



CTCCCC

KINDY HANDBOOK

Kinder Program Information
(Updated September 2019)



KINDY IS A DEADLY CHOICE

Welcome to Cairns TAFE Community Child Care Kindergarten Program

We look forward to being a part of your child's education and learning in their final year before school, we understand that this is both an exciting and anxious time for families as little ones grow to school age and embark on a big new adventure.

Kindergarten Hours:

9am -4.30pm Mon-Fri

***Children must attend 2 full kindergarten sessions per week
in order to be eligible for the Queensland Kindergarten
Funding and/or Subsidy***

2020 Kinder Cohort

To be eligible children must turn 4yrs old by 30th June 2020

2021 Kinder Cohort

To be eligible children must turn 4yrs old by 30th June 2021

2022 Kinder Cohort

To be eligible children must turn 4yrs old by 30th June 2022

Kindergarten Fees (information current as at:25/09/2019))

Total daily kinder rate:	\$96.00
Inclusions in the total daily rate:	Food, sunscreen, insect repellent, incursions, linen
Enrolment conditions:	Commitment to enrol in 4 days of care per fortnight, per term
Application of QKFS subsidy to reduce out-of-pocket expenses: <i>Subsidies are passed on as a fortnightly fee reduction</i>	QKFS Plus kindy support may be claimed on behalf of eligible families and is applied at the rate of \$44.03 per fortnight SEIFA Subsidy is applied to all kinder eligible families at the rate of \$21.90 per fortnight
Information about the Australian Government's Child Care Subsidy payments for eligible families is available at Department of Human Services: https://www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/child-care-subsidy	

- Please note rates will increase in line with CPI data in July 2020

Kinder Program F&Q's

Does the CTCCCC kindergarten program operate for the entire year?

No, our Kindergarten program will only operate for 40 weeks each year as per legislation, *(please see below)*:

2020 Queensland term dates

Term	Date	Length
Term 1	Monday 20 January –Friday 27 March	10 weeks
Term 2	Monday 13 April –Friday 19 June	10 weeks
Term 3	Monday 6 July –Friday 11 September	10 weeks
Term 4	Monday 5 October –Friday 11 December	10 weeks

NOTE: Families who receive QKFS Plus funding will need to consider whether they will take holidays during the term breaks or whether they will continue to send their child to child care and pay higher fees as subsidies will not be applied to attendances during term breaks.

Kinder Program F&Q's cont'

What is the extra funding for kindergarten that people talk about?

SEIFA Funding

Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) is a product developed by the Australian Bureau of Statistics that ranks areas in Australia according to relative socio-economic advantage and disadvantage, Cairns ranks 2 so SEIFA funding is available to all families attending our service, SEIFA funding must be used to reduce families out of pocket costs and will be applied to families weekly fees.

QKFS Plus funding

Aboriginal, Torres Straight Island and those families who hold valid government approved health care cards are eligible for QKFS Plus funding, QKFS Plus funding is available to bridge the gap so that all Australia's have equal access to quality education in the year before school. QKFS plus is applied directly to families child care fee accounts to further reduce weekly out of pocket costs.

QKFS Plus families will receive a letter from Centrelink informing them that their child is eligible for 36hrs of care while attending a kinder program, this must be retained and shown to your service.

ATSI families can also access the 'Free Deadly Kindy Kit' when they get their child's 4 year old check done at participating medical practitioners and Indigenous health units.

NOTE: *QKFS Plus eligible families must provide a copy of the valid Health Care Card for the centre to access funding on there behalf, families must also ensure that they inform the centre immediately if their card is cancelled.*

Why are the kinder days billed at 7.5hrs?

The kinder program will operate and be billed at 7.5hrs per day, this is a business decision and was implemented in line with government legislation to ensure that there are no barriers to lower income and ATSI families wishing to access our kinder program.

What are transition statements?

A child's transition statement summarises their abilities as they start school and identifies their individual approaches to learning. It is passed on to the child's future school. The Transition Statement:

- summarises a child's learning and development
- identifies their individual approaches to learning and their interests
- indicates how the child can be supported to continue learning.

The information in the TS helps prep teachers get to know the children entering their classes, and to plan appropriate learning and teaching programs. The Transition Statement is not a report card.

Are there any extra requirements for the kindergarten program?

No, eligible families will receive this Kinder information booklet and an Additional Information for Kinder form to fill out. The kinder program is still play based and routines will only vary slightly.

From home to kindy to school

By working together, families, kindy teachers and school staff can all support children as they transition from home to kindy to school.



At home

You know your child best and know what might help them enjoy a great start to school. You can support your child at this important time by:

- making time to talk, read and relax before school starts
- regularly driving past and talking about your chosen school
- practice using a lunch box, drink bottle and food wraps at meal times
- encouraging self help e.g. carrying their own bag, getting things on their own
- talking about how your child is feeling, and adjusting routines at home to match their moods and energy levels.

At kindy

Kindy can help your child make friends, build confidence and develop a love of learning. You can ask your child's kindy teacher about starting school.

Talk to your child's kindy teacher about:

- any concerns you may have
- tips for preparing for school at home
- your child's strengths
- your child's **transition statement**.

You can share your kindy transition statement with your school by signing the **parent/carers consent form**. It is about your child's learning in kindy. You and your child's kindy teacher will develop the transition statement together with suggestions about supporting their start to school.

At school

Your child's transition statement can support the conversation with your new teacher in getting to know your child so they can better support their social and emotional and learning needs when they start school

It can support you to talk to your child's school teacher about:

- your child's interests
- how your child learns
- your child's time at kindy
- your goals for your child
- how your child makes friends.

When you sign the parent/carer consent form, you can also give permission for the kindy and Prep teachers (or other relevant school staff) to contact each other to talk about information on your child's transition statement.

This is one way for the school and Prep teacher to get to know your child and family before the school year, and begin to prepare for a great start to school.

Joining the community

Your whole family joins a new community when your child starts school. It's a chance for you to make new friends with other families and support each other.

You can meet other families by:

- going to school P&C nights
- helping in the tuckshop or uniform shop
- spending time in your child's classroom.

HELPFUL LINKS

Navigating through daycare, kindy and then school can be a stressful and anxious time for children and families, in an effort to make these transitions less stressful we have provided some links below that we use personally.

- The Early Years Count website is a very helpful resources for 0-5YRS
<http://www.earlyyearscount.earlychildhood.qld.gov.au/>
- The Department of Education website provides lots of resources and information for families from starting childcare to starting school.
<https://qed.qld.gov.au/earlychildhood/>
<https://qed.qld.gov.au/earlychildhood/families/kindy/getting-ready>
- The Raising Children Network and Kid Spot websites are a great resources for families with lots of information about raising children from pregnancy and milestones to cyber safety
<https://raisingchildren.net.au/>
<https://www.kidspot.com.au/>
- A great resource for Indigenous families; <https://www.deadlykindies.com.au/>
- Triple P is the flexible, practical way to develop skills, strategies and confidence to handle any parenting situation. It's backed by decades of research. And it's already helped more than 4 million children and their parents.
<https://www.triplep-parenting.net.au/qld-ukn/triple-p/?cdsid=a9vnk0sjpud2q0t81n5ff3qcu5>

NOTES

If you have any questions or queries about our kindergarten program or your child's transition to school please see our Director or your child's Early Childhood Teacher.

