

St Joseph's School

Kindergarten Prospectus



**St Joseph, just as you love Mary,
and with fatherly care you watched
over Jesus,
we ask you through Jesus
to continue to care for us and our
families
from your home in heaven.
Amen**



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to St Joseph's School. Thank you for taking the time to explore our Pre Kindy program. St Joseph's has been meeting the educational, spiritual and pastoral needs of children in the Goldfields since 1898.

Pre Kindy is a very special year for your child. The Pre Kindy program aims to create an environment where children learn through free play, discovery, hands-on activities and teacher directed activities, which are appropriate to their developmental level.

Our school has a warm, intimate and friendly environment where all children are challenged to reach their potential in a Catholic context. At St Joseph's your child is in the care of our highly professional and dedicated staff.

In an increasingly complex and challenging world, the education of our students is grounded in Gospel values, and spiritual and faith growth is in synergy with academic achievement and development of social skills and confidence.

Positive and harmonious unity between students, parents and teachers and all members of our school community is promoted and nurtured through understanding, compassion, respect, love of others and a shared love of God.

I warmly invite you to discover more of how St Joseph's School makes education an enjoyable and richly rewarding experience for its students.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa Gallin".

Mrs Lisa Gallin
Principal

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to all of the children and their families commencing at St Joseph's Kindergarten.

We look forward to a wonderful and rewarding time with your children.

The following information is intended as a guide to the St Joseph's School Kindergarten Program. If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Kindergarten teacher.

STAFF

PRINCIPAL	Lisa Gallin
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL	Natasha Gregory
KINDERGARTEN STAFF Teacher	Sharon Pavlinovich
Teacher Assistant	Samantha Carter Joyleen Mariano
Telephone: 9093 2351	Fax: 9093 2463

Email: admin@stjosephsboulder.wa.edu.au

ATTENDANCE TIMES

Tuesday	8.50am to 2.50pm
Wednesday	8.50am to 2.50pm
Friday	8.50am to 2.50pm

Dear Parents

Welcome to Kindergarten. I trust it will be an enjoyable and exciting experience for your child.

Kindergarten is a very special year for your child. The Kindergarten program aims to create an environment where children learn through free play, discovery, hands-on activities and teacher directed activities, which are appropriate to their developmental level.

The Kindergarten environment aims to:

- Develop a sense of wonder about God
- Allow children to be children
- Provide rich experiences that are stimulating, hands-on, creative and challenging
- Foster in each child an enthusiasm and joy for learning
- Develop their pre-literacy and pre-numeracy skills
- Develop the ability to communicate verbally and non-verbally their thoughts, ideas and feelings
- Encourage socialisation and positive relationships
- Develop their fine and gross motor skills
- Encourage a healthy moral awareness
- Make Kindergarten a place where children feel comfortable and valued, in a supportive and encouraging environment.

Our planning is guided by the WA Kindergarten Guidelines and Early Years Learning Framework. This describes the broad parameters, structure, principles and outcomes required to enhance children's learning from birth to five. It focuses on play-based intentional learning; the role of teachers in facilitating children's learning; five outcomes and a seamless transition from learning in childcare to learning in school. It also has strong links to the Australian Curriculum and the Western Australian Kindergarten Guidelines.

The Kindergarten program is developed through the interest of the children. During a term, one or more topics may be covered. Most of the activities, reading material and discussions focus on developing knowledge about the topic.

The centre has a games/play room which is arranged into a variety of learning centres in which the children can visit during indoor activity time. Children will also complete teacher directed activities during the sessions.

Outdoor time is when the children can run around and play with their friends. A variety of equipment is set up each day to help to develop their gross motor skills.

I look forward to working with you and your child in the coming year.

Mrs Sharon Pavlinovich
Kindergarten Teacher

THE EARLY YEARS PHILOSOPHICAL STATEMENT FOR ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL

Our Philosophy

St Joseph's School Boulder acknowledges the interconnectedness of faith, family, community and culture. Students are seen as competent and capable human beings with their own unique talents and abilities. The children's religious, spiritual, social and emotional growth is nurtured by experiencing God's love for them as they form respectful and reciprocal relationships to be an active contributor to society.

Education at St Joseph's Boulder is based on ...

- Our Catholic faith being central to all that we do.
- The education of our students is grounded in Gospel values, and spiritual and faith growth is in synergy with academic achievement and development of social skills and confidence.
- Embracing a sense of community
- Valuing parents as the first and most influential educators of children and working in partnership with them.
- The understanding that learning is intentional.
- Children being confident learners who have a belief that they can achieve greatness.
- Fostering a welcoming environment where all children and families are respected and actively encouraged to collaborate.
- The Early Years Learning framework, The Western Australian Curriculum and the Kindergarten Guidelines within a Catholic context.

How we understand learning?

- Learning is holistic. The whole person is involved; based on early year's pedagogy.
- Children are creative and independent thinkers, great problem solvers and communicators that learn and grow through play.
- The early years are when brain development is most active. These early learning experiences are critical as they impact on later outcomes in life. It is imperative that the experiences provided are rich, authentic, intentional and purposeful.
- Learning is seen as a joint venture where all are involved in an active and engaging process.
- Learning can happen anywhere and at any time.
- A passion for lifelong learning is developed through investigating the natural world.
- A child's sense of curiosity drives their learning and is valued in planning experiences.
- An environment where children are confident to take risks and make mistakes is vital for learning.
- Children progress well when they, their parents and educators hold high expectations for their achievement in learning.
- The process of learning is just as valuable as the product.
- Opportunities to demonstrate and discuss ethical behaviour is vital for children to become informed decision makers.

Being

- All educators demonstrate Christ like behaviours, through Walking in The Footsteps of Jesus, and encourage these in children.
- All children can learn.

- Achievement is recognised and celebrated.
- Experiences are child centred and developmentally appropriate; differentiated according to interest, need and learning styles.
- Children are exposed to cultural experiences that differ to their own
- Reciprocal relationships are integral and we acknowledge that families are the first and primary educators of their child.
- The prime motivator in learning is a spirit of inquiry, where awe and wonder are nurtured.
- Learning is authentic and focussed in the 'here and now'.
- The world is a 'truth to be discovered' and children are encouraged to ask questions.
- Dialogue is open and responsive which values the child's individual voice.
- Children are effective communicators; in multiple forms.

Belonging

- First and foremost we are all members of God's family.
- Children have a strong sense of identity.
- The learning environment represents every child; "the walls speak"
- Acknowledge children's interdependence with others and recognises this is the basis of relationships.
- Shapes who children are and who they can become.
- Difference is accepted and celebrated.
- Educators are reflective and collaborative, as advocates for every child.
- Each child is enabled, involved and encouraged to contribute to their learning.
- Open ended tasks which enable children to personalise their product, process or response.
- Opportunities for children to represent their school/class/family/faith through performance, publication or communication.

Becoming

- Learning should be a positive experience for every child.
- Learning is more about the journey than the destination.
- Educators encourage risk taking, autonomy and self efficacy.
- Children begin to develop self reflective skills and critical and creative thinking.
- All opinions are valued, responded to and reflected upon.
- All educators model life long learning.
- Understand the expectations and norms of belonging to specific communities, enabling them to participate fully and actively in society.
- Recognise that children are shaped by their various experiences and circumstances.

ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE

- Kindergarten days are Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 8.50am – 2.50pm.
- The Kindergarten door opens at 8.45am and parents are invited to stay with their child for a short period to do puzzles or read a book.
- If your child is distressed, especially in the first weeks of school, it is advisable that you leave promptly and let the staff look after the child. Be assured that children

- usually settle quickly when Mum or Dad are out of sight. If at any time your child is distressed and cannot be placated you will be contacted.
- Please ensure that your child is collected promptly at 2.50pm. If in an emergency you are late or someone else is to pick up your child, please ring the school office and the Kindergarten staff will be informed of the situation.
 - If you need to collect your child early, please sign your child out at the school's administration office prior to collecting your child and take the 'Permission to Collect Child Pass' to the classroom.
 - Please do not allow your child to play on any of the playground equipment around the school before or after school.

COMMUNICATION

We consider communication between home and school to be very important. Our first concern is the happiness of your child. Should anything happen at home to upset your child in any way, we would appreciate it if you could let us know.

ABSENCES

Legal requirements on monitoring absenteeism have become much more accountable. Parents must inform the school/class teacher prior to the child being absent if it involves a previously arranged appointment. If parents have forgotten to do so, they must inform the school via the administration office before 9.15am on the day. This can be done by emailing admin@stjosephsboulder.wa.edu.au or by phoning the office on 9093 2351. On returning to school please give the teacher a written note.

Parents running late must sign students in at the administration office.

KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION BOARD

Outside the Kindergarten classroom there will be an information board which will inform parents of upcoming events and any important information that you need to be aware of. However, any information regarding important dates will be in the school newsletter. We will also send home regular class newsletters.

WHAT TO BRING TO Kindergarten

- A **MIDDLE to LARGE SIZED** backpack, which can hold a lunchbox, drink bottle, change of clothes and your child's work.
- A **COMPLETE** change of clothes. This is necessary the full year round. Please make sure the clothes are appropriate for the weather.
- A hat, which has a wide brim, or a cap with a neck protection flap. The school has a '**No Hat-No Play**' policy and this discipline starts in Kindergarten.
- A water bottle that is clearly labelled so that the children can help themselves during the day. **WATER ONLY**. No juice boxes or cordial.
- A piece of fruit to share (to add variety – carrots, celery, cheese, eggs, dried fruit, cucumber, tomatoes, savoury biscuits or little sandwiches all make a pleasant change). **No nuts, sweet biscuits or sugary cereal**.
- Please send your child with their **own** lunch on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.
- Children will be able to order their lunches from the canteen from Term Two.
- Fruit and lunch in a lunch box – further information below.
- A library bag. Books are usually borrowed directly from the library.

WHAT TO WEAR TO KINDERGARTEN

It is an Early Childhood Philosophy that children are able to express themselves and their individuality through their choice of clothing.

- As some activities can be messy it is suggested that your child be dressed in appropriate “play clothes”. No overalls please as they are difficult for children to undo at toilet time. Please include a change of clothes in your child’s bag as water or toilet accidents do occasionally occur.
- Having manageable shoes will increase your child’s independence and confidence. Please ensure children are wearing sensible shoes or sandals that they can independently take off and put on. If your child is wearing shoes other than joggers/sneakers they will be asked to remove them before using climbing equipment. This is a safety precaution.
- All shoes, hats, jumpers etc. are to have the child’s name clearly marked. Please allow children to wear old clothes as, inevitably clothes will come home painted or dyed.
- Parents are encouraged to apply sunscreen to children before coming to school. Sunscreen is also available for re-application during the day.

TOILETING

- In the event of a toileting accident, wet clothing will be put in a plastic bag and into the school bag. If soiled, the child will be made as clean and comfortable as possible and, if necessary, parents will be contacted to pick up their child.
- Parents are required to provide at least one change of clothing to be kept in the child’s bag. Please ensure clothing is appropriate to the weather.

LUNCH

St Joseph’s is an allergy aware school. Please avoid sending any food that contains nuts or traces of nuts to school. In Kindergarten we promote a healthy, nutritious approach to food, so we ask that all food brought in by your child is ‘HEALTHY’. Children will be required to bring lunch. Lunch boxes must be clearly labelled.

HEALTH AND MEDICATION

- Please do not send your child to Kindergarten if he/she is unwell. This is very important not only for your child but the health of all children and staff. A child who has been unwell may wake up seemingly well but within an hour or two they may feel unwell again, so please take this into consideration when deciding whether to send your child to school or not.
- If your child falls ill or is injured while at school you will be contacted. Please ensure your contact details are kept up to date with the office and the Kindergarten staff.
- If your child has any medical conditions or allergies (especially to food) it is essential that you advise the school, and in particular the Kindergarten staff. In

some cases, a management plan may be requested, e.g. for children with asthma or severe allergy.

- All medication for *high risk* children is kept in separate containers in the kitchen first aid kit on the wall. All medication received by *high risk* children must be recorded.
- No medication is to be administered to any child unless parents have completed authorisation forms.

- Parents are requested to inform the school if a child has a communicable/infectious disease and are required to observe the exclusion from school period. Public Health Department recommendations for most common infectious diseases are listed on their website.
- Every effort will be made to contact parents if a medical emergency arises. However, the children will be treated in case of medical emergency by staff and if necessary an ambulance will be called.
- Please ensure that all information pertaining to **HEALTH, EMERGENCY CONTACTS**, and the name and telephone number of your **MEDICAL PRACTITIONER** on your child's **ENROLMENT CARD IS UP TO DATE**.

Please ensure your teacher is kept up to date with this information.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

If your child has the following infectious diseases, he or she must be excluded from Kindergarten. Please let the staff know if your child has one of the following diseases:

Chicken Pox

- Exclude from Kindergarten. Child returns 5 days after the rash appeared and the rash has formed crusts, or on the presentation of a Medical Certificate that the child is no longer infectious.

Infectious Hepatitis

- Exclude child from Kindergarten until certified well by a Medical Practitioner.

Measles and Rubella (German Measles)

- Exclude child from Kindergarten. Re-admit on Medical Certificate of recovery or 4 days from appearance of rash if well.

Mumps

- Exclude child from Kindergarten. Re-admit on Medical Certificate of recovery or 9 days from onset of symptoms if well.

Ringworm and Impetigo (School Sores)

- Exclude child from Kindergarten. Re-admit when anti-fungal treatment has been administered for 24 hours and sores/lesions are covered.

Whooping Cough

- Exclude child from Kindergarten. Re-admit on Medical Certificate of recovery or 2 weeks from onset or 5 days after starting antibiotics.

Pediculosis (Nits or Eggs of Head Lice)

- This is a recurrent and common problem to which no stigma should be attached. It is best tackled at the home level. Parents should **check frequently** and take the necessary action when required. The school will notify the parents of infected children so treatment may be commenced without delay to help control this problem. The co-operation of all parents is requested in dealing with the issue. There are various products available to prevent and treat the problem. Exclude child from Kindergarten until lice and eggs are killed.

Hand Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD)

- Hand, foot and mouth disease is a common viral illness in infants and children. Symptoms are mild fever, poor appetite and frequently a sore throat. One or two days later the fever begins, sores develop in the mouth. The sores begin as small red spots that blister and then often become ulcers. The skin rash develops over 1 – 2 days with flat or raised red spots that often come with blisters. The rash does not itch and is usually located on the palms of the hands and soles of the feet. HFMD occurs mainly in children under 10 years of age, but adults may also be a risk. It is not the same disease as animal foot and mouth disease.

Incubation:	Usually 3 to 7 days.
Infectious period:	While blisters are present. Faeces remain infectious for several weeks. HFMD is not transmitted to or from pets or other animals.
Exclusion:	Exclude until all blisters have healed (dried).
Treatment:	No specific treatment is available for this infection. Paracetamol may be used for fever and discomfort. Thorough hand washing is recommended for a minimum of 15 seconds after toileting or changing nappies, to reduce risk of transmission.

INTERVIEWS AND APPOINTMENTS

If you wish to speak to the teacher regarding any personal issues or questions we ask that you make an appointment with the teacher after school.

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Please inform us of any condition that may affect your child's well-being, and equally of any circumstances that might affect his/her behaviour on a particular day. This helps us to cater for the needs of your child. Please do not send your child to school if he/she is unwell.

PERSONAL BELONGINGS

The children are asked not to bring toys or personal belongings to Kindergarten as items lost or broken often cause the children undue stress.

BIRTHDAYS

At Kindergarten we will celebrate the children's birthdays. You are welcome to bring a treat for your child to share with their friends at fruit time. Please ensure there are no NUTS in the treats.

'WORKING WITH CHILDREN' SAFEGUARD LEGISLATION

The 'Working with Children' Act, introduced into schools in mid-2006, is aimed at limiting the risk of harm to children from adults entrusted with their care.

Criminal record checks must be furnished by all staff and school volunteers. Volunteers who are parents in the school are not required to provide Working With Children Clearances unless they are going on an overnight camp.

Volunteers over the age of 18 years who are not parents or legal guardians of children in the school will need to have a WWC Clearance – e.g. grandparents, other relations and friends.

WWC Clearances are valid for 3 years. Forms are available from the school's administration office or from Australia Post.

PARENT ROSTER

We welcome and encourage parents and other family members to be involved in the Kindergarten program through rosters and special events. If you have any special talents you could share with us, please let us know. Your roster day involves assisting children with activities and most of all having a fun and enjoyable day with your child. Family roster gives you an opportunity to see what your child is doing at Kindergarten and also to see how the sessions are run.

We ask that, if possible, siblings are not brought to the Kindergarten when you are on roster so that you can participate fully and not be distracted by other young ones.

If you are staying for the session you will need to sign in at the school's administration office and receive a Visitor's badge.

A roster for parent help will be posted at the entrance to the Kindergarten classroom. We would encourage all parents to take the opportunity to join us for a morning session.

If you work and are unable to commit to the morning session, please speak to the teacher. We are happy to work around your schedule and welcome your involvement.

It is very important that anything you see or hear while on roster remains confidential. The teacher will inform parents of any incidents, accidents or concerns that may have occurred in the session. It is not the place of parents to pass on confidential matters to other parents as it can be misunderstood or taken out of context. If you have any questions or concerns about your child please do not hesitate to speak with the Kindergarten teacher.

ART & CRAFT

Artwork is an important part of our program. Not only is art important for free expression, manipulation and creativity but socially, it develops cooperation with others and appreciation of other children and their efforts.

From time to time, a variety of re-cycled materials such as egg cartons, greeting cards, fabric scraps will be requested for use in the program. Please check with the Kindergarten teacher for ideas on what to collect.

MORNING ROUTINE

The door opens at 8.45am and all children will be welcomed at the door. Before the commencement of sessions, please assist your child to:

- put their piece of fruit in the fruit bowl
- put their labelled lunch box in the basket by the door
- put their water bottle in the tub
- put on their hat
- apply sunscreen

When the doors open, help your child to select their name from the table and place in a pocket on the wall. Then please direct your child to hang their bag on a hook located outside the classroom.

It is very important that each child feels happy and comfortable in the Kindergarten environment. Please feel free to stay with your child as long as he or she needs you. The Kindergarten staff will work closely with parents/caregivers to ensure that your child is given the best chance to settle at their own pace.

If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to ask the Kindergarten teacher.

SPEECH THERAPIST

A qualified speech therapist will be assessing all the children in Kindergarten as part of our early intervention plan. If she considers it necessary she will either write up a home program for your child or refer them on for speech therapy.

TERM DATES FOR STUDENTS FOR 2018

Term 1	Wednesday 31 st January – Friday 12 th April
Term 2	Wednesday 30 th April – Friday 29 th June
Term 3	Monday 16 th July – Friday 21 st September
Term 4	Monday 8 th October – Friday 7 th December

REQUIREMENTS FOR 2018

- 1 BOX TISSUES
- 1 REAM OF A4 PAPER (**Reflex brand ONLY**)
- 1 PACKET OF 50 SMALL PAPER PLATES (UNCOATED)
- 1 PACKET OF 50 LARGE PAPER PLATES (UNCOATED)
- 1 PACKET OF FORMATIVE (FAT) TEXTAS
- 1 PACKET OF FORMATIVE COLOURED PENCILS

SCRAP MATERIAL

Junk is useful; we have a useful box at the centre which each child has access to. It is in constant need of being replenished, so if you have any of the following, please bring them along:

- Ice-cream, yoghurt, margarine containers, empty food packets,
- match boxes, cardboard rolls, soft wood for carpentry, material
- scraps, wool, buttons, beads, bottle tops, cardboard, paper, in fact anything which looks like it may be useful! PLEASE – NO cigarette packets, soap powder cartons, medicine packets or toilet rolls. We have a definite preference for clean junk (so please rinse out those milk cartons especially) as we don't have time to wash them.