

About Us

In 1951 the Parish of Waverley established a pre-school kindergarten in the Parish Hall for children between the ages of three and five years. Parishioners gave their time free of charge to the care of these children to enable families who needed to work the opportunity to do so.

The Centre has grown in numbers over the years, and has made the transition from being a Pre-school to that of a Long Day Care Centre, enabling it to meet the needs of parents who find they both have to work to support their families.

At the beginning of 1991, the Centre was licenced for 64 children per day, between the ages of 2 and 5 years.

THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

St Mary's indoor and outdoor spaces are created to inspire wonder, delight and the exchange of ideas, and to value the relationships that are important to children's lives.

In this learning environment children:

- Feel safe, respected and valued as unique individuals.
- Learn to make friends, share happily and respect others.
- Learn to communicate well
- Play creatively, enjoyably and educationally.

STAFFING

The Centre adheres to licence regulations regarding staff numbers and their qualifications. We are committed to ensuring that staff:child ratios facilitate quality education and care.

The team leader in each room is an Early Childhood Teacher with a university qualification. The Centre Director also holds an Early Childhood teaching qualification.

There is also an Outdoor Teacher at the Centre who is responsible for the outdoor learning program.

In 2018 the staffing will be as follows;

Joey Room – 18 children with 4 full time staff (including an Early Childhood Teacher)

Koala Room – 22 children with 3 full time staff (including an Early Childhood Teacher)

Kookaburra Room – 24 children with 3 full time staff (including an early Childhood Teacher)

HOURS

St Mary's Child Care Centre is licenced as a Long Day Care Centre:

We operate

- Monday to Friday (closed on Public Holidays when fees are not payable)
- 48 weeks of the year (we close for four weeks over Christmas)
- From 8.00am to 5.30pm

GROUPING OF CHILDREN

The children are grouped into three rooms at the Centre.

Joey Room - 2-3 year olds

Koala Room - 3-4 year olds

Kookaburra Room - 4 -5 year olds

As a general rule the children move into the next group at the beginning of each year, if they are the appropriate age for that room before the end of March of that year. Although, as each room has different challenges and expectations children will only be transitioned when they are ready in all aspects of their development. The opportunity to move to the next room is based on many factors other than just age. We do recommend that children stay with the peer group that they will go to school with. Staff will work collaboratively with families when making the decision to ensure that the child's best interests are met and that the transition is positive. Children must be fully toilet trained if they are in the koala or kookaburra room.

