



Hi Everyone & welcome to all of our new families

We are now in the second half of the year and working towards implementing goals and a new routine.

We are encouraging children with regards to respect for;

- Resources
- Environment
- Peers and Educators
- Themselves



The new routine has come about after weeks of consultation and reflecting on practice and the best interests of the children.

The routine will be focusing on building relationships with similar age children for the most part and introducing play with older children in small doses.

We would like the children be able to feel safe and confident within a room. We have observed many “toddler aged” children seeking similar experiences that the “older” children have been doing but we have also observed children needing support with regards to play and resilience.

We wish to develop more structure to support children. This will help us to provide intentional teaching practices, support child led interests, nature play, group times, settling and building relationships with young children which will help them become more independent in time.

The routine will be visual so children can feel connected to their own space. Belonging, being, becoming is the basis for our curriculum but its also the basis to our philosophy and practice.

If you wish to know more about the framework please speak to any of the staff team.

Toddler Desired goals

- We want to allow all children attending (AM, PM or full day sessions) to have equal experiences and opportunities.
- Set up creative play spaces/ activities for appropriate lengths of time.
- Learn and understand how and why we are environmentally sustainable.
- Get children familiar with the routine using visuals.
- Concentrate on children developing self help skills.
- Ensuring our room environment is familiar so children feel safe and secure.



2017 Toddler Room Staff

Tina Crosby, Moriah Santostefano, Stacey Hetzel, Sarah Oak, Ellen Downes

We are regularly supported by staff within the centre who are familiar with the room and children.

Sarah will be on placement for Uni from 4 Sep for 4 weeks. In this time Mel will be covering in the Toddler room 5 days a week.

Moriah will be on leave from the 6 Sep due to getting married and being on honeymoon.

Staffing Levels

The number of children in the Toddler room has been steadily increasing as children continue to graduate from the Nursery room. We will now have 3 staff most days.

2 Days a week we will have 4 staff due to higher numbers You will also notice a board identifying the staff and their rostered shift times. This is another source of information to help your child transition and for you to be fully aware of what staffing is like for the day.

Documentation Changes

Documentation

Our Toddler program runs fortnightly and is based on children's emerging interests and needs, we extend on children's interest through group times, small group activities and through the set up indoors and outdoors.

We will be starting to send home Individual progress reports, these will happen in a cyclic fashion and will include a brief summary on your child's year at Toybox so far, this aims to deliver feedback to families on a more regular basis. At this stage we are aiming to send these home at the end of each term. The "school holiday" allows staff some time to reorganise and plan for the next term. Even though we open all year round (closed at Christmas for 2 weeks), the school terms do affect the way we run and the attendances of children. Therefore we are using them as a source of guidance and opportunity to evaluate before the new term.

Artwork

As a centre we are working towards sending children's artwork and creations home on a regular basis, This allows children to engage in meaningful discussions about their work while fresh in their minds



Labelling Belongings

We have recently had a big clean out of lost property as seen in the front foyer—all of this had no name, please ensure all belongings are named in order for it to be returned to the correct person.

If belongings are not named staff will label them.



Excursions

Over the last few months we have been on an excursion to Glen Forest Tourist Park and also to the Train park.

These excursions have been very beneficial for children's learning and development—this is also a great way for the children to connect with the community and take responsibility for themselves outside of the Toybox setting.

We enjoy these experiences and will continue to plan excursions to stay involved in the community.

Parents will always be informed prior to any excursions.

Summertime:

Starting on the 1st of September our sun smart policy begins. We apply sun cream and wear hats whenever outside. During the hottest time of the day if the UV rating is above 11 we will stay under shaded areas or inside at that time. If you can apply sun cream to your child in the morning at home or when you arrive that would be greatly appreciated.

Toybox will supply sun cream and re-apply during the day. If you wish to supply your own for sensitive skin or preferred brand etc. please bring in labelled and we will use that instead.

Can you please supply your own sun hats. They need to be Bucket hat— Broad brimmed or legionnaire style (Like a cap but with coverage at the back of neck and sides) also having names clearly visible. Any cords will need to be removed for safety reasons. Hats can stay at center during the week and take home for washing at the end.



Water play is a big part of summer so please remember to have plenty of spare clothes.