



Coromandel Valley Kindergarten

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PLAYGROUP INFORMATION BOOKLET

Playgroup is open every school term on the even week Friday from 9am to 11am.

Public School Term Dates				
	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2021	1 Feb to 16 April	3 May to 9 July	26 July to 1 Oct	18 Oct to 17 Dec
2022	31 Jan to 14 April	2 May to 8 July	25 July to 30 September	17 Oct to 16 Dec
2023	30 Jan to 14 April	1 May to 7 July	24 July to 29 September	16 Oct to 15 Dec
2024	29 Jan to 12 April	29 April to 5 July	22 July to 27 September	14 Oct to 13 Dec
2025	28 Jan to 11 April	28 April to 4 July	21 July to 26 September	13 Oct to 12 Dec

Introduction

Welcome to Coromandel Valley Kindergarten Playgroup. Our Kindergarten playgroup is a lively and friendly environment where your child will have opportunities to explore concepts through purposeful play-based experiences. We enjoy a large natural outdoor environment and encourage nature play and exploration including gardening, mud and water play, sandpit and exploring the garden areas. Our site is funded by the Department for Education and operates during school term timelines and within policies and guidelines of the Department. The playgroup supports the policies and practices of the site creating continuity and a rich transition opportunity if your child is going to attend kindergarten sessions.

Children from birth to six are welcome at the playgroup. Your child needs to be well to attend and be able to enjoy the experiences.

The Philosophy vision and values of CVK educators are inherent in the programs offered, including playgroup. We expect parents, grandparents and carers will be able to support these notions and beliefs.

Our philosophy

At CVK we view all children as capable and competent. Education begins the moment we recognise each child as wise and capable, only then can we play along in their world. The wider the range of possibilities we accept as possible the more intense will be the child's motivations and the richer their experiences.

Our vision

Our vision is to build on each child's individual experience and support them to develop their moral conscience and learn through dynamic, challenging play experiences and a rich learning environment that promotes independence and life-long learning.

Our values

At Coromandel Valley Kindergarten we do our utmost to promote, develop and maintain on a daily basis;

- *Value and respect for all individuals.*
- *Co-operation & friendship between all our learners, families and educators.*
- *Respectful interactions and relationships between the entire kindergarten community which includes children, families, educators, local schools, playgroup and the broader community.*
- *A safe, inclusive environment that promotes the wellbeing of all participants through the development of executive functions and intellectual stretch.*
- *Sensitive, respectful and appropriate use of Kindergarten resources and increasing knowledge, respect and care for the Kindertgartens natural and synthetic environments.*
- *Meaningful learning experiences that reflect the culture and interests of children, their families and the community.*
- *Children's exploration, experimentation and self-leadership to ensure success in learning.*
- *Reflective practice that ensures educators gather and analyse data to provide a flexible, play-based curriculum that is responsive to the needs of all learners through a regular planning cycle.*
- *Healthy eating and physical activity, policies and practices that educate and support the wellbeing of children and their families.*

Policies and Procedures

All policies relevant to Preschool / Kindergarten can be accessed on the Department for Education website (www.education.sa.gov.au).

Our site specific policies are written by education staff and Governing Council in conjunction with community feedback (e.g. playgroup) to ensure everyone is aware of their rights and responsibilities.

Please talk to staff if you have any queries relating to the policies. They are reviewed either yearly or biannually. Policies and procedures that parents need to be familiar with immediately are listed below and can be found on our website.

COVID procedures have been required since 2020 to support the health and safety of our community. We no longer have the option to accommodate large numbers of adults at our kindergarten. We appreciate your understanding and patience in these matters. Every effort is made to find an accommodation to support the continued strong relationships families have with kindergartens throughout their child's beginning education journey.

The number of ADULTS at Playgroup will therefore be limited depending on current advice from the SA Health department advice and booking in for a session will be a requirement. Please contact the Kindergarten by phoning 82702964 and speak to a staff member to book into a playgroup session.

POLICIES / PROCEDURES
Allergy Aware Policy – we are a NO NUT site
Behaviour Code Policy – we practice <i>The Way To A</i> program
Bushfire Procedure – sessions will be cancelled on extreme or catastrophic fire danger rating days
Healthy Eating and Nutrition Policy – we encourage whole foods and sit, supervised while we eat
Department of Education Parent Complaints Policy and Procedure – please speak to staff in the first instance
Priority of Access – children aged from birth to 6 years are welcome. Children enrolled at CVK have priority of access
Skin Protection Policy – hats are worn all year and sunblock applied if the UV rating is 3 or above
Fee Collection Policy – the playgroup fee is payable on arrival at the session in cash
COVID procedures – we follow the advice and guidelines of the SA Health Department

Birthdays

We are able to celebrate children's birthdays by singing "Happy Birthday" with our non-edible special cake and lighting the corresponding number of candles. Please do not send cakes, biscuits, lollies or toys / novelties to share with the other children as this may put some children's health and safety at risk.

Photographs

We promote our playgroup on the CVK closed Facebook page, website and in our newsletters. The playgroup coordinator will seek permission to use your child's image and will have a permission form for you to complete. Please make sure to let staff know if you do not want us to take photographs and use your child's image. **We ask that all adults that attend the playgroup are respectfully mindful of other parents' limitations and do not take any photographs of children other than your own at the playgroup.**

How to Help Your Child Develop Positive Learning and Independence Skills

- Come to playgroup as often as you can and join in the fun with your child.
- Encourage your child to do things for him/herself, e.g. putting on socks and shoes, hanging up their own bag, putting their possessions in their bags.
- Encourage your child to find his/her own solution to an issue or problem.
- Use positive language at home, e.g. "have a go", "keep trying", "good getting along", "that's being organised!" etc.
- Read to your child each day and join your local library.
- Dress your child in suitable clothes for climbing, digging, painting, etc. Please - no thongs, crocs, slippery shoes, 'special' shoes, long dresses. Shorts and trousers are best.
- Read the Facebook posts, newsletters, display notices and program information.
- Ask the staff questions!
- Discourage bringing precious toys or objects as they can get lost or broken.
- Write your child's name clearly on everything (drink bottle, food containers, hat, Kindy bag, etc.) in an easy to see place (i.e. on the outside) to assist your child.
- Discuss with your child what they have for fruit / snack times and for lunchtime as this will assist your child to make sure they can access the appropriate foods.

*Some of the details of this document *policy / procedure content, *fees and charges, *programs and *operational times may change according to Departmental directives or Governing Council feedback*