Jarrahdale Pre-Kindy/ Playgroup
(Three-Year-Old Program)

Early learning happens everywhere. Everything children encounter offers a learning experience. Our program encourages children to explore, discover, create, learn and express their ideas in both formal and informal settings through play. This gives your child the opportunity to fulfil their potential.

SESSION TIMES
Thursday 9:30am to 11:00am

WHAT TO BRING
• a named bag for your child’s belongings
• a piece of fruit
• a named drink bottle filled with water
• a named hat
• a set of spare clothes including underwear

Please dress your child in comfortable clothing suitable for creative and messy play (ie paint, water, glue etc).

SETTLING IN
The three-year-old program is aimed at encouraging your child to take responsibility for their belongings, challenge their thinking, develop independence and make decisions. A parent, or an accompanying adult, is required to stay with their child and support them in their learning throughout the session. Parents will, at times, be required to work with their child one-on-one, while on other occasions observe and support where necessary away from the group activity.

OUR ROUTINE
At the beginning of each session we ask that the parent, or accompanying adult, read a book or share a puzzle with their child. This will be followed by a short mat session which will then lead into various structured and informal indoor and outdoor activities. A movement session developing gross motor skills and a music session will also be included. Children will be encouraged to participate in some specific activities while others can be selected by choice. At the end of the session there will be story time before packing away and heading home!
GUEST SPEAKERS
There will be times when guest speakers present to interested parents during the session. These may include speech and occupational therapists, health service professionals, Mundijong Public Library staff, child development and behaviour specialists, and other local services.

LEARNING AND PLAY
Play is the instrument for teaching in the pre-kindergarten program. It will be both spontaneous and planned. The following types of play will make up our program:

- sensory play
- construction play
- manipulative play
- exploratory play
- physical play
- creative play
- dramatic play

When children are playing they are:

- learning to represent their ideas in a variety of forms - talking about their thoughts, constructing, painting, building, drawing and taking on roles.
- developing social skills - communicating, caring, negotiating, cooperating and sharing.
- accessing and applying prior knowledge through exploration and recreation of events.
- developing imagination skills.
- acquiring new knowledge about themselves and their world as they play with others.
- working at their own pace and at their own level.
- building foundations for early literacy and numeracy.
- experimenting and making discoveries in a non-threatening way.

Play is the highest form of research
Albert Einstein