



**Respect, Responsibility and Integrity**

# **Durack Preschool Information**

# **2018**

50 Woodlake Boulevard  
Durack NT 0830  
PO Box 225 Palmerston NT 0831  
Preschool ~ 08 8997 7566  
School ~ 08 8997 7555

Email: [durack.school@ntschoools.net](mailto:durack.school@ntschoools.net)  
Website: <http://durackschool.nt.edu.au>

A Northern Territory Government  
Independent Public School

**OUR SCHOOL  
OUR FUTURE**

**INCREASING SCHOOL  
AUTONOMY**

***This booklet includes specific information for Preschool families. Parents are also asked to read the 2018 Durack School Parent Handbook which includes general school policies and procedures that apply to both Primary and Preschool families and students.***

### **Welcome to Durack Preschool**

We welcome you and your child to Durack Preschool, an integral part of the Durack School campus.

We provide a safe, experience rich setting where your child will have a very productive time. Children will be motivated to develop their skills, abilities and attitudes to the very best of their capabilities whilst enjoying the learning process through both structured and unstructured play and activities.

### **Quality of service**

Services covered by the National Quality Framework have been assessed and rated against the seven [Quality Areas](#) of the National Quality Standard and the Education and Care Services National Regulations. The assessment and rating process aims to drive continuous quality improvement for services and provide families with better information for making choices about their children's education and care. The overall rating for a service is determined by the combination of the ratings achieved in each Quality Area.

Each state and territory Regulatory Authority undertakes the assessment and rating process. The [Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority](#), ACECQA, is responsible for ensuring consistency in assessment and ratings across Australia. Durack Preschool was assessed in 2016 and received an overall rating of 'Meeting'. Below is the rating for each of the seven quality areas.

More information regarding expectations and processes can be found at <http://www.acecqa.gov.au/>

### **Quality Areas and Ratings**

Quality Area	Rating
1 Educational program and practice	Meeting National Quality Standard
2 Children's health and safety	Meeting National Quality Standard
3 Physical environment	Meeting National Quality Standard
4 Staffing arrangements	Meeting National Quality Standard
5 Relationships with children	Exceeding National Quality Standard
6 Collaborative partnerships with families and communities	Meeting National Quality Standard
7 Leadership and service management	Meeting National Quality Standard
Overall Rating: Meeting National Quality Standard	

Last updated: 22 November 2017

## **CURRICULUM**

### **Early Years Learning Framework**

Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) is a vision of the best practice for young children's learning. The major focus of the EYLF is to build secure, respectful and reciprocal relationships which are essential in developing a strong sense of wellbeing in children. When these trusting relationships are built, children develop the skills and understandings they need to interact positively with others, to appreciate their differences and similarities as learners and to value collaboration and teamwork.

The three pivotal goals of the EYLF are belonging, being and becoming;

**“Belonging** – acknowledging 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.

**Being** – recognises the significance of the here and now in children's lives. It is about the present and them knowing themselves, building and maintaining relationships with others, engaging with life's joys and complexities and meeting challenges in everyday life. The early childhood years are not solely preparation for the future but also about the present.

**Becoming** – children's identities, knowledge, understandings, capacities, skills and relationships change during childhood. They are shaped by many different events and circumstance. Becoming reflects this process of rapid and significant change that occurs in the early years as young children learn and grow. It emphasises learning to participate fully and actively in society.” (DEERWR, 2009)

More information can be found at:

[http://files.acecqa.gov.au/files/National-Quality-Framework-Resources-Kit/belonging\\_being\\_and\\_becoming\\_the\\_early\\_years\\_learning\\_framework\\_for\\_australia.pdf](http://files.acecqa.gov.au/files/National-Quality-Framework-Resources-Kit/belonging_being_and_becoming_the_early_years_learning_framework_for_australia.pdf)

### **Northern Territory Preschool Curriculum**

The Northern Territory Preschool Curriculum has been designed to strengthen and support children's educational opportunities in the preschool year by enhancing learning opportunities in all learning areas such as literacy and numeracy. It is based on the values of the EYLF with the priority being to engage children's learning through their interests and valuing the importance of family and community priorities and contexts. It guides educators to have an informed and clear understanding of what children are capable of doing and how they develop effectively through play based learning and intentional/explicit teaching.

More information can be found at:

[https://education.nt.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0012/359778/nt\\_preschool\\_curriculum\\_web-96dpi.pdf](https://education.nt.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0012/359778/nt_preschool_curriculum_web-96dpi.pdf)

### **Direct Phone Line to Preschool**

08 8997 7566

## **Preschool Hours**

Monday and Tuesday—8.10am till 2.30pm

Or

Wednesday and Thursday—8.10am till 2.30pm

Plus an alternating Friday 1/2 day session—8.10am till 12 noon

## **Preschool Classroom Management**

### **Session Times**

Preschool starts at 8.10am. Classroom doors open at approximately 8.05am when the music begins for the main school and children and parents are encouraged to spend the first 20 minutes of the session working together completing puzzles, admiring and viewing work samples on display around the room and sharing your child's portfolio with them.

***Preschool children must always be accompanied into preschool. At no time may a preschool student be left to enter the preschool grounds on their own.***

Full day preschool sessions finish at 2.30pm, though children may be collected by parents or carers from 2.25pm to ease congestion in the preschool and enable parents with older students to be able to get to their respective classrooms before the end of the day bell. Half day sessions finish at 12 noon.

### **Picking up your child**

Please be prompt when collecting children to ensure they don't worry unnecessarily.

Students will only be dismissed into the care of an authorised adult nominee. **Written permission must be given** if a child is to be dismissed into the care of an adult other than a parent.

### **Wet Weather**

On days when storms coincide with the end of the school day, parents may collect children from school before 2.30pm to help ease congestion in the car park and around the school.

### **Absences**

If your child will be absent from Preschool. Please notify us directly by speaking with a staff member or phone and leave a message on our line, 89 977566 or ring the main school office on 89 977555, via the school email address, Skoolbag app or our website.

### **Recess and Lunch**

Your child will require recess AND lunch when they attend whole day sessions. It is suggested that children have at least two or three items to eat for recess along with a sandwich and another item for lunch. Here at Preschool children are always on the go and need to have enough food to satisfy themselves at eating times. It is better to pack a little extra something than have your child go hungry.

**PLEASE DO NOT SEND LOLLIES /CHOCOLATE ITEMS.**

As we are a healthy eating school we encourage healthy eating choices.

Lunch boxes are kept in the classroom fridge and as such insulated bags are not required.

Please name both the lid and the bottom of lunchboxes.

### **Water**

Cold water is available from bubblers at all times and children are encouraged to bring a labelled water bottle to drink from throughout the day. Children are expected to drink water at recess and lunch times.

### **Sun Safe**

Please ensure your child has a NAMED school hat with them **every day**. The preschool has a very strict "No Hat, No Play" policy. Children without a hat are not permitted to leave the shade of the veranda during outside playtimes. Please apply sunscreen to your child before they start the Preschool day.

### **Footwear**

Children are to wear suitable footwear to preschool. Shoes that children can take on and off independently are required. NO THONGS please.

### **Water Play**

Each Tuesday and Thursday our outside session will include water play. On these days children will have access to supervised play in the pool, wet sand play and other wet and messy activities. Please send your child with bathers, sun top/old T shirt and a towel in a plastic bag on these days. Please ensure ALL items are clearly named.

### **Library**

Children attend the school library during the week and may borrow one book to take for reading at home. A library bag is included in the Preschool Book Pack that is purchased from the front office. We will distribute library bags before our first library visit. Your child will receive a unique library number which will be written on their library bag. Children will use this number each week to borrow a book. Library books are changed each week on either Monday or Wednesday.

### **Jumpers**

The classroom can become quite cool and children will require a jumper/jacket for preschool. School jackets are available from the front office or a **BLUE** item of your choice may be worn.

### **Assembly**

Every second Friday morning a school assembly is held in the school hall. Preschool children will attend each fortnight as part of their Friday 1/2 day session. Parents are welcome to attend these weekly assemblies.

During the school year children may receive an award at assembly. Parents will be informed in advance if/when this is going to happen.

### **Accidents and Incidents**

Accidents and Incidents that may occur during the preschool day will be recorded in an Accident and Incident Book. Parents will be kept informed of any accident/incident or sickness that may involve their child and they will be required to sign the record made at Preschool.

### **Contact Details**

Please ensure contact details are **ALWAYS** up to date. Should we need to contact someone in an emergency we must have access to current phone numbers. Please let staff know as soon as there are any changes to these details.

### **Medical Conditions**

Should your child have any medical condition/allergies/food intolerances, please complete the relevant section on your child's enrolment form and speak with staff regarding the special care of your child while at preschool.

### **Application of Materials**

Each child beginning preschool will require a "Parental Permission for the Application of Materials" form to be completed. This form gives staff permission to apply materials such as insect repellent, Band-Aids and sunscreen to students while at preschool if/when required

### **Excursions**

Each child will also require a "Permission to Attend Excursion Activity" form to be completed. This form gives staff permission to take Preschool children into the main school for the purposes of attending assembly, library, sensory motor in the hall, sports day, etc.

### **Fundraising**

As an ongoing fundraiser throughout the year the preschool sells icy poles at the end of each day (and at the end of Friday 1/2 day sessions). Icy poles sell for 50c each and are available from the preschool kitchen. Money from the sale of ice cups is used to purchase items for the Preschool throughout the year.

### **Parent/Teacher Discussions**

During Term 1 and Term 3 there are opportunities for formal parent/teacher interviews. We also have at least one open night when families may visit the preschool classroom after school hours for an informal visit. Should you wish to speak with staff in a formal setting at any other time please do not hesitate to make an appointment with your child's teacher.

***We look forward to a productive year with your child here at Durack Preschool.***

***Should you have any questions regarding anything set out in this booklet or any other matter that may impact on your child's time at Preschool, please feel free to make contact with preschool staff.***