

2024

STOCKTON
PUBLIC
SCHOOL
PRESCHOOL

WELCOME TO PRESCHOOL
PARENT BOOKLET

At Stockton PS Preschool-
a year to play, learn and grow,
before off to Kindy you go.

Welcome to Stockton
Public School
Preschool
Where good things
grow!

At Stockton Public School
Preschool we provide a warm
nurturing environment which
is centred around play-based
learning and the Early Years
Learning Framework.

The preschool believes in the
education of the whole child.

We encourage all children to
“be themselves”, to feel a sense
of “belonging” and to develop
skills throughout the year to
“become” successful learners
and creative individuals.



Welcome to our school!

You have joined an extraordinary learning community where our teachers, staff, students and families are actively engaged in ensuring that students experience success every day.

We believe that the education of our students is a shared responsibility and as such, strive for genuine community engagement and open communication between students, parents and families. Our school community values quality academic instruction as well as creative thinking, team work, honesty, resilience and empathy. To this end we aim to provide a well-rounded curriculum and support the development of the whole child.

Starting preschool is an exciting transition. While this will be a very exciting time for your family, it may also bring some apprehension. Please be assured that we will work with you and support you in this process.

There is an exciting year ahead, designed to promote and enhance your child's growth and development. This very important year promises to be one filled with discovery and joy as your child plays, learns and has fun in an environment that is warm, safe and challenging.

I look forward to meeting you and a wonderful year ahead.

Ms Jodie Holt
Principal





**Principal
Ms Jodie Holt**

**Assistant
Principal
Curriculum &
Instruction
Mrs Judith
Thomas**

**Assistant
Principal
3/4S - Mrs
Alexis Scott**

**Assistant
Principal
1/2W- Mr Dene
Whitfield**



**KM - Mrs
Abby Mander**

**1/2M - Mrs
Jenny Miller**

**1/2J - Mrs
Jenny Manning**

**3/4G - Mr
Mitch Garrett**



**3/4A - Mr
Phill Anderson**

**5/6B - Mr
Tom Bourke**

**Assistant
Principal
5/6K - Mr
Sean Kelleher**

**Teacher-Mrs
Angela
Windred**



**5/6G - Mr
Michael
Gilshenan**

**Teacher -
Mrs Stacey
Redman**

**Library - Mrs
Cate Pearce**

**Learning &
Support
Teacher - Mrs
Michelle
Ovenstone**

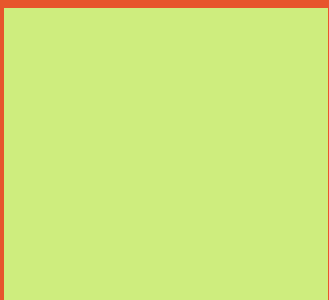


**Teacher - Miss
Valerie
Morrison**

**Preschool
Bathu Bila -
Mrs Kristyn
Drewe**

**Preschool
Garuwa -
Mrs Christine
Hayes**

**Preschool
SLSO -
Mrs
Zoe Hadfield**





**School
Administration
Manager - Mrs
Julie Chapman-
Mills**



**School
Administration
Officer - Mrs
Jill Bell**



**School
Administration
Officer - Mrs
Dionne Walsh**



**Student
Learning
Support
Officer - Mrs
Kerrie Luxford**



**Student
Learning
Support
Officer - Mr
Dean Castle**



**Student
Learning
Support
Officer - Mrs
Josie Fodor**



**Student
Learning
Support
Officer - Miss
Abbie Gray**



**STOCKTON
PUBLIC
SCHOOL
STAFF
2023**



Communication

We encourage open communication between home and in the preschool, and encourage parents/ caregivers to not hesitate to talk to an educator if there is something you think we need to know. This can be done at morning drop off or in the afternoon. However, if it is something of importance and you may need more of our time, please make an appointment so we can give you all of our attention as mornings and afternoons can get very busy.

At Stockton Public School Preschool we are linked with the school and will be using the Audiri app for communicating information home. This will include newsletters, alerts and important messages. We will also often have notes on the sign on desk if there is a special event coming up that is of importance and you need to know about. Information on important events will also be posted on the school Facebook page and emails sent directly home when necessary.

Please go to the App store or Google Play store and download the Audiri app. We look forward to working with you as part of a team.





Children Learn Through Play

Play is an important aspect of the preschool

“Play is the child’s work”.

Through play children:

- Create social groups and develop relationships.
- Ask questions, solve problems and engage in critical thinking.
- Develop a positive attitude towards learning.
- Develop curiosity and creativity - expanding their thinking.
- Develop communication and language skills.
- Interact with and appreciate nature.

It is important to remember that children do many things when playing and they don't always have a painting or craft work to take home. Instead they were busy developing other important skills that day that are not on a piece of paper.



Preschool activities for learning:

- puzzles and playing with blocks
- painting, drawing, cutting and pasting
- reading books and listening to stories
- talking and listening
- dressing up and playing in the dramatic play corner
- listening to and playing music
- dancing and drama
- climbing on equipment, balancing, running and jumping
- using Smartboards, iPads, Beebots
- playing with clay, play dough, sand and water
- exploring, investigating and experimenting
- playing and having fun with friends



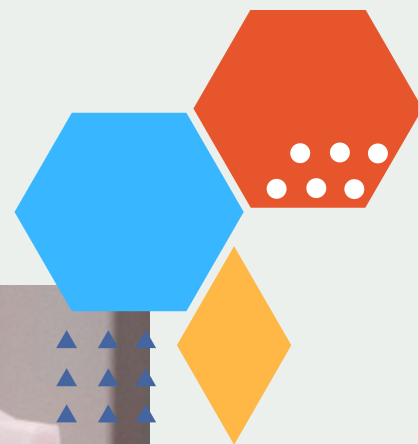
Parents/Caregivers in the Preschool

You are important. To assist in the development of your child, it is essential that a close relationship be maintained between the preschool and the home. We would like parents/caregivers to be actively involved in the educational process.

You can help by:

- Entering the preschool by the front door.
- Signing your child in and out daily.
- Looking at the noticeboard and whiteboard regularly for messages.
- Reading the information we send out on the Audiri app, Facebook page and the school newsletter.
- Joining the P&C Association, volunteering in the canteen and participating in school activities.
- Mums, dads, carers and grandparents can come along to preschool and whole school events.

The A-Z of preschool



ABSENCES

A phone call to the school office notifying of absences would be appreciated. All absences require an explanation and a phone call is acceptable. Alternatively you can send an absentee eform form via the Audiri app.



ATTENDANCE

We run two groups each week:

Bathu Bila

Week 1: Monday, Tuesday,

Week 2 : Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

Garuwa

Week 1: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

Week 2: Thursday, Friday



ASTHMA

Children with asthma will need an Action Plan written in conjunction with your G.P. for staff to administer medication, otherwise they are unable to do so. In date medication with your child's name on a doctors label and attached to the medication is also required.



Times: 9am to 3.00pm.

Doors open 9am in the morning and at 2.40pm in the afternoon to enable parents to collect their preschoolers before they collect siblings from big school.

The A-Z of preschool



ART WORK

When your child brings home work made at preschool don't expect it to "be" something. The child's mood and familiarity with the media influences what is done. What is important about the work is the skill in choosing the materials, to do what is wanted, the concentration required, the sharing of materials, the thinking that goes into all, rather than the finished product.

Try not to say, "What is it? The best way to show your interest is to ask how it is made, or simply to say "Tell me about what you've made". However, do not be distressed if sometimes your child has nothing to bring home.



BIRTHDAYS

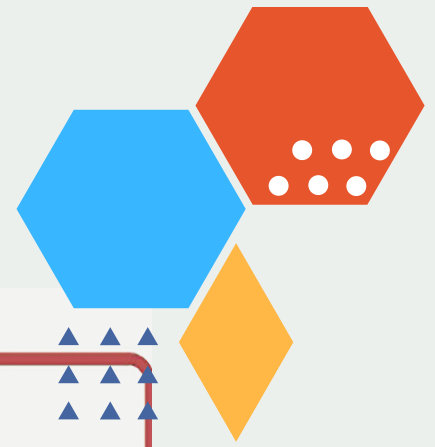
Birthdays are a very special time. If you wish for your child to celebrate at preschool you will need to provide cupcakes, or similar individual products, for the session. Please discuss this with the preschool staff, as some children may have allergies that have to be taken into consideration.



CHANGE OF ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBERS

If you change your address or change telephone numbers, please notify our office staff promptly. We need correct contact details in case of emergencies.

The A-Z of preschool



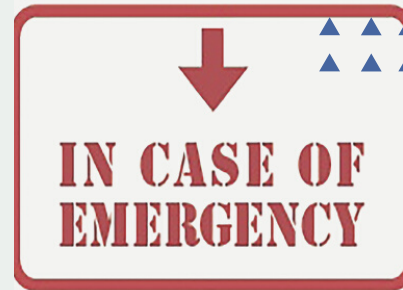
CULTURAL PERSPECTIVES

Our teachers are continually learning more about our local Worimi culture and embed Aboriginal culture and education into the program. We discuss local Worimi history, engage in art, language stories and songs.



EXCURSIONS/INCURSIONS

These are undertaken throughout the year. If we plan to travel away from Stockton, both groups may combine. Parents will be required to help for supervision ratios.



EMERGENCY NUMBERS

We ask you to nominate someone who can be contacted in an emergency if parents are not available.

Children must be collected from the preschool by a responsible adult who is known to the preschool staff. In the event of any variation from this person, an educator must be notified. This could be done by writing it on the roll, telling the educator, email or phone call. If the person isn't known to preschool staff, photo ID will be required on pick up. This is to provide protection for your child and a legal requirement.

Parents and other responsible adults must sign the in/out book each day on arrival and departure.

The A-Z of preschool



HEALTH NEEDS

If your child has any particular physical or health problems, it is important that you let us know before they start preschool. We will need you to fill out the necessary forms required for us to ensure we have the best support and transition for your child. This can be discussed at transition parent/teacher interviews. More information about booking into these will be available during the transition process.



HEALTHY FOOD

Lunchtime 11.00am to 11.40am

Recess 1.40pm to 2.10pm

A sandwich/wrap with a nutritious filling is appropriate for lunch and fruit and healthy snacks for recess. As we are trying to develop concepts of nutrition and good health, we ask parents not to send lollies, cakes, packets of biscuits, noodles or salted snacks, juice and soft drinks.

We have a refrigerator available for lunches so please be sure to pack a reasonable sized lunch box so we can fit 20 in the fridge.

A good website for snack ideas and great recipes for reluctant eaters is

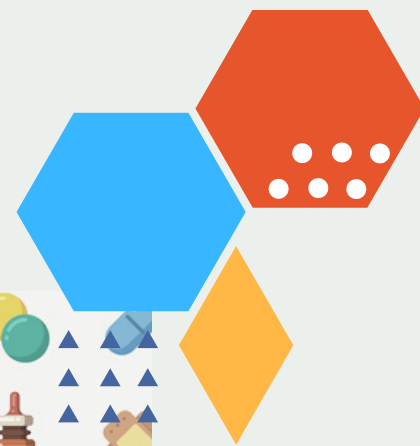
www.goodforkids.nsw.gov.au

and

www.healthykids.nsw.gov.au



The A-Z of preschool



IMMUNISATION

Immunisation certificates need to be sighted by our office staff before children begin preschool.

Vaccination is not compulsory and parents will continue to have the choice whether or not to vaccinate their child. However, conscientious objectors can no longer enrol their children in child care and will need to make alternative arrangements. The only unimmunised children who can be enrolled in child care are those who are on a recognised catch-up schedule (provided that the appropriate documentation has been provided), or those who are not immunised due to medical reasons as described at section 2.1.4 of the Australian Immunisation Handbook 10th edition.

Children who are not immunised for a disease may be asked to stay at home if there is an outbreak of that vaccine preventable disease in a child care centre.



MEDICATIONS

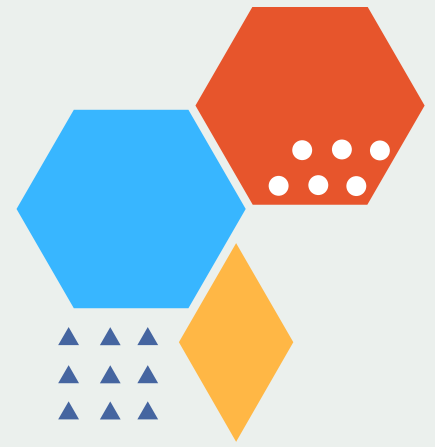
If any medications need to be given at preschool a form needs to be filled out with specific dosage and time and signed. All medication must be in its original packaging with chemist or doctors instructions on the label.



NAME WRITING

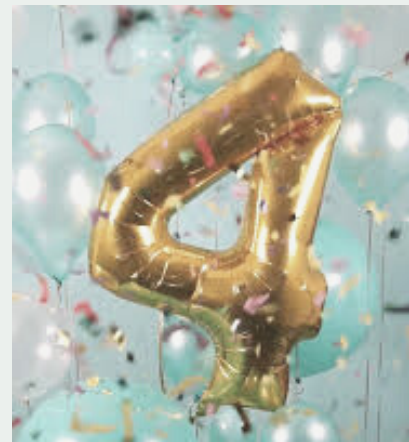
Name writing is a fun activity you can start at home. This can be done by an adult writing the letters first and the child tracing it if they are not confident writing it on their own yet. Children's names should be written in lower case except for the first letter in capitals.

The A-Z of preschool



NUT AWARE SCHOOL

As children at this school suffer from NUT allergies, we ask that you do not send nut products to school. This includes Nutella spread which is derived from hazelnuts.



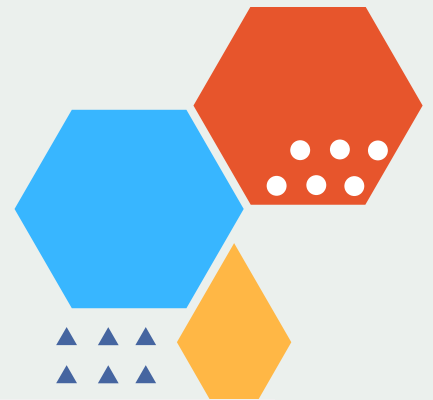
PARKING

Parents are asked to ensure that cars are parked legally at drop off and pick up times. Take care using the lane, but please do not park there (the parking officers love to book you) and remember, obey the traffic signs.

PROOF OF AGE

Children must turn four years of age before 1st August in the year of enrolment. Birth Certificates and passports are acceptable "proof of age" documents and must be sighted by the school office staff as part of the enrolment process.

The A-Z of preschool



Hats

Children must bring a hat to preschool every day. Broad brimmed hats with a brim size of at least 6cm are required at preschool.



SPECIAL OCCASIONS

Parents will be notified of any special school or preschool activities involving the children e.g. Education Week, Easter, Book Week and graduation. In addition, throughout the year, you will be invited to some informal parent gatherings, such as excursions and special days.



SUNSMART CLOTHING
WE ARE A SUN SMART
PRESCHOOL

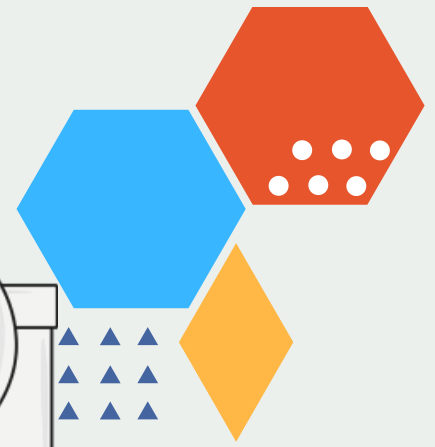
Clothes and Footwear

Children are asked to wear sensible, sturdy play clothes suitable for playing, climbing and being creative.

- * Clothing should cover shoulders- no singlets, muscle shirts or strappy dresses.
- * Velcro shoes are best for children to take on and off.
- * NO THONGS please
- * Footwear needs to be sturdy with a good grip for climbing and playing.



The A-Z of preschool



SPARE CLOTHES

Please send along a spare set of clothes in a plastic bag placed in the bottom of your child's bag in case of accidents. Please make sure that they are changed seasonally. e.g. Winter, Summer clothes.

SUNSCREEN AND MOSQUITO REPELLENT

Sunscreen and mosquito repellent is required each day during Term 1 and Term 4. The preschool does not provide mosquito repellent, so it is recommended that it is applied before coming to preschool each morning. Clearly label ALL your child's belongings e.g. clothing, school bag, shoes, socks, lunch box etc. EVERYTHING!



TOILET TRAINING

All children should be toilet trained before they come to preschool. Please discuss any problems relating to this matter with us, before the starting date so we can assist your child if needed.



TOYS AND GAMES

As toys/games can be easily lost or broken, we ask that children do not bring their own toys to preschool.

WATER BOTTLE

Please supply a water bottle with water only for your child to drink throughout the day. NO cordial or juice.





STARTING PRESCHOOL

In the months leading up to starting preschool talk to your child in positive terms about attending preschool. Discuss all the good things to be experienced – new friends to be made, new toys to play with and new games to be learned. Sound happy and excited yourself, your tone of voice carries just as strong a message as the actual words you say. Assume your child will have a happy time, say so, and the chances that he/she will be happy are much greater.

When you have signed your child in and staff indicate that it is time for you to leave, please do so promptly. No matter how tempted you are, it is best not to linger or watch from a distance. This will only increase your child's anxiety. If they cry or throw a tantrum, do not worry, as this is quite normal and expected. They soon stop when mum, dad or the caregiver is gone. Make sure your child knows in advance that you will be back to pick them up.

When you pick your child up try not to bombard them with questions or keep asking if they were happy. Remember that they will very likely be exhausted and could easily burst into tears at the first sight of you. Give them time to unwind. After all, they have used a lot of emotional and physical energy during the day, trying hard to do the right thing and to remember all they've heard and seen.

Do try to wait until comments about preschool are offered and the child is ready to talk. A good question might be "What did you do today?", "What was your favourite thing you did today?", "Who did you play with?".

Sometimes after a few days (or even weeks), your child may have decided they have had enough and want to stay at home. This is not unusual. Many children are not used to this routine and are tired, and the excitement and novelty has worn off. Continue to bring them and be assured, tears and tantrums soon stop when you leave (as hard as it may seem for you to leave them when they are so unhappy). If, when you get home, you are still concerned, please phone and we will let you know how they are. You can phone the school on 4928 1101 and ask to be put through to the preschool.

Be positive and they will soon settle down. If, at any time, you have any concerns about your child, please feel free to discuss them with the preschool staff. Our aim is to provide a positive and rewarding experience for your child whilst attending our preschool.

Welcome
BBQ



School
events



Easter
hat parade

Book Week
parade

Visiting the
library



Visiting the
chickens



I am in Preschool

I am not built to sit still,
keep my hands to myself,
take turns,
be patient,
stand in line,
or keep quiet

all of the time.

I need:

motion, novelty, adventure,
and to engage the world
with my whole body.

Let Me Play

(Trust me, I'm learning!)

Communication is the key

Download Stockton Public School Audiri app
for alerts, absences and newsletters

Website: <https://stockton-p.schools.nsw.gov.au>
for further information

Stockton Public School Facebook page for updates

School Bytes for payments

Quickcliq for canteen orders

School email address: stockton-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Phone: 02 4928 1233