



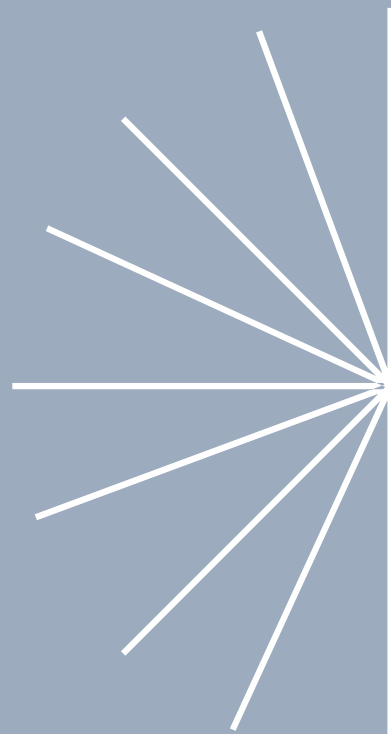
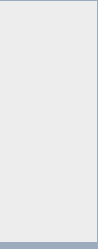
# AMAROO PRESCHOOL

Towards Tomorrow Together



**ACT**  
Government









# WELCOME

Dear families

Welcome to Amaroo School. Our school is designed to cater for the learning needs of students from Preschool to Year 10. We pride ourselves on providing the very best learning experiences for all our students. In Preschool our students enjoy a play-based program that meets the individual needs of every child. We look forward to a long and mutually beneficial partnership as we work with you to ensure students are able to learn and develop to their full potential.

This booklet is designed to provide you with the information you will need to know now, before your child starts preschool, and as the year progresses. Ongoing communication and information will also be provided through newsletters, updates on our website, the Parent Portal and email. If you have any queries or concerns please contact us in person, via phone Amaroo School Front Office 6142 1266, Preschool 6142 1279 or email [info@amaroos.act.edu.au](mailto:info@amaroos.act.edu.au)

We look forward to sharing your child's learning and working in close partnership with you.

Cindie Deeker  
Executive Principal

Matthew Gowen  
Acting Principal Primary

# PRESCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

Our philosophical beliefs belong to us, the staff, the children and the families of our community. They build upon Amaroo School's vision and values and the principles of the Early Years Learning Framework.

## RELATIONSHIPS ARE

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- Supportive and nurture children's wellbeing
- Critical for the development of a safe, stimulating environment where children and families are valued

## DEVELOPMENT IS

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- Play-based experiences which build early literacy and numeracy skills
- Stimulated by curiosity, wonder and inquiry
- Nurtured in preschool environments to become life-long learners

## LEARNING MUST

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- Be recognised and enhanced by knowing the individual strengths, needs and interests of each child
- Develop environmentally responsible children that contribute to a sustainable future

## DIVERSITY & EQUITY IS

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- Respect and inclusion of the rich multicultural community
- Developing children's ability to recognise fairness and support them to act with kindness
- Ensuring that all students with diverse needs are recognised and supported

## REFLECTIVE PRACTICE

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- Is ongoing and informs all that we do
- Can be intentional, spontaneous and interest based
- Involves children reflecting on their own learning





# THE FIRST DAY OF PRESCHOOL

## MORNING

Prior to the first day of Preschool, parents will receive an email from Amaroo School. This email contains your child's individual starting time. Preschool start times are staggered for the first day only to allow teachers and educators to welcome and support all children and families. A small amount of children will arrive every 15 minutes beginning at 8:45am until all children within the group have arrived. Please help your child apply sunscreen, find their name tag, put their drink bottle on the drink trolley and place their bag on their labelled hook. Please keep their lunch box in their school bag. Come in and support your child to wash their hands to start the day.

Please feel welcome to stay and sit with your child for a while. Complete a puzzle, share a story or some activities, this will help them to feel more settled and ready for you to leave.

Make your goodbye quick, cheerful and confident. Remind them that you will be back when the preschool day is over.

At 9.30am we will encourage the children to gather together on the floor. This can be your cue to leave. If we feel that your child is too distressed and is unlikely to settle without you we will contact you immediately. We have your child's best interests at heart. There are plenty of staff on hand to ensure that the children settle-in and feel safe. Children often settle quickly once they are intrigued by their new surroundings.

## AFTERNOON

Preschool finishes at 3.00pm. Please feel free to come into your child's preschool room from 2.45pm onwards and join our goodbye circle time.



# LEARNING IS PLAY

Preschool curriculum and learning context



## AMAROO PRESCHOOL

At Amaroo Preschool we support all children as curious, capable and courageous inquirers. We guide each child's development of life-long skills through spontaneous and personalised inquiry and play.

Our Preschool Program curriculum is developed with reference to the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF), an Australian Government approved framework designed to ensure that children in all early childhood education and care settings receive quality teaching to achieve required learning outcomes.

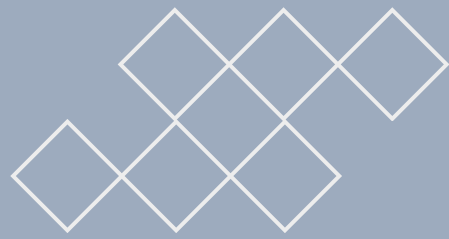
At the very heart of the Early Years Learning Framework is the view that early childhood is a time when exploring notions of 'being', 'belonging' and 'becoming' are essential to the development of identity, cognitive reasoning and wellbeing. In the context of school readiness, the curriculum creates the framework around which all of the interactions, activities and experiences, both planned and unplanned occur. This ensures that your child is fully prepared to transition effectively to formal schooling.

Research shows that children are more likely to learn when they are engaged in purposeful activities. A play-based learning context encourages a range of positive developmental outcomes such as personality expression, individuality, relationship development, curiosity and creativity as well as developing a sense of overall esteem and wellbeing.

A variety of different techniques are used by our qualified teachers and educators to promote these developmental outcomes. Some of these techniques include a daily schedule of indoor and outdoor activities, regular adult-and-child and child-and-child interactions in an informal and formal educational setting and exposure to multiple creative activities such as arts, movement and music. We value children's sense of agency and voice to support them to grow and learn.



# PRESCHOOL ESSENTIALS



## 01

### BACKPACK

- A full drink bottle of water
- A lunch bag with a separate packed snack and lunch (suggested 2 containers)
- Snack; cheese, vegetables, rice crackers, popcorn, fruit, vegetables (sliced or whole)
- Lunch; sandwich, pasta, sushi or roti (a small ice brick to keep food chilled)

*Note: Amaroo is a nut free school. Please do not send any nuts or nut products such as peanut butter or Nutella.*

- A complete set of spare clothes to accommodate changes in weather and accidents of any kind
- A warm jacket and beanie in the colder months

It is helpful to make sure that your child is familiar with their items and this includes being able to open and close their backpack, lunch box clips and containers. Please label all items.

## 03

### MEDICAL NEEDS

Inform the school if your child has a specific health care need, allergy or medical condition. Upon enrolment, families will provide the school with a medical action plan (if applicable) and complete a medical information and consent form. Preschool staff and parents work together to put arrangements in place for health care support to meet individual needs during the school day and on excursions. Staff will also complete a risk minimisation plan and communication plan in consultation with the family of a child with a known medical condition. Our school is an anaphylaxis aware school. This provides protection for children who have severe allergic reactions to certain foods and in particular nuts and nut products. Parents are asked to provide nut free food for their child's snack and lunch. Nutella and peanut butter are not safe to eat at preschool.

## 02

### CLOTHING

Amaroo School has consulted with previous preschool cohorts and the P&C and the feedback has resulted in a school uniform being introduced into our preschool setting. Preschool students now have the ability to feel a greater connection to Amaroo School by wearing the primary uniform. This consists of a red polo and navy shorts, pants or skirt. If you choose not to send your child in school uniform please consider your clothing choice in regards to how easy they are for children to pull up and down or take off and put on. They will need to do these self-help skills with increasing independence. Jeans, shorts, leggings, tops that cover the shoulders are appropriate. Enclosed shoes are essential for running, bike riding, playing and climbing. Please try to send your child with velcro rather than shoelaces. Thongs, open sandals and slippers are not appropriate or safe. You may pack a raincoat and gumboots for outdoor play on wet weather days.

All preschoolers will be supplied with a hat on their first day of preschool. These hats are colour coded to your child's preschool group and remain at preschool.

## 04

### FOOD

We encourage families to pack foods that, Go (give us energy), Grow (helps build muscles) and Glow (protects us from illness, and keep our skin, hair, nails healthy). Go lunchbox ideas: sandwiches made with wholegrain breads, wraps or crackers. Grow lunchbox ideas: boiled eggs, cheese and yoghurt, hummus with vegie sticks. Sandwich fillings; skinless and shredded chicken, turkey or roast beef. Glow lunchbox ideas: carrot sticks, uncooked green beans, sugar snap peas, capsicum sticks, cherry tomatoes, cucumber sticks or fruit. Sandwich fillings such as grated carrot, lettuce, tomatoes and sliced celery. It is also helpful to make sure that your child is familiar with opening commercial yoghurt tubes and fruit snacks. Educators will ask children to take all rubbish from their lunchboxes home for recycling and we encourage families to use reusable containers.



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