

Welcome to



2022

The Teaching Team:



Hi, I'm Kiri. I am the Educational Leader here at Simply Sunshine. I graduated from University in 2005 with my Bachelor of Education in Early Childhood. With 6 years' experience in New Zealand, I moved to Sydney. For 15 years I worked at a centre where I was a part of innovation and excellence. I have written two articles, presented at an Early Childhood conference and taught and supported children and families with diverse needs. I continue to thrive on professional development, learning more to be a better teacher, keeping up to date with best practice. I have been teaching here in Moranbah for just over a year, moving with my partner Steve and our two children Kaia (9) and Tai (7).



Welcome to Simply Sunshine Kindy. My name is Kristin. I have been working in Early Childhood for over 30 years and 10 years as a kindy teacher. I have 2 adult children in Melbourne; Mitchell, an I.T guru and Kathryn is a teacher. I love to go camping as remote as possible and exploring all parts of Australia. I have a cat called Fuzzy and I love to tell lots of stories about going camping and swimming with crocodiles when I lived in Kununurra, W.A. Your child's wellbeing at Kindy is my biggest priority as well as them having the best time learning and becoming independent and ready for life when they leave Kindy.



to Kindy, my name is Miss Barb. I have been working at Simply Sunshine for the past 9 years. You will see when you arrive to kindy early in the mornings. I will be opening the Kindy for you each day. I will make sure it is safe for you to learn and play and help you settle in each morning. I like to water the plants, maybe you can help me, of a morning, to care for our gardens?



Hello, my name is Linda and I have been working at Simply Sunshine for four months. I enjoy being with the children, listening to their chatter and play. I am studying my Certificate 3 in Childcare and education. You might see me at the school crossing for State School in the mornings. I love gardening, camping and exploring. I have two adult girls, one in Brisbane and the other in Melbourne.



Hi I am Brooke. I have been at Simply Sunshine for nearly 3 years. I began working in early childhood in my home town of Airlie. I am studying to gain my certificate 3 in early education and care. I love camping, catching up with friends and family and spending time back home, in Airlie.



I am Carly, I have a graduate diploma in education, majoring in Early Years. I have experience working in Lady Gowrie Kindergartens in the Mackay Region. I have also worked in libraries running the First 5 Forever program. I have a passion for music and movement, language and literacy development and learning through real-world experiences and play.

Welcome to Simply Sunshine Kindergarten

We will correspond many times throughout the year in a variety of ways including emails and notes in your pockets in rooms. However, Story Park is our most used communication tool. Please ensure you have notifications switched on and story park saved as a safe sender so their emails go to your inbox and not junk mail. Please check these each day to ensure you are up to date with important information and events.

To contact us directly you can create a private message on story park and send to Kiri or Kristin. Otherwise you can contact us via email which is kindergarten@simplysunshine.com.au

Our phone number is the same as the child care centre, our reception team will connect your call to us. If we call you, our number will come up as a private number, we will leave a message, so you know it is us and then call you straight back.

Office hours at Simply Sunshine Childcare are: Monday-Friday 7:30-3pm.

Our centre has an early bird service. For an additional fee you can utilise our 6:00-7:30 hours. Please enquire with reception if you require this service.

Our kindergarten program runs within our long day care service. Your child will have access to this program which is created by your Early Childhood Teachers and supported by all educators at the kindy.



In 2022 we will be locking the entrance door to the Platypus Room from 9am each morning, this is something we have reflected on for safety and to support our lockdown procedure. So, if that door is locked feel free to come through this door, entering in to the Crocodile room first and accessing the Platypus Room via the playground doors.

What to bring to Kindy each day...

Lunch box (including morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea. We encourage children to eat fruit first at morning and afternoon tea)

Water bottle (filled with water only, not juice. Please take home at the end of each day to wash)

Sheets and small pillow (a cot sized fitted sheet and flat sheet will fit our beds. You can also purchase these at the childcare reception)



Hat (with a wide brim)

Two full changes of clothes (please ensure all clothing are clothes you don't mind getting dirty as our mud will stain and are sun safe, no singlet straps)

Ensure all belongings are named.

Children can lose, break or have conflicts around home toys so we ask that all home toys stay home.

On arrival...

Wash hands.



Sign your child in on the tablet, using the QK Kiosk

Encourage your child to place their lunchbox in the fridge and their water bottle in the trolley

Hat on and apply sunscreen and sign the register

Make contact with an educator. Never leave your child unattended in a room or outside. Say hello and let us know how your child is today.

Say goodbye to your child, please don't sneak out, it does make it harder once they realise your gone if you do not say goodbye.

On departure:

Sign your child out on the tablet QK Kiosk

Support your child to collect their belongings, shoes, hat, water bottle, lunch box.

Hats and sheet bags to go home for washing, on their last day of the week.

Make contact with an educator to gain information about your child's day and to say goodbye (this ensures educators know your child has been safely collected for the day)

Lunchboxes

Please ensure you provide a healthy lunchbox for morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea and a little late snack.

Morning tea ideas: fresh fruit, yoghurt, cheese, veg sticks and dip, protein balls

Lunch ideas: sandwiches, wraps, crackers, pizza, tin of baked beans or spaghetti, left-overs from previous night's dinner.

Afternoon tea ideas: fresh fruit, cheese, veg sticks and dip, muesli bar, pasta

Please remember we are an allergy aware centre and are therefore unable to have nuts on site. Please ensure you do not send any foods containing nuts including peanut butter, Nutella, nutbars or similar.

Please provide plastic lunch boxes, rather than insulated lunch boxes to ensure food can be suitably cooled in the fridge.

Please provide a bottle filled with water each morning and take home each evening to wash.



Our Routine

6:00 Early Day enrolments begin to arrive

7:30 Centre opens

6:00-9:30 Outdoor

9:00-10:00 Flexible Morning Tea

9:30-11:00 Indoor/Outdoor Program

11:30 Morning meeting and lunch time

12:30 Sleep and rest time

1:30 Quiet indoor experiences

3:00 Afternoon tea

3:30-5:50 Outdoor

6:00 Centre Closes

Learning Through Play

Dramatic Play

Sociodramatic play, where children act out a situation and stories both from their imagination and from real world experiences. Children use play to practice important language and social skills including:

- Joining in
- Sharing and turn taking
- Interacting through different relationships (parent/child, brother/sister, doctor/patient)
- Negotiating what happens next

EYLF Outcome 1: Identity

- Children feel safe, secure and supported
- Children develop knowledgeable and confident self-identities

QKLG: Identity

- Building a sense of security and trust
- Acting with independence and perseverance
- Building a confident self-identity



Puzzles and Science

EYLF Outcome 4: Learning

- Children develop dispositions for learning such as curiosity, cooperation, confidence, creativity, commitment, enthusiasm, persistence, imagination and reflexivity.
- Children develop a range of skills and processes such as problem solving, inquiry, experimentation, hypothesising, researching and investigating.

QKLG: Active Learning

- Showing confidence and involvement in learning
- Using technologies for learning and communication



Sleep and Rest

Everyone will be encouraged to rest after lunch time. Resting is an important part of the day so that you can continue to learn and play all day. If you do not sleep there will be quiet reading available until our quiet play begins, ensuring those who want and need to sleep, have their needs met too.

EYLF Outcome 1: Children have a strong sense of wellbeing

- Children become strong in their social and emotional wellbeing
- Children take increasing responsibility for their own health and physical wellbeing

QKLG: Wellbeing

- Building a sense of autonomy
- Exploring ways to be healthy and safe
- Exploring ways to promote physical wellbeing



Books

This is a quiet area you can retire to, to read, relax and research. While reading books and magazines independently or with an educator, you are developing a love of literacy. Books are an important part of group times and research, extending our knowledge of nature, feelings, imagination and fun.

EYLF Learning Outcome 5: Children are effective communicators

- Children engage with a range of texts and gain meaning from these texts
- Children express ideas and make meaning using a range of media
- Children begin to understand how symbols and pattern systems work

QKLG: Communicating

- Exploring and expanding language
- Exploring literacy in personally meaningful ways
- Exploring numeracy in personally meaningful ways



Outdoor Classroom

Our nature inspired playground intermingles with nature where lines are blurred between where one begins and the other ends. Children are invited to explore sand, water, mud, trees, bees to support their physical, social and intellectual development.

EYLF Outcome: Children are connected with and contribute to their world

- Children become socially responsible and show respect for the environment

EYLF Outcome: Children are confident and involved learners

- Children resource their own learning through connecting with people, place, technologies and natural and processed materials

QKLG Outcome: Connectedness

- contributing to a caring kindergarten environment

QKLG Outcome: Active Learning

- Showing confidence and involvement in learning



Belonging

Experiencing belonging, knowing where and with whom you belong, is integral to human existence. Children being first to a family, a cultural group, a neighbourhood and a wider community. Belonging acknowledges children's interdependence with others and the basis of relationships in defining identities.

In early childhood, and throughout life, relationships are crucial to a sense of belonging. Belonging is central to being and becoming in that it shapes who children are and who they can become. (DEEWR, 2009, pg. 7)

Your belonging starts here, at your locker, with your bag, hat and shoes. Your locker will have your name on it so you can begin to recognise it.



This is the fridge where you can put your lunch. There is one in each room.

And this is the trolley where you can put your water bottle. There is one for each room.



This is the bathroom with doors that lock and handwashing basins. There is a bathroom in each room.

Simply Sunshine Kindergaten Philosophy

We acknowledge the Sarada Barra People, the traditional custodians of this special place. We appreciate learning on Sarada Barra Land.



As Educators we value:

For Children:

- Safety
- Secure relationships
- Ensuring their voices are heard
- Supportive learning environment
- A sense of belonging
- Encouraging agency
- Positive Guidance
- Respectful interactions
- Challenging biases



With Each Other:

- Respectful interactions
- Open Communication
- Belonging
- Supportive environment
- Growth mindset

With Families and Community:

- Advocate for the the importance of high quality early childhood education
- Informed of our professional practice
- Positive Relationships
- Parents are children's first teachers
- Clear Communication
- Kindness
- Safety
- Importance of early intervention
- Community connections - attending community events



We know our families value:

For children:

- They feel important
- Safe and secure
- Belonging
- Connected with peers
- Curiosity is nurtured
- Supportiveness to show their true selves
- Positive learning environment
- Guide their own learning
- Fun



For Families:

- Honesty
- Communication of learning
- Knowledge of friendship groups
- Inclusiveness
- Kindness and compassion
- Professionalism
- Patience
- Support

For Community:

- Belonging
- Opportunities to connect with other families
- Diversity valued and respected
- Children are protected
- Connection
- Accepting



"I like playing with my friends" Katie
 "Its really hard to pick something to play with outside" Elijah



"I love to play in the mud pit" Blane
 "I like to look at the baby birds in the tree" Amelia



Play is Learning. Learning is Fun

This is our current philosophy, which we will be asking families for support to evaluate next year, ensuring it continues to be a living document.