



Livingston Kindergarten

Caring, community, connection



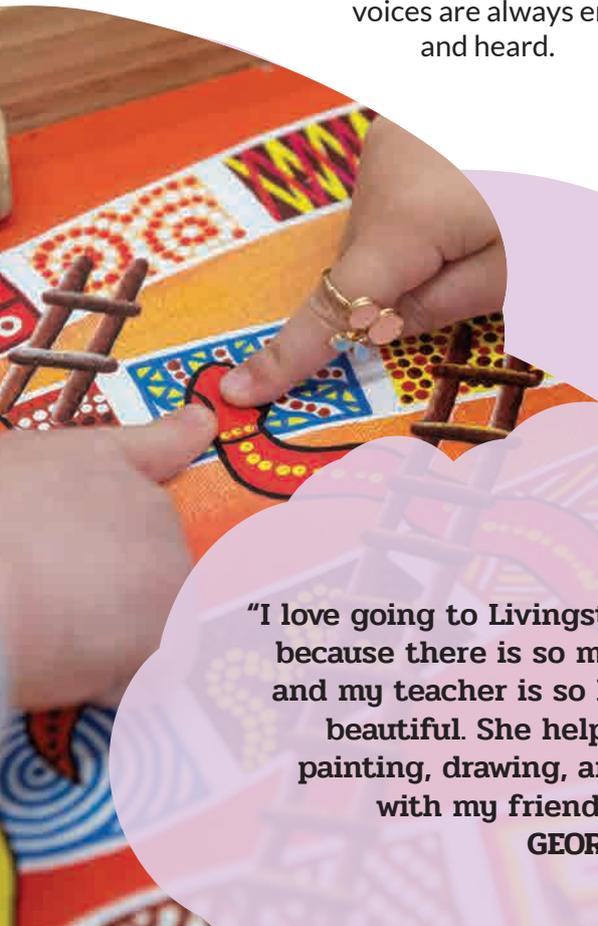


Livingston Kindergarten:

- ▶ A sessional 3 and 4-year-old kindergarten in Highett with extended care until 5:30pm every day.
- ▶ A beautiful space, caring and experienced teachers, and a community spirit.
- ▶ A newly-renovated, child-approved outdoor area with water play.

Livingston Kindergarten has been creating an inclusive and stimulating environment where children can learn naturally through play since 2007.

We support them to develop new friendships and build their confidence and resilience, giving them the best possible foundation for beginning school and beyond. Your child's feelings and thoughts are always respected, and their voices are always encouraged and heard.



Parents and carers are always welcome

We recognise and value the important connections between our children, their families, and the community. Many of our children's families become good friends both inside and outside of Livingston for years to come. It is also important to create strong links between the kindergarten and home, so we have an open-door policy for parents to pop in when they can (with working with children checks) so you too can become a part of the community where your child will thrive.

From working bees to helping with incursions/excursions, social nights, fundraising events, and our parent-run committee, there are many ways for every family to be involved.

We strive to create a strong sense of belonging for our families. We have a nurturing, diverse environment and genuine sense of community, and we respect and celebrate each other's knowledge and strengths.

"I love going to Livingston Kinder because there is so much to do, and my teacher is so happy and beautiful. She helps me with painting, drawing, and playing with my friends outside."

GEORGIE, AGE 4



1 Livingston Street, Highett, VIC 3190

Our Program

We know that starting kinder is a big step for every child, so we prioritise their emotional needs and social skills to make them feel valued and safe. Early childhood is a unique and valuable stage of development, which is enhanced through an inclusive, play-based learning environment.

We observe how each child learns, responds, and creates relationships. A play-based program allows children to practice and extend what they already know by sharing, talking, taking turns, exercising self-control and cooperating in groups. Children who feel confident, are happy to experiment with new materials and situations develop new skills. Across our practice and programs, we follow both the National (EYLF) and State (VEYLDF) Learning Frameworks and the National Quality Framework (NQF), where we rate EXCEEDING the National Quality Standards.

Learning through play

All areas of the curriculum are included when we are planning our play-based program. Curriculum areas include literacy and STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths). We also ensure that there are opportunities for children to develop a variety of school-readiness skills like fine and gross motor, turn-taking, social skills, perseverance, confidence, and respect for others.

Our knowledge of the children means that we allow each one to work at his or her own level and pace, in order to experience success and further develop understanding.

By working with individuals and small groups, our educators scaffold, enhance, and consolidate the children's learning through questioning, and offering new ideas.

The children enjoy music, play dough, cooking, science experiments, finger painting, water play, collage, drawing, puzzles, building with blocks, manipulative games, dramatic play and gross motor experiences. We also believe in tailoring programs to our children in the classroom, celebrating diversity in culture, celebrations and experiences.



**"At the end of the year we watch the children develop into confident, independent human beings who are ready for their next adventure. Then, we as educators know we have done our job."
KATHLEEN, EDUCATOR**

Livcare, our extended care program

Great for working families, we also offer an extended care program for both three and four-year-old kinder children which transitions them seamlessly from sessional kinder.

Livcare is offered onsite and is available every day until 5.30pm. Our three and four-year-olds are often together in the same room, allowing for free-play opportunities and relationship building. The educators cater for the longer hours by incorporating mindfulness and well-being experiences including meditation, yoga and music. This program is facilitated by our qualified educators who are permanent members of our Livingston kindergarten team.

All children attending the kindergarten are able to attend the extended care sessions, however spaces are limited. Casual sessions can be requested.

Our extended care program is not funded by the government, however we do everything we can to keep this program accessible for all our families.

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Why choose Livingston Kindergarten?



Strong connections

Our wonderful, long-term teachers get to know each family and every individual child - what they love, how they learn, what they play.



Play-based learning

All learning is centred on play experiences, which offer development in all areas of the curriculum: literacy, numeracy, STEM, aboriginal perspectives, sustainability, etc.



Community-focused

Nestled on a quiet street in the heart of Highett, we are a community-run kindergarten, governed by our volunteer parent committee, who oversee all operational, legal and financial decisions.



Extended hours

We offer 3 and 4yo sessional kindergarten programs with variations of days and times, as well as Livcare, our extended hours program that runs until 5:30pm each day.

How do we enrol?

All enrolments must be completed through the Bayside Council central enrolment system, and we are unable to enrol your child directly through our kinder.

Register via Bayside Council between 1st May and 30th June* in the year before your child is due to begin kindergarten. (Please note that you will need to register again for four-year-old even if you are already with us in our three-year-old program). If you miss this window, late registration can be completed through the council however priority will be given to on time registrations. Children in our 3-year-old program will automatically be given preference for 4-year-old program, including session choice.

Before you begin, please check that your child meets the age requirements, as your child must have turned three before they can start kindergarten.

4yo - Your child must turn four before 30th April
3yo - Your child must turn three before 30th April

No Jab No Play laws require that all children attending pre-school must be immunised. Children must have an up to date immunisation status and an immunisation certificate from Medicare will be required. For more information, please visit Bayside Council.

If you are successful in securing a place at Livingston, you will receive an offer by email, which you will have seven days to accept or decline via the Bayside Kindergarten portal.



We thank the people of the Kulin nation past present and future for sharing the land where we meet, learn and play.

*Registration dates may be subject to change. Please visit www.bayside.vic.gov.au/kindergarten for dates .