



**Kindergarten**  
**All You Need To Know**  
**Dantum Group**  
**2019**

This guide is designed to give you as much information as possible in the lead up to starting Kindergarten in 2017. Inside you will find checklists, routines, orientation calendar, and all the information you will need to get you through term 1 and beyond! This year the Green groups sessions will run on Wednesday afternoon and a Thursday morning, with both sessions being two and half hours each.

### **Wednesday Afternoon**

#### **1:30pm: Session starts**

The door will be opened and the sign in book placed out. Your child will be allocated a locker, please find their name, place their lunch box, snack box, and water bottle in their locker. Put their bag on the corresponding number hook in the bathroom. **Please ensure that your child washes their hands with soap upon arrival.**

**1:30–2:30pm:** Indoor play, range of activities and experiences within the indoor environment.

**2:30-3:45pm:** Indoor/Outdoor play. Children are able to independently choose to play inside or out.

**Progressive Snack:** During the session from 1:30-4pm children will be able to engage in progressive snack, meaning that they are able to choose when they eat their morning snack. All children will be reminded and encouraged to eat their snack throughout the morning. This assists with developing their independence and ability to be responsible for them self.

**3:45-4:00pm:** Group time – a time for songs, stories and discussions/reflections with the children and their peers. During this time, children will also pack their bags in readiness for home time.

**4:00pm:** Home time.

## Thursday Morning

### **8:30am: Session starts**

The door will be opened and the sign in book placed out. Your child will be allocated a locker, please find their name, place their lunch box, snack box, and water bottle in their locker. Put their bag on the corresponding number hook in the bathroom. **Please ensure that your child washes their hands with soap upon arrival.**

**8:30–9:30am:** Indoor play, range of activities and experiences within the indoor environment.

**9:30-10:45pm:** Indoor/Outdoor play. Children are able to independently choose to play inside or out.

**Progressive Snack:** During the session from 1:30-4pm children will be able to engage in progressive snack, meaning that they are able to choose when they eat their morning snack. All children will be reminded and encouraged to eat their snack throughout the morning. This assists with developing their independence and ability to be responsible for them self.

**10:45–11am:** Group time – a time for songs, stories and discussions/reflections with the children and their peers. During this time, children will also pack their bags in readiness for home time.

**11:00am:** Home time.

## **-Pre-Kinder Checklist-**

<b>Please ensure all clothes worn are clearly named</b>	
<b>Appropriate Footwear: please no Crocs, Thongs, Gumboots or knee high boots</b>	
<b>Sun Safe Hat: Wide brimmed hat or Bucket hat-clearly named</b>	
<b>Back Pack: to hold all of your child's belongings-clearly named</b>	
<b>Complete change of clothes: including underwear, socks and shoes-clearly named</b>	
<b>Snack Box-clearly named</b>	
<b>Water Bottle: no leaks and easy to use-clearly named.</b>	
<b>Recycling: Boxes from your recycling to be used at the invention table</b>	
<b>1 Box of Tissues</b>	

### **-Snack & Lunch-**

Please be aware that St. John's kindergarten is a **NUT FREE AREA**. Some children are at serious risk if they come into contact with nuts and nut products. Please ensure that nuts are not present in any of the food you provide for your child. Here are some things to look out for:

- Ensure muesli bars are nut free
- **NO NUTELLA- IT IS MADE OF NUTS!**

At St. John's we are required to encourage healthy eating, and in doing so we have some lunch box ideas and suggestions for you to fill your child's snack and lunch boxes with.

- Sandwiches
- Cut vegetables- carrots, cucumber, celery.
- Fruit- fresh, tinned or dried
- Yogurt
- Crackers
- Biscuits
- Cold meats
- Cheese
- Hummus

For the longer sessions we will be holding a formal lunch time, so please discuss which box is snack and lunch with your child. Please ensure that they are clearly named. We provide access to water all day for the children if drink bottles are forgotten, and we also regularly refill children's water.

### **-Complete change of clothes-**

Please ensure that there is a complete set of spare clothes for your child in their bag. Please provide socks and shoes also, as we do not carry spare footwear for children. At St. John's we encourage messy play, as it assists in developing young children's sensory awareness and self regulation, and sometimes a change of clothes is required. Also, as we get so involved in our play, toileting accidents can occur, and a change of clothing maybe required.

### **-Appropriate Clothing-**

At kindergarten we play and we play hard! We dance, we roll, we climb, we hang upside down on the monkey bars, and we dig, make mud pies, play in the sandpit, finger paint, and generally have a messy good time. Therefore **please do not send your child in their good clothes.** You will see staff wearing their kinder clothes as we also get messy and dirty throughout the day. A dress maybe very pretty and lovely, but we will be sitting on the floor, running, jumping and climbing, and dresses may not be the safest clothes to do this in.

Foot wear is to be sturdy and protect children's feet. Although tan bark provides a soft fall it can be painful when caught under your toe nail, and can pierce the bottom of crocs. **Please ensure no thongs, crocs, or knee high boots are worn to kinder.**

As per our sun safe policy, children, staff and visitors are required to wear a sun safe hat during the warmer periods and we will advise on these dates. A sun safe hat is a bucket hat, wide brimmed hat, or a legionnaire's hat is required by all visitors to the kinder. You will have purchased a St., John's hat which must stay at kinder in your child's hat pocket. Please ensure that shoulders and upper arms are covered by a t shirt or something similar during this time, as shoe string dresses, tank tops and singlet type clothing are not in line with our policy.

## **-Orientation Term 1-**

Orientation is extremely important, and requires careful thought and planning. Orientation to pre-kinder takes time, and if it is rushed, can have disastrous effects on your child's wellbeing when entering into new education facilities. Therefore, our orientation period is spread out over a few weeks in order for the children to feel safe, secure and supported within the kinder environment, get to know their teachers and peers, and not get too exhausted. Although your child may have plenty of energy at home, it takes a good term for children to become kinder fit, as they are learning new routines, making new friends, developing new understandings. So please be patient during the orientation period as everyone adjusts to new routines.

Included is a date list of the first month to provide you with times for orientation. Please note that you will also be given a time and date to attend kinder with your child for interview days. This day provides a time for you to return all of your child's enrolment paperwork, and have a discussion with the teachers around your child and their needs. Also included is a check list to ensure you have brought all of your relevant paperwork with you. It is important to have it all completed as we have certain legal requirements that are to be met before you can leave your child in our care.

We are all really looking forward to beginning this journey with family and want to warmly welcome you into our St. John's kindergarten community. If you have questions please feel free to speak with me either at the kinder, via phone or email, and I will only be happy to help. We are looking forward to a busy and fun year!

**Marnie & Belinda**