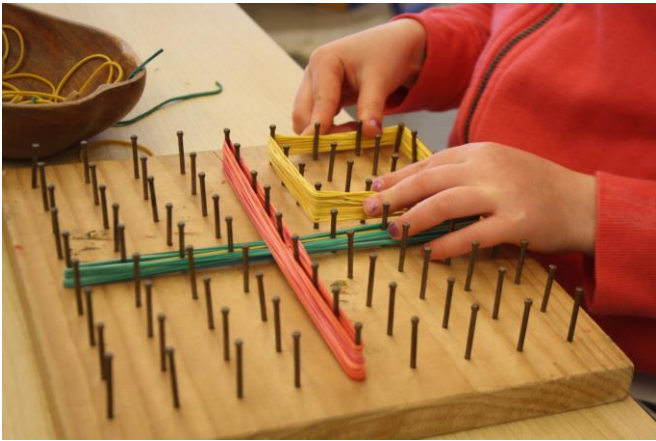
Science and nature activities/areas provide experiences that allow children to have opportunities to touch. Explore, experiment, discover and create. Children are able to make observations, guesses, estimates and problem solve.



# Sensory and Fine Motor Development

The senses are the most familiar way for a child to explore, process and come to understand new information.

Children need a range of sensory experiences/ they provide opportunities for fine motor and hand eye coordination, creativity, and allow children to be in tune with not just their academic skills but with their sensory preceptors.





# Imaginative Play

Imaginative and dramatic play is a way in which rich oral language and a range of numeracy and literacy skills are developed as well as problem solving, decision making, persistence, collaboration, negotiation, creative and lateral thinking. Through dramatic play children explore perspectives and roles of others.





# Creativity





# Wellbeing

We create an environment and a program for children who participate in their own learning and develop a strong sense of wellbeing. Our intentional teaching supports children building resilience and to develop their roles as critical thinkers and problem solvers. A strong sense of wellbeing provides children with confidence and optimism which supports their learning potential.

We focus on providing children with the skills to explore and self-regulate their emotions in positive ways.

Wellbeing includes good physical health, feelings of happiness and strong social skills. Within our program children participate in a Yoga and Sports program. All food is freshly prepared by our two centre cooks and is organically sourced.





# Community Involvement

We also offer a range of incursions and excursions based on the children's interests. These experiences can include sporting programs, yoga classes and music/dance sessions. Creating partnerships within the local community is valued at ECCC with walks around Eltham, story times at Eltham Library and more.

We have a strong partnership with St Vincent's Aged Care in Eltham where we visit to share stories, sing songs, create art and craft together and build relationships and build empathy and understanding.







# Outdoor Yard

Our large outdoor yard is shared between the Blue, Purple and Kindergarten room. The environment offers an expansive outdoor area that includes a covered sandpit, timber cubby house, tricycles & paved riding track, play & swing equipment all situated on natural tan bark amongst native trees & shrubs.

Children's enjoy growing their own vegetables & herbs that can be used in the Centre's kitchen. Our Sensory garden has been created to provide children with a quieter space within the yard to encourage inclusive practices.

The outdoor experiences are incorporated into each room's indoor/outdoor program and focus on developing children's gross motor skills, hand-eye coordination and spatial awareness across all ages.





# Bush Kinder!

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Located just a short stroll behind our centre is the Eltham Scout Hall where we plan to run a weekly Bush Kinder Program.

This area has two large areas with many opportunities for children to learn through nature. We have been given access to the hall for their facilities and look forward to this addition to our program.

More Information on our Bush Kinder Program to come...







# Transition to School

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Socially and emotionally confident are the key areas of development that are most important for a child when we talk about school readiness. Being able to write their name is a great skill to have and if your child is interested in reading great but that's not what

The most common but not the only questions to consider when talking about being ready for school is that your child can

- Separate easily at drop off
- Make their own decision of where they are going to work
- Self initiate, engage and maintain engagement for around 6 – 8 minutes research says,
- Have the skills to solve basic problems and ask for help from an educator if needed
- Have basic independence skills (able to put on shoes and socks, art smocks, toileting independently)
- Sit with the group and remain focused, ask questions and answer questions
- Self regulate their emotions when they need to do something they don't want to (for example don't tantrum or physically lash out for something they want)

These skills are important when you think of your child being in a class of over 20 with one teacher and they didn't have these skills.

Our goal in the kinder room is for our children to develop these skills through play and our intentional teachings to give them the opportunity to thrive when they get to school and not just cope.



# Edna and Edie



The Kinder Room have two long-neck turtles called Edna and Edie who the children help to look after.







# Contact us

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If you have any questions about our Kindergarten Program, please give us a call in the room or the office or send us an email and we will be happy to answer!

Phone: 9439 7470

Email: [elthamchildcare@bigpond.com.au](mailto:elthamchildcare@bigpond.com.au)

We Look forward to seeing you in 2021