



Welcome

We warmly welcome you to Mayfield West Demonstration School Preschool.

We would like to respectfully acknowledge the Awabakal people as the Traditional Custodians and First Peoples of the land on which Mayfield West Demonstration School resides. We pay respect to Aboriginal Elders both past and present and extend that respect to other Aboriginal people.



Our Philosophy

We visualise our philosophy as a tree so that we have a shared understanding of the structures that ensure everyone is known, valued, and cared for. This is proudly on display on the walls of our preschool.

Diversity

Mayfield West Demonstration School Preschool recognises the uniqueness of the families that attend our centre and believe that all cultural and linguistic knowledge is valuable and can enhance our preschool program.

We believe that children should be connected to their community and experience a sense of belonging within it. We facilitate opportunities for children to encounter meaningful learning in collaboration with outside communities. We wish for our centre to be a place where all children can feel happy, safe, warm, loved, and comfortable.

Critical Reflection and Continuous Improvement

At Mayfield West, we believe that children and families deserve high quality education, and that this is best achieved through continuous reflections that are critically evaluated in order to improve practice. We believe that there is always room for improvement and progress, and that parents, children, and community members' perspectives should be valued to enable genuine improvements that are specific to our context.

Environment

As a learning community we believe that the preschool environment should be safe, warm, loving, happy, and comforting for our children, as well as one that creates curiosity and wonder. We believe children should be connected to the natural environment and learn about the world in which they live – both within and beyond the boundaries of the preschool. Children should have opportunities to connect with nature through gardening, nature walks, and other excursions.



Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF)

Our curriculum is the trunk of our tree and it is centred around the Early Years Learning Framework. The aim of Early Years Learning Framework is to ensure your child receives quality education programs in their early childhood setting.

It is a guide for early childhood educators who work with children from birth to five years.

The Early Years Learning Framework describes childhood as a time of belonging, being and becoming.

- Belonging is the basis for living a fulfilling life. Children feel they belong because of the relationships they have with their family, community, culture and place.
- Being is about living here and now. Childhood is a special time in life and children need time to just 'be'—time to play, try new things and have fun.
- Becoming is about the learning and development that young children experience. Children start to form their sense of identity from an early age, which shapes the type of adult they will become.

Play is Learning

When children play they are showing what they have learned and what they are trying to understand. This is why play is one of the foundations of the Early Years Learning Framework.

By using this Framework educators will guide your child's play by carefully designing learning activities in indoor and outdoor learning environments.

Relationships are key

Our educators work hard to build relationships with families and children as they are the basis for all that we do. These relationships ensure that all parts of our Preschool Tree grow in harmony.

It is well known that children learn best when they have secure relationships with caring adults. When children from a very early age develop trusting relationships, they feel more confident and able to explore and learn.

In early childhood settings, when children feel emotionally secure they learn through play to develop the skills and understandings they need to interact positively with others and gradually learn to take responsibility.

What to bring everyday

- Drink bottle filled with water
- A piece of fruit or vegetable for Crunch n Sip
- Healthy low-package lunch (in a cooler bag with icebrick)
- Healthy low-package afternoon tea
- Change of clothes
(Hat's are provided by the preschool)

Meals

Meal times are a social and enjoyable time and aid in the promotion of self help skills. We ask that the children bring nutritious low package food for consumption during the day. We discourage lollies or chocolates being brought in lunchboxes. Please provide a water bottle (no juice or cordial) for your child to access during the day.

In the case that a child at risk of anaphylaxis enrolls at our preschool, you will be notified of their trigger foods through a notice at our entrance and on Seesaw.



Timetable

The preschool timetable aims to provide a balance of adult-directed and free play experiences. Our timetable allows for flexibility to follow specific interests, spontaneous experiences and link in with K-2 programs running in the School.

What to wear

To aid in the enjoyment of preschool we suggest that clothing should be:

- Easily washable - preschool is not the place for 'good clothes'.
- Manageable clothing and shoes allowing for independence eg. Ease of toileting, velcro shoes that children can manage independently.
- Safe - avoid clothes that may hinder climbing, jumping and running.
- Sun safe - shoulders covered
- Identifiable - please label your child's clothing.

Sun Protection

Whilst outdoors, children must wear a preschool hat and will have access to sunscreen. In the warmer months we ask that you apply sunscreen prior to (or on arrival at) preschool. When necessary, we will assist your child to reapply this during the day.

If your child is ill

Regular attendance is important. However, if your child is feeling unwell, keep them at home. This is for both the child's sake and to eliminate the risk of cross infection to other children. We ask that you keep your child at home if they have had a temperature, diarrhoea or vomiting in the previous 24 hours.

Please notify the Preschool staff by phone or email if your child is going to be absent for any reason. Current advice from the department require children with any symptoms to remain at home and to provide a negative COVID result prior to returning to preschool.

Before and After School Care

Out of school hours care (OSHC) is provided by [Mayfield West OSHC | The Y \(ymcansw.org.au\)](https://www.mayfieldw-p.school.nsw.edu.au)
To speak to the Centre Coordinator, call 0408 245 392 or email oshc.mayfieldwest@ymcansw.org.au

Medication

If your child is taking any prescribed medication it must be given to the preschool teacher in its original packaging with the directions of use. You will need to sign a consent form giving permission for it to be administered.

School Canteen

Children will be able to access the school canteen with ordered lunches. It is generally available for lunches from Wednesday to Friday. More information, including a menu, will be provided towards the end of the year.



**BANKSIA
GROUP**



**WATTLE
GROUP**



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