

# KiDS

Early Learning Centres

## Beyond Ready

### Kindergarten at Kids ELC

Our Innovative Educational Curriculum preparing your child for a positive transition to school and beyond



*At Kids ELC we acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of this nation and their continuing connection to country and culture. Across our centres, our learning takes place on ancestral lands and nearby waterways. We pay our respects to Elders of each nation, past, present and emerging.*



## Welcome to Kindy at Kids ELC

A joyful place where imagination sparks curiosity and children build confidence for lifelong learning.

### Queensland Government-approved Kindergarten Program

Kids Early Learning Centres provide a Queensland Government-approved and funded Kindergarten Program. This ensures that children have access to a high-quality early learning experience that supports their development and prepares them with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed at school and beyond.

### Qualified Early Childhood Teachers (ECT)

Our Kindy programs are led by experienced, qualified and dedicated early childhood teachers who design and implement meaningful learning opportunities to nurture each child's holistic learning, development and wellbeing.

### Successful Transition to school

Our Kindergarten programs are designed to build the skills children need for a smooth and confident transition to school. Through play-based learning, children develop social skills, early literacy and numeracy, problem-solving, and independence, all in a safe, supportive environment. Our educators work closely with families to ensure every child feels prepared, capable, and excited for their next big step into Prep.

### Flexible delivery of Kindy

We understand that every family's routine is different. Some children may attend kindy over two days, while others experience it as part of a longer day care program. For eligible families using extended care, the Australian Government's Child Care Subsidy (CCS) can be applied to cover these additional wrap-around hours.





## Innovative Philosophy

Influenced by the world-renowned Reggio Emilia philosophy and evidence-based practices, we embrace an active, play-based approach to learning that nurtures curiosity, confidence, collaboration, respect, and creativity delivered through our Free Kindy curriculum.

*“Our image of the child is rich in potential, strong, powerful, competent, and most of all, connected to adults and other children.”* Loris Malaguzzi

We are committed to creating nurturing environments where children feel safe, supported, and excited to learn as valued members of our community. Our Kindy curriculum fosters positive dispositions for learning including critical thinking, decision-making, persistence, resilience, and kindness, we support confident, positive transitions to school.

## The Power of Play for Healthy Brain Development

Play and exploration don't just bring joy - they actively prepare your child for their transition to school by strengthening neural pathways in the brain that support learning and development.

Research shows that when your child is given time to play deeply and explore at their own pace, they build brain connections linked to attention, memory, language, and self-regulation, laying strong foundations for early literacy and numeracy concepts such as storytelling, listening, counting, and problem-solving.

Positive, responsive relationships with teachers and peers further strengthen your child's neural pathways by creating a sense of safety and belonging.

By providing your child the gift of time, curiosity, and connection, their brain is ready and receptive to learning, supporting them enter school confident, capable, and prepared to succeed. At Kids ELC we believe that strong foundations today mean confident, curious learners for life.



### Did you know?

90% of a child's brain develops before the age of 5



# Environments to Ignite Wonder

Every aspect of our Kids Early Learning Centres learning environments have been thoughtfully designed to spark wonder, creativity, and joyful learning. Each centre is uniquely shaped by its community and enriched with open-ended resources that invite children to explore, imagine, and learn through play.

*“Children learn as they play. Most importantly, in play children learn how to learn.”* Fred Donaldson.

Although environments may vary by centre, children enjoy a variety of engaging spaces, including ateliers (art studios), water play areas, adventurous playgrounds, quiet retreats, and natural playscapes. Many centres also feature veggie gardens, chicken coops, and other pets to support children develop a deeper connection with nature while learning sustainability practices for treading lightly on our earth.



**Studios**



**Dining Space (Cenare)**



**Adventure Play**



**Art Studio (Atelier)**



**Lights Ateliers**



**Water Play**



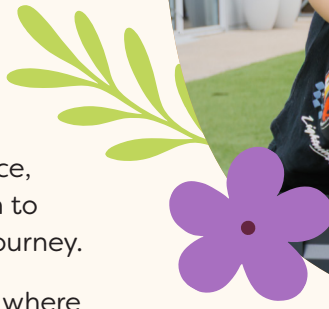
# Child-centred Kindy Curriculum

Throughout your child's Kindergarten year, our Kids ELC teachers partner with children as co-learners, carefully listening, guiding, and learning alongside them. Our inclusive, play-based curriculum values each child's voice, strengths, and interests, empowering children to take an active role in shaping their learning journey.

Our studios are vibrant learning communities where children and teachers collaborate to design meaningful learning opportunities. Each experience supports children develop important foundations for literacy, numeracy, critical thinking, teamwork, and physical development, all in a fun and engaging way.

## Our teachers support children to:

- Engage in rich, inquiry and play-based learning
- Develop physical strength, coordination, and body confidence
- Explore problem-solving, and STEM concepts in fun, hands-on ways
- Build confidence as capable, self-directed learners
- Investigate through digital technology opportunities
- Celebrate and respect the diversity culture
- Challenge their abilities through risky play
- Create with open-ended resources, enhancing imagination
- Strengthen social skills, including collaboration, empathy, and communication



## Inclusive Curriculum and Practices

We believe that every child has the right to an inclusive curriculum that supports how they learn. Teachers thoughtfully design learning experiences that respond to diverse learning needs, ensuring every child feels supported, capable, and confident to participate and succeed. By honouring children's agency and embracing inclusive practice, we nurture confident, curious learners who are well prepared for a positive transition to school.



# Government Approved Learning Frameworks

Our Kindergarten program draws from the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) and Queensland Kindergarten Learning Guideline (QKLG). Together, these guidelines ensure that children are equipped with the skills necessary for a successful transition to school.

Here's how our Kindergarten program supports your child grow and learn, guided by the QKLG outcomes:



## 1. Identity

A Kindergarten child who has a strong sense of identity:

- Builds a sense of security and trust
- Acts with increasing independence and perseverance
- Is building a confident self-identity

## 2. Connectedness

A Kindergarten child who is connected with and contributes to their world:

- Builds positive relationships with others
- Shows increasing respect for diversity and their environment

## 3. Wellbeing

A Kindergarten child who has a strong sense of wellbeing:

- Builds increasing autonomy and resilience
- Engages in ways to be healthy and safe
- Maintains their physical wellbeing

## 4. Active Learning

A Kindergarten child who is a confident and involved learner:

- Builds positive dispositions and approaches toward learning
- Shows increasing confidence and involvement in learning
- Explores tools, technologies, and communication technologies (ICTs)

## 5. Communicating

A Kindergarten child who is an effective communicator:

- Explores and expands on ways to use language
- Explores and engages with literacy and numeracy in personally meaningful ways

Every learning experience is thoughtfully designed to support children develop the skills, confidence, and love of learning they'll carry with them for life.





## Above & Beyond Enrichment Programs

At Kids ELC, we believe early learning is about more than preparing children for school - it's about nurturing confident, curious, and capable learners. That's why children enrolled in our centres can access a wide range of enrichment experiences.

These carefully designed extra-curricular opportunities support children's holistic development, strengthening social, emotional, physical, and cognitive skills through meaningful, hands-on learning. Enrichment programs are tailored to each Kids ELC community and are thoughtfully planned to complement our core curriculum.

What truly sets our curriculum apart is who delivers these experiences. Skilled, passionate and knowledgeable leaders facilitate every initiative. Families can feel confident knowing their children are supported by people who understand how young learners grow and thrive.

By offering these enriching experiences within our centres, we provide families with exceptional value and children with opportunities to explore, discover, and develop a love of learning - all in an environment where they feel secure, supported, and inspired.

**Please speak to your Centre Team about which exciting programs are currently on offer at your centre.**



# A Day in Our Kindergarten Studio: Connecting, Exploring, and Belonging

In our Belvedere studio, every moment of the day is a chance to learn, connect, and explore together.

**Yarning Circles and Shared Thinking:** We gather as a community to share ideas, ask questions, and plan our learning together. These conversations support children build confidence, develop strong communication skills, and deepen their understanding of culture, identity, and connection with others

**Morning Tea:** Children enjoy time with friends in our cenare (dining space), strengthening social skills and friendships in a relaxed setting.



**Inquiry based learning:** Children explore projects and provocations that expand knowledge and encourage collaboration. The children's questions and curiosity guide the experiences, fostering creativity, critical thinking, and deeper learning through play.

**Lunch:** Mealtimes foster valuable social connections. Children set-tables, self-serve, help tidy up, and enjoy conversations with friends, practicing independence, responsibility, and teamwork while strengthening friendships.

**Rest and Wellbeing:** After lunch, children take time to rest their bodies and minds. This quiet period supports emotional wellbeing, mindfulness, and balance, allowing them to approach the afternoon with renewed energy.

**Afternoon Exploration:** Imaginative and active play continues, fostering creativity, movement, and social connections.

**Reflection and Afternoon Tea:** Children come together for afternoon tea, revisiting learning, celebrating achievements, and suggesting ideas for tomorrow's adventures.





## Partnering with Families

### Sharing in your child's Learning Journey

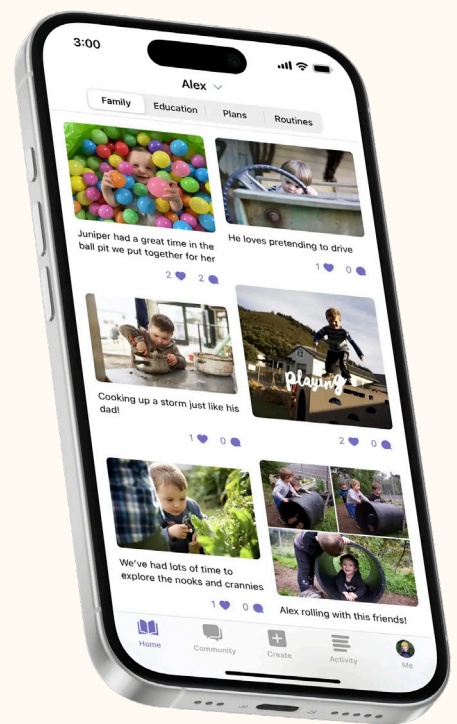
At Kids ELC, we believe that learning is strongest when families are actively involved. We warmly invite families to join this journey through conversations with educators, exploring documented learning, engaging in studio projects, sharing your talents, community events and enjoying the visual displays of learning in your child's studio environment. Regular updates via the Storypark app also give you a window into your child's day, helping you stay connected.

### Celebrating Graduation

At the end of the Kindergarten year, we celebrate your child's achievements and their transition to school with our Kindergarten Graduation Ceremony. This milestone marks the end of your child's early learning journey as they transition to the exciting next phase of their education.

### Transition to School

After completing Kindergarten at Kids ELC, your child will be ready to step confidently into Prep. Our educators provide a Transition Statement that outlines your child's progress and achievements, shared with their new school to ensure a smooth transition. If you'd like guidance on selecting the right primary school, our team can assist with visits, tours, or information to ensure the best fit for your child.



# QLD Government Free Kindy

## What is Free Kindy?

The Queensland Government's Free Kindy program is designed to help children develop the foundational skills they need to have a strong start to their education. This part-time program is available to children the year before they start Prep.

Under the Free Kindy program, eligible children can enjoy 15 hours of engaging kindergarten learning each week. Spanning 40 weeks throughout the year, this program entitles your child to a total of 600 hours of Free Kindy. Every program is delivered by Approved Early Childhood Teacher with 15 hour per week completely free of charge at all Kids Early Learning Centres.



## Is my child eligible for Free Kindy?

If your child meets the following eligibility requirements, they can take advantage of the Free Kindy program:

Is at least 4 years of age by 30 June in the year before they attend Prep, attends a government-approved educational program offering Free Kindy in a long-daycare setting, like Kids ELC.

The Kindy program is delivered by a Approved Early Childhood Teacher, and they attend for 15 hours per week across the 40-week program as intended.

## Transitioning to the Free Kindy program at Kids ELC

### If your child is already enrolled at Kids ELC:

- Check that your child meets the age requirements for the Free Kindy program.
- Complete a Kindy Consent Form
- Confirm a place in the program for the upcoming year.

### If your child isn't yet enrolled at Kids ELC, just follow these simple steps:

1. Check that your child meets the age requirements for the Free Kindy program.
2. Book a tour at your local Kids ELC centre to see our facilities and meet our friendly Early Childhood Teachers.
3. Complete an enrolment form after discussing your required days and session lengths with our team, as well as any additional considerations your child or family may have.
4. Get your child ready for their first day of Kindy!

Remember, just because the Free Kindy program only covers 15 hours a week of free care doesn't mean your child can't extend their Kids ELC childcare hours. If you're eligible for the CCS, you can still enjoy subsidised childcare courtesy of the Australian Government.





We invite you to enrol your child in our Kindergarten program and join a vibrant learning community where curiosity, creativity, and confidence flourish. With strong partnerships between families and educators, your child will be fully supported as they develop the skills, independence, and excitement for learning needed to make a smooth and successful transition to school.

**Visit [kidseic.com.au/free-kindy](https://kidseic.com.au/free-kindy)**

