CURRICULUM



At Sunrise ELC we follow the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) "Being, Belonging, Becoming" to reference our learning experiences.

The EYLF Outcomes are:

1. Children have a strong sense of identity

This is something that we, of course, want for our children; that they have a strong sense of who they are in Christ.

2. Children are connected with and contribute to their world

We want our children to be active, engaged participants in their society. We also want them to feel empathy toward others, and a sense of empowerment to do something about the injustices in this world.

3. Children have a strong sense of well-being

We want our children to be able to self regulate. We want them to recognize their emotions and know what to do about them.

4. Children are confident and involved learners

We see children as confident and capable people, and we work hard to teach our children the skills and foster the dispositions they need for effective lifelong learning. We want them to be able to think, inquire and have the ability to express their ideas and opinions.

5. Children are effective communicators

We want our children to have the confidence and skills to communicate their thoughts, ideas and feelings effectively.



Intentional Teaching of Essential Skills

Fine motor: Pencil grip, scissor skills, name writing

Beginning phonics: Pre-literacy skills to provide a solid foundation

for success in Reception

Numeracy concepts: A strong grounding in basic math concepts provides an excellent basis to build further understandings.



Independence and Responsibility

Children are guided and encouraged to complete tasks independently as appropriate to their development. Completing tasks such as bag packing, hand-washing, and opening recess containers empowers children to exercise autonomy and independence. We believe that giving children responsibility in these simple areas now will helps them to take responsibility for themselves as they move on from ELC into life.



Faith Based Culture

Our Faith Based Culture underpins everything we do in our ELC! We begin each day with devotions, and capitalise on every opportunity to teach the students all about what it is to be a child of God. It is so exciting to see the children's faith growing, as they explore and expand their understandings of God and his world.



Social Competency and Emotional Resilience

We work hard with children during their time in the ELC to ensure that they leave us with developmentally appropriate skills in making and maintaining friendships. The children have the opportunity to experience the ups and downs of social interactions, and are carefully guided in the skills of negotiation, problem solving, compromising, and dealing with the occasional disappointment. These essential life skills help children to develop in their self-regulation, and emotional competency. We use a program called Program Achieve to support these themes, introducing the children to characters that exemplify the character qualities that we are fostering: Gabby Get-Along, Pete Persistence, Oscar Organised, Connie Confidence and Ricky Resilient.



TRANSITION TO SCHOOL



Senior Class Buddies

Buddy time is an absolute highlight of the week! Each ELC child is 'buddied' with a student from a senior class for planned activities each week. Activities can be anything from crafts to sporting activities. The children grow in confidence as they form a friendship with their buddy. Once the ELC children start Reception, they have the confidence of knowing a 'big kid' really well!





School Assemblies

Attending assemblies gives the children a sense of the broader school community, and also helps them to anticipate what to expect as they start school. Participating in whole school events like assembly helps to integrate the ELC into school life.



Music and Library Lessons at the 'Big School'

Weekly music and library lessons build children's knowledge and confidence of being at the 'big school', as well as providing the ELC with a wider variety of resources.



School Etiquette

Because the ELC is a part of the larger school community, children are exposed to the etiquette that is expected of them once they start school. We focus on simple courtesies like 'please' and 'thankyou', greeting teachers by name, lining up and walking in a line when moving from different areas. We have high expectations for behaviour, especially 'mat manners' at group time, and listening to one another when someone is talking. Wearing the ELC uniform prepares children for wearing a school uniform each day.



Reception Teacher

The ELC children have many opportunities for transition visits to the Reception classroom throughout their kindy year. The Reception teacher frequently visits the ELC to begin building stronger relationships with their future students.

Familiarity with the school creates a sense of belonging and ownership. Children start school with confidence!