

Welcome to the Toddler Room

About the Toddler Room

In the toddler room we look forward to getting to know you, your child and your family! In order to promote a sense of belonging for your child while at care we ask families to contribute a photo (this can be of your family or of something important to your family) for our toddler room photo album – our photo album is a simple way of reflecting every families culture and provides opportunities for us to talk about the diversity present in our room. You can send these via Storypark moments, conversations, email or drop one off in person. Feel free to send in as many or as few as you wish.

Our centre uses Storypark to promote family engagement and conversation, get regular updates on your child's learning via the planning tab to view detailed information on what your child is learning and experiencing.

We love hearing from families and we encourage you to speak to us in person, send us an email, comment or start a conversation on Storypark. Please don't hesitate to message us, your feedback and input is valuable and supports us to plan for your child, reflect on our practices, and contribute to quality improvement.

If you ever need support or want to arrange a private meeting, please don't hesitate to notify us or the director/assistant director.

Educational Framework

As educators we strive to support your child's emerging autonomy, sense of agency and independence, we're here to help your toddler develop the skills to tackle their next big adventure. In our room we use the Early Years Learning Framework, and within this framework there are some specific areas we focus on daily, these include...

Self-Care. We encourage all children to be aware of how their body moves through the environment to protect themselves and others as they negotiate the space. Children are encouraged and/or supported to dress themselves, pour their own drinks and self-serve at meal times when safe to do so.

Turn Taking. It takes time for children to learn to share, so we encourage children to offer their resources to their peers when finished. Educators model sharing behaviours and language and support children to turn take when resources are limited. Sharing is taught under the broader umbrella of fairness and equity!

Literacy. We focus on developing pre-writing and pre-reading skills by developing strong and dextrous hands and fingers, by scribbling and mark making, recognising and labelling, developing book handling skills like orientation and reading left to right. Children who show an interest in writing or are developmentally ready work alongside educators to create structured shapes, print letters, and practice writing their names

Maths. Number concepts are explored through everyday conversations, play, songs and stories. Children are encouraged to compare, record, sort and categorise as they play. We also explore sequencing through everyday routines for example what steps come first, second, and last when managing tasks.

Art. For toddlers art is all about the process as opposed to the product. Through the process of art children learn about how the marks they make can be viewed and interpreted by others, art presents opportunities to learn about a range of concepts and explore ideas and it's also a great opportunity for experimentation and self-expression!

Social and Emotional Wellbeing. We work hard to cultivate a sense of resilience in children, we encourage them to make choices, take risks, and cope with change and frustration! Children are encouraged to challenge themselves during play and routines and to persist with tasks. Educators use a range of methods to promote emotional regulation as we talk through and label children's emotions , encourage children to recognise what they or their peers may be feeling and make safe choices to protect themselves and others.

It's not uncommon for children in this age range to use physical actions such as biting, hitting, pushing, snatching, etc. If you have any concerns about these behaviours please don't hesitate to let us know!

Join us during the day!

Our centre has an open door policy and we love having family members visit the room. Please let one of our educators know if you would be willing to donate your time for stories, music, cooking, or an activity of your choice.

Toddler Time! Things to know

At this age and stage of development children often want to do things for themselves, in order to support this children have access to their own bags, and are encouraged to use and take responsibility for their property while at child care. Please ensure all property is **clearly labelled** to prevent mix ups!

Children's bags should not contain...

- plastic bags (these pose a suffocation hazard)
- medication/chemicals/ointments or creams (due to risk of poisoning)
- food (due to potential allergens that can cause life threatening anaphylaxis and the risk of choking)

We recommend clothing with Velcro, elastic or simple clips to support your child to do things for themselves. By dressing and undressing themselves children learn about self-care, bodily autonomy and can further develop their fine motor skills.

