



# Information Booklet for 2021 Enrolments

*We acknowledge that we meet and work on land for which the peoples of the Kulin Nations are the traditional owners and custodians.*

*Hurlingham Preschool has zero tolerance towards child abuse and is committed to establishing and maintaining child safe and child friendly environments.*

*We would like to acknowledge the assistance of the Victorian State Government in funding 4year old kindergarten*



## All About Hurlingham Pre-School

Hurlingham Preschool is all about community, collaboration and commitment. We strive to maintain high standards in all aspects of early years education as we embrace the ideal of continual improvement and the passion and dedication of our teaching team. We are a not-for-profit, sessional preschool that offers two 4yr old groups and one 3yr old group. In addition to our 3 sessional groups, and in response to our communities' needs, we also offer an Extended Care 3 & 4 yr old group which is open to all Hurlingham families as an extra session. We strive to provide a nurturing, innovative environment where children can develop their independence and self-esteem. We have a dynamic team of educators who are supported by an engaged parent-run Committee of Management, an Administrator and an Operations and Enrolments Manager. Hurlingham Preschool is a purpose built facility with an amazing playground set amongst the greenery of Hurlingham Park. Our wonderful educators deliver a stimulating program and in combination with our kitchen garden, digging patch, swings, climbing equipment, sun-protected playground and resident rabbit, the children are guaranteed to have a unique experience at Hurlingham Preschool.

## Our Philosophy

Our guiding principles are:      **Collaboration**                      **Commitment**                      **Community**

At Hurlingham:

1. Educators and families **collaborate** to provide an engaging, innovative, caring and fun learning environment in which every one of our children is encouraged to flourish as an individual, as a pupil, as a friend and group contributor;
2. We are **committed** to providing high quality care and education - guided by the values of inclusion, empathy, self-reliance, positivity, curiosity and communication - to nurture the healthy development of our children;
3. Our **community** celebrates and respects diversity: we draw upon the expertise and life experiences of our educators and families, reinforcing a sense of identity in our children, and establishing foundations from which to grow



Our philosophy can be visually expressed using the concept of a tree. From the foundation or roots of family life, cultural traditions and the experience of belonging to a community Hurlingham Preschool assists in every child's social, emotional and cognitive development by providing a rich, safe and engaging learning environment. Growth is guided by our values of inclusion, empathy, self-reliance, positivity, curiosity and communication. At the end of their time at Hurlingham Preschool our goal is that children will have formed meaningful relationships with educators and contemporaries and will be confident and ready to transition to school. They will have a sense of community and the role they can play in it and a desire to learn and explore that will last a lifetime.

## The Staff at Hurlingham Preschool

### **Deanne Millar - Director, Nominated Supervisor, Educational Leader and Teacher of Koala & Wombat**

Dee joined us as Director and teacher of the 4 year old groups in 2015. Dee's passion for early childhood education grew out of watching her own children blossom. She embarked on her learning journey, which continues 20 years later. Dee believes, 'Each day you have the opportunity to offer students the world, to give them life- changing knowledge and experiences. Relish the possibilities.' She is looking forward to working with families to ignite a love of learning in our children that they can carry into school and beyond.

*"As the **educational leader** it is my role to inspire, motivate and guide our teaching team along a path of continuous improvement ensuring our knowledge and practice are exemplary. This is a collaborative endeavour involving research and reflection, to provide the best possible outcomes in the important work our educators do with the children and families of Hurlingham Preschool."*



### **Orlinda Alla - Teacher of Echidna & Wombat Groups**

Orlinda started with Hurlingham in 2017 as the Platypus Group teacher, before then moving into the Echidna and Wombat teaching roles. Orlinda's teaching philosophy is to engage in positive relationships with each child and their family throughout the year to ensure growth and achievement in all areas of their learning journey. She believes that all children learn and develop at their own pace. As their teacher, she will strive to create and maintain a safe, supportive and enriched environment in which all children can feel socially, emotionally and physically safe and valued. Once they feel safe and supported then they will thrive while exploring the world around them.



### **Natalie Cromer - Teacher of Platypus Group**

Natalie joins our fabulous teaching team in 2018 as the teacher in the Platypus Group. Natalie believes that Kindergarten is one of the most important learning experiences for a young child. Not only do they develop crucial social skills, but the majority of their learning experiences are through play. As a teacher, Natalie believes it is her responsibility to provide each child with the environment, skills and opportunity to experience and learn through their individual interests.



### ***Pam Moulton - Educator of Koala & Wombat Groups***

Pam commenced at Hurlingham in June 2014. Pam is passionate about the education of pre-school children. She loves the way that children absorb everything around them and their enthusiasm for learning.



### ***Christine Driscoll - Educator of Echidna, Wombat & Platypus Groups***

Chris has been at Hurlingham since 2006 and loves working with children. Chris has a belief that nurturing leads to children feeling safe and supported so that they can grow into capable and confident learners. Chris is passionate about our community and your children.



### ***Elaine Moore - Administrator***

Elaine has been involved with the kinder since 2007, when her son, Andrew, attended and then again in 2010 with her daughter Jessica. It was during Jessica's time at kinder that Elaine joined the committee as a class rep and then the enrolment officer. It was towards the end of Jessica's kinder time that Elaine saw an opportunity to continue her relationship with Hurlingham and took on the role as the office administrator.

### ***Sam Jensen-Muir - Operations and Enrolments Manager***

Sam became involved with the kinder when her first child started at Hurlingham in 2007. She was Enrolment Officer for 2 years before taking on the role of President. After 6 consecutive years at the kinder with her 3 children, the Committee asked her to stay on and become the Operations and Enrolments Manager. Sam believes Hurlingham epitomises the best of community kinder, creates a special environment for the children and their families and enjoys working with the wonderful team of educators.

### **Three Year Old Group Program- Echidna**

We aim to present an emergent program embracing the VEYLDF learning outcomes of Identity, Community, Wellbeing, Learners and Communicators. *Based on discovery through play*, our program is dynamic and recognises the needs and abilities of each child. The ideas that are built upon come from the children's own interests and allow for play to develop in depth and extend over time.

Intentional teaching, as well as community and parent-based learning, is also developed within the program.

The program is displayed on the notice board in the foyer for parents to read and is also emailed to parents on a fortnightly basis.

The activities and learning experiences are provided to provoke thought and interest. They are also designed to encourage children in all areas of development: physical, social, cognitive, perceptual and emotional.

Often, 3 year old kinder is the child's first foray into the world, away from the intimacy of the family home. We place a large emphasis on assisting children to learn to become a part of a group for their social and, emotional development. Building confidence and self- esteem is also a focus in three year old group. Often children will be practicing the same skill over and over or sometimes they might be trying to master a new skill and need a little guidance or reassurance from an adult. It is always rewarding to see the look of triumph when they have mastered a particular skill, climbed to the top or put the last piece in the puzzle

In our three year old program, the children are offered open ended opportunities to explore an idea. We allow time for the development of an idea to grow. Materials required to extend ideas are offered or made available upon the children's request. Individual objectives are planned for all children according to their specific needs and in consultation with their parents.

A variety of unstructured, sensory materials are always available for the children to use. By exploring the properties of sand, water, clay and dough, the children learn many concepts about how they feel, look and can be manipulated. Sensory materials also provide opportunities for relaxing, messy play!

Cognitive tasks at Kindergarten arise in children's play constantly. Children match, sort and classify objects, they learn to recognise colours, shapes and numbers; they practice informal maths and science concepts, solve problems and predict outcomes. Cognitive skills are also evident when children create play goals with other children and use language as a tool to facilitate these goals. Many other processes of 'playing' require cognitive skills.

Imaginative play is a very important part of the program. It allows children to create goals and act out roles within them. Dramatic play assists children to understand more about their experience of the world. Social skills develop such as taking turns, creating group goals, solving conflict and developing language skills.

Language skills are developed when children listen to and discuss stories, act out dramatic roles, share their ideas in play, discuss items of interest, communicate their feelings and attempt to draw or write their ideas.

We offer activities to help develop fine motor skills. The children paint, paste, draw, use scissors, thread, manipulate puzzle and construction pieces, play with clay, dough, small beads etc.

Gross motor skills are practised when children climb, roll, swing, dig, run, skip, hop, jump, throw, practise ball and bean bag skills, balance on beams, push and pull trolleys, dance and move in a multitude of ways!

### Three Year Old Group Session

Routine is very important for young children as it assists them to recognise sequence of events and allows for smooth transition from one activity to the next.

- On arrival, children place their bag and coat on the hook allocated to each child at Orientation.
- Initially, in the first weeks of term 1, the children will start the session with activities, allowing the educators and families time to settle the children in to their new surrounds.
- Once the group has been attending for a few weeks and is settled, we will commence each session with 'mat time'. Mat time will start with acknowledging the traditional owners and may include songs, discussion, music activity, story, etc. From here the children move onto indoor play time where they move freely from one activity/play area to the next.
- The children assist each other to pack away the activities and come together again on the mat ready for singing, movement, music, discussion, book or a group game/activity.
- Following this, the children wash their hands, ready for their snack.
- Once all the children have finished their snack, we find hats and/or coats and head outside where the program continues.
- The final mat session is our coming together to say goodbye.

- At home time, every child sits on the mat ready for their name to be called by the educators to go to their parents/carers who will have entered the room to sign their child out.

## Four Year Old Group Program- Koala & Wombat

To devise the Four Year Old Group Program our educators, draw on their knowledge of Early Childhood Development education philosophies and teaching practices. They have been inspired by many philosophies and theorists such as Reggio Emilia's curriculum theory, Lev Vygotsky's Social Development Theory, Jean Piaget's developmental theory and Howard Gardner's theory of Multiple Intelligences.

The program focuses on play as the main vehicle for learning. It also offers a range of exciting experiences related to math, literacy, science, social studies and environmental responsibility infused into children's learning, with a strong emphasis on the arts (visual art, drama, dance, creative movement), cooking, gardening and physical education to stimulate and extend each child's learning.

Through the many experiences provided at the kindergarten, the children will develop in all areas, including social and emotional, physical (fine and gross motor), intellectual and language. The program aims to inspire young minds to develop a love of learning. Children are encouraged to become aware, enquiring and independent.

The program provides flexibility and offers a diverse range of learning experiences to accommodate the children's individual interests and group interests as they arise. We value collaborative learning where children and educators work together and learn from each other. This is done through individual, small group and whole group experiences.

To extend knowledge and learning, excursions, walks, entertainers and visitors to the kinder are organised throughout the year. We invite parents to share their interests, skills, hobbies or profession to enhance the children's experiences and learning.

Self-esteem and confidence building is a priority of the program. When children have developed positive feelings about themselves and are willing to "have a go", they are able to learn and develop to the maximum potential.

The educators take children through the fundamentals of being a member of a group – respecting the rights of others as well as having the confidence to express themselves.

## Four Year Old Group Session

Throughout the session the children will have the opportunity to play and explore through a variety of different experiences. The sequence of these activities will change depending on the length of the session and the day of the week the session falls on. However, we will usually begin with a meeting time and conclude with a story/literacy experience to bring the children together as a group. The activities your child will experience within a session (in no particular order) are:

- **Mat Times:** We start the session greeting each other as 'a circle of friends'; the children share stories from home, acknowledge the traditional landowners, discuss the daily program, topics of interest, songs, fingerplays, music and movement and drama, all in preparation for, and to give meaning to, the activities of the day. We gather together several times a session and, other activities include story time, investigations, experiments, participation in experiments, showing interest items. It is a social time designed to build empathy, understanding, communication, confidence and cooperation.
- **Play Time:** Indoors, the children are supported to engage in the many activities, with choices including construction, playdough, clay, painting, drawing, collage, dramatic play, literacy, math activities, puzzles and library activities. Children can also work on small or large projects in groups or on their own. These activities can equally be experienced when outdoors. Additionally, there is the playground; designed for the children to challenge themselves, practice and develop gross motor skills. Your child will be able to run, jump, skip, hop, tip-toe, crawl, climb, dig, swing, build and imagine. Activities involve messy play in the sandpit and the digging patch, there are swings, climbing frames, construction sets, balancing boards, slides, tunnels and much more. The equipment is moved and changed frequently to create a stimulating environment. The children are also offered quiet garden places for cubbies and imaginative play. Designed for children to develop confidence in their own abilities, take risks in new challenges and learn

- **Transitions:** The children are encouraged to be active participants in our daily routines and can assist each other and the educators in selecting equipment, setting up, packing up, caring for the rabbit, tending the garden, recycling and composting. These times are designed to build a sense of agency, responsibility and respect.
- **Meal Times:** Apart from the children having refreshments, eating together is an opportunity for the group to interact and socialise with each other, reinforce manners and learn about hygiene and healthy eating habits. We like to offer different formats – we may sit down as a large group on the mat, at the tables or on picnic blankets outside. The children are also offered a progressive meal during the session which gives them the chance to explore their sense of agency and self-management as they begin to recognise when they are hungry and ready for their food. We are fostering decision making, self-awareness, self-help, social engagement.
- **Quiet Moments:** Children will be given opportunity and space during the session to relax, reflect and rest. Wombat Group has a more defined part of their longer daily program we refer to as “Thinking Time”. They can use a small pillow from home for comfort. Meditation, yoga, quiet reading, quiet activities, all provide children with the opportunity for necessary down time.

A copy of the program can be found in the room and is also emailed to 4yr old families on a fortnightly basis. The educators are always happy to discuss or explain the program to parents. Please feel free to contact them on 9553 8491 or email [koala@hurlinghampreschool.org.au](mailto:koala@hurlinghampreschool.org.au) or [wombat@hurlinghampreschool.org.au](mailto:wombat@hurlinghampreschool.org.au) .

## School Readiness

What do we mean by school readiness?

"Readiness" is a term used to describe preparation for what comes next! The most significant educational outcome in preschool is that your child starts school "ready to learn." Research indicates that preschoolers who attend high quality programs:

- Enter school with skills necessary for school success.
- Show greater understanding of verbal and numerical concepts.
- Are more socially competent.
- Show the ability to stay with an activity longer.
- Are more likely to make typical progress through the primary grades.

While many people think of academics (e.g. writing their name, counting to 10, knowing the colours) as the important school readiness skills, school readiness actually refers to a much broader range of skills. In addition to some academic basics, school readiness skills also include self-care, attention and concentration, physical skills (e.g. having the endurance to sit upright for an entire school day), emotional regulation, language skills and play and social skills. Our role in preschool is to actively facilitate this preparation by ensuring that children regularly participate in activities that develop the appropriate skills required to help optimal learning from the moment they start school.

## Extended Care

Hurlingham Preschool is pleased to offer our current enrolled community an extended care session each Friday afternoon. It is a mixed aged session from both 3 and 4 year old classes, providing children the opportunity to make friends from other groups. This is positive for their social development, will help in their school transition and also brings the kinder community together. This extended care session comprises 22 children with a fully qualified teacher and educator who provide a stimulating learning environment and adhere to all the same policies and regulations as our other sessions. Positions for our Platypus group will be allocated on a 'first in, first served' basis, based on Hurlingham preschool receiving the completed Extended Care Enrolment form and accompanying deposit.

The children enrolled in the Koala group, whose session is immediately before the Extended Care session on Fridays, can move seamlessly into the extended care group without a parent/guardian attending the transition if enrolled in the Extended Care program. This results in a full day's care from 8.30am – 4.30pm.

Please note that the Extended Care program is an additional cost to the Kindergarten fees. We have based these fees purely around the cost of operating the service, as we are a not for profit organisation. We ask for the same yearly commitment as we do with the kindergarten groups, and the fees will be on the same invoice as your kindergarten fees,

paid either per term or annually. The Extended Care session is offered dependent on minimum enrolment numbers and is subject to change based on these numbers. Parents/guardians will be advised prior to any changes being implemented.

## Our 2021 Timetable

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>Koala</b> 4 yr old Group		11.30am-4.30pm <i>(Educators- Dee Millar Pam Moulton)</i>		8.30am-1.30pm <i>(Educators- Dee Millar Pam Moulton)</i>	8.30am-1.30pm <i>(Educators- Dee Millar Pam Moulton)</i>
<b>Wombat</b> 4 yr old Group Team Teaching	8.30am – 4pm <i>(Educators- Orlinda Alla Dee Millar Christine Driscoll)</i>		8.30am-4pm <i>(Educators- Dee Millar Orlinda Alla Christine Driscoll)</i>		
<b>Echidna</b> 3 yr old		8.30am-11am <i>(Educators- Orlinda Alla Christine Driscoll)</i>		2pm-4.30pm <i>(Educators- Orlinda Alla Christine Driscoll)</i>	
<b>Extended Care Session</b> 3 and 4yr olds					1.30pm-4.30pm <i>(Educators- Natalie Cromer Christine Driscoll)</i>

## Group Preference

The four year old program has two groups; Wombat and Koala. Parents are able to submit their preference for a group however, please note that there is no guarantee that your child will be placed in that group. Over many years we have trialed the fairest system for group allocation and we have determined that submitting a Group Preference Form via EMAIL after the initial Council offers has been accepted is the most equitable. Parents will be provided with all the details upon acceptance of their offer from Council and the date to submit your form. Group Preference emails will be accepted from **7am** on that date and group allocation will then be done based upon when your email is received. Parents with a strong preference for a particular group are therefore urged to email their Group Preference Form as soon as the online acceptance opens. You will be notified of whether you received your first preference.

If you don't receive your group preference, you will be placed on a waitlist for that group and will be contacted by the Operations and Enrolments Manager as places arise in your preferred group.

## Committee of Management

Hurlingham Preschool is run by a Committee of Management drawn from volunteer parents. Committee meetings take place at the preschool twice a term, when current events and requirements are discussed. The Committee is responsible for every

area of the Preschool's operation – financial management, employing, paying, managing and recruiting staff, timetabling, maintenance, and ensuring the long-term stability of the Preschool.

Unlike some Preschools, however, the load is shared. We are very fortunate to have the services of an Administrator and an Operations Manager, who manage many of the daily functions of the Preschool's running and takes an enormous weight off the Committee. For this reason, involvement on Committee is not as daunting as at some preschools. Many hands make light work, so please consider participation on Committee – you would be warmly welcomed! Becoming a Committee Member is a great way to support the kinder and meet other parents. You have input into the decision-making process and better understand how and why decisions affecting your child are made. *Please contact the President at [committee@hurlinghampreschool.org.au](mailto:committee@hurlinghampreschool.org.au) if you are interested.*

## Excursions/ Incursions

We believe Excursions and Incursions (visitors to the Preschool) are an exciting way to enhance the program. We vary our excursions and incursions every year, but some examples are trips to Scienceworks, Cranbourne Gardens, Botanic Gardens, Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, National Gallery of Victoria. Visitors to the kindergarten might cover aspects of the program such as drama, music, health, science and nature, road safety and pet care. For example, live animals, Indigenous educators, actors, drum teachers, dentists etc. We love to go for local walks to Hurlingham and Landcox Parks too or to one of our feeder schools, Gardenvale Primary or St Finbar's Primary.

Parents will be asked to sign a consent form before an excursion and a general request for help with supervision on the day may be made. Parents are always welcome to be part of these experiences. The cost of these special events is included in your fees.

## WWCC

Please note that in keeping with the new National Child Safety Standards, it is Hurlingham Preschool's policy that all volunteers on parent duty and excursions/incursions require a current Working With Children Check (WWCC). It is easy to apply for one and is free when required for volunteers. All schools, clubs and associations require a WWCC in order to volunteer so you might as well get the process started now! You can find the application on the following website <https://online.justice.vic.gov.au/wwccu/onlineapplication.doj> . We are happy to assist you to understand the process.

## Immunisation - No Jab, No Play Legislation

No Jab, No Play legislation came into effect in January 2016 which states that by law, to finalise enrolment for your child in long day care, kindergarten, family day care or occasional care, you must provide the service (Hurlingham Preschool) with an immunisation status certificate that shows your child is up to date with all vaccinations that are due for their age, or that they are able to receive. *Conscientious objection is not a valid exemption.* An Immunisation History Statement from the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) is now the ONLY form of documentation accepted for the purpose of enrolling in an early childhood education and care service. Previous forms of documentation, for example a letter from a GP or local council, are no longer accepted. The Medicare logo and Australian Government crest must be present and identifiable to be considered a valid Immunisation History Statement. For example, if the statement is page two of a letter from Medicare, both pages need to be presented to the service to confirm enrolment.

Parents/carers can request an AIR Statement from

- myGov account <https://my.gov.au/LoginServices/main/login?execution=e2s1>
- call the AIR on phone 1800 653 809
- visit a Medicare or Centrelink office

After kindergarten offers of a place are sent out by Bayside City Council, Hurlingham Preschool will then require the AIR statement to finalise your child's enrolment. It can take up to 28 days for these to be sent by post so please request as early as possible.

*Families who do not hold a Medicare card must call the AIR to request an Immunisation History Statement. A Translating and Interpreting Service is available by calling 131 450, Monday to Friday 8.30am-4.45pm*

## Toilet Training

We recommend that children are toilet trained prior to attending kindergarten. Our educators are happy to support the toilet training process.

## Social Events

The Social Officer and Assistants on Committee organise a number of events during the year; some with the children, some just for the adults. Class Reps will also organise events such as dinners, park plays and coffee catch ups. Hurlingham Preschool is all about providing a welcoming community where parents can develop friendships as well as the children.

## Child's Progress

Educators are happy to discuss your child's progress at any time throughout the year. Formal parent/educator exchanges are offered during the orientation process and also early Term 2 and late Term 3 for children attending both the 4 and 3 year old programs. For all groups, educators will approach parents in late March, before enrolments for the following year commence, to discuss whether a child may benefit from a second year of 3 year old kinder or a second year of funded 4 year old kinder.

## Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program

In 2016 Hurlingham Preschool joined the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Initiative. We feel that by being a part of this wonderful initiative we have expanded our children's abilities to understand the importance of sustainability, looking after the environment, where our food comes from, the wonderful benefits of growing our own food and of course then cooking that food and the benefits of healthy eating. We were successful in our Bayside grant for a Pizza Oven so we are now lucky to have outdoor cooking facilities at Hurlingham as well. We have projects that will happen across all three groups throughout the year as part of our kitchen garden program.

## Nude Food

In line with our principles of sustainability and 'refuse, reduce, reuse, repurpose, recycle', we encourage families to embrace a culture of *nude food* and send lunch and snacks without any plastic rubbish. Fruit and vegie scraps can be fed to Ruby or composted by the children.

## Ruby the Rabbit

We are very lucky that when Dee joined our team, she brought *Ruby the Rabbit* who the children just love. The Educators teach the children how to look after Ruby. Pets teach children responsibility, respect, empathy and compassion.

## Fees

Fees are determined by the Committee of Management annually, and although they may vary from year to year, we endeavour to keep them at a minimum. Examples of fees per term for 2020 are listed below:

**3 Year Old Groups-** (5 hours/week) = \$550 per term

**4 Year Old Groups-** (15 hours/week) = \$580 per term

**Extended Care-**(3 hours/week) = \$300 per term

The difference in fees for the 3 and 4 year old programs is due to the subsidy provided by the Victorian State Government for the 4 year old groups. 3 Year Old Groups are not subsidised at all. Due to rising costs our fees are adjusted for inflation each year. Final fees will be confirmed and advised to families in October 2020.

Only one (1) Government subsidised place is available per child for 4 year old preschool. As Hurlingham Preschool is a not for profit service, if your child is attending more than one funded program (ie. an additional day care Kindergarten program), it is required that Hurlingham Preschool receive the funding for your child, in order to continue providing our service to the community.

A refundable Volunteer Labour Levy, due in Term 1, is also charged, but is refundable on Term 4 fees if parent/s have attended two Working Bees. If you withdraw your enrolment once the term has commenced, you will be liable for the full term's fees. Term 1 fees for 2021 will be issued in December of 2020; accounts for all other terms are sent home two weeks prior to the end of the previous term.

A nonrefundable Confirmation fee of \$100 is payable once you have accepted your offer from Bayside Council and confirm your place with Hurlingham Preschool.

## Early Start Kindergarten

Early Start Kindergarten provides up to 15 hours of free or low cost kindergarten to eligible three year old children where the program is delivered by a qualified teacher. [You can read about eligibility](#) or contact Family Services 9599 4755 or the kindergarten directly for more information

## Hurlingham Closure Dates

Hurlingham Preschool allocates one set up day on the first day of the school year and two clean up days at the conclusion of the school year when no teaching sessions operate. In accordance with the Department of Education and Training (DET) guidelines, the service will also be closed on all public holidays and during school term holidays. Please follow this link for dates for Victorian school holidays <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/department/pages/datesterm.aspx?Redirect=1> and Victorian public holidays <http://victoriapublicholiday.com.au/>

## Additional Requirements

Once a position has been offered and accepted by a child to attend Hurlingham Preschool, we ask that families advise us about any additional requirements as early as possible. This allows us to prepare for the individual needs of your child.

## FAQ

### What are the age requirements for 3 and 4yr old kinder?

Children enrolling for a 3-year-old program must have turned 3 by April 30 2021 but CANNOT attend the service until their third birthday due to age ratios.

Children enrolling for a 4-year-old program must turn 4 by April 30 2021 but CAN commence from the start of the year.

### What happens if I miss the Council Kindergarten Registration closing date of May 31st?

Late registrations will still be accepted online at <https://www.bayside.vic.gov.au/kindergarten-registration> However, late registrations will not be considered until all on-time registrations have been offered a place

### What if I miss out on an offer in July?

Bayside Council manages the waitlist throughout the year. If you miss out on an offer in July, you will receive an email notification advising that you are on the waitlist for subsequent offers. The Family Services team at Bayside Council will work with you to allocate a place for your child.

### Can you defer an offer?

You cannot elect to defer an offer during the rounds of offer. An offer can either be accepted or declined at the time it is offered.

Three-year-old enrolments cannot be deferred once the offer has been accepted. If a family decides not to commence the year, or withdraw once the child has commenced, a new application will need to be submitted for the following year. The child will not be eligible for additional weighting related to a year of attendance.

Deferrals are only available for offers that have been accepted for a 4-year-old enrolment. However, once a child has commenced in the 4-year-old kindergarten program, deferrals are not available if the kindergarten has provided their

yearly enrolment data to the Department of Education and Training (which is any time during the first term). If you have [concerns about your child's readiness](#), you will need to discuss this with your child's teacher at your earliest opportunity.

### **What if my child needs to repeat a year?**

Requests to repeat 3-year-old kindergarten are only considered for children with additional needs or disadvantage. These repeats will require documentary support from the kindergarten teacher and will be approved on a case by case basis.

A repeat 4-year-old year occurs where a child is assessed by the teacher or another early childhood professional as having delayed development identified in 2 or more areas and has been approved as eligible for a second year of funded kindergarten by the Department of Education and Training.

Where a child is not approved as eligible for a second year of funded kindergarten they will not be offered a kindergarten place until all eligible applicants have been offered places. The child will need to be self-funded during the repeat year. The place will need to be vacated if needed for a new enrolment who has yet to receive their first funded year.

For information regarding repeating 4-year-old kindergarten, please visit [www.education.vic.gov.au](http://www.education.vic.gov.au)

### **What are the criteria for receiving an offer if there are more applicants than places at your preferred kinder?**

Please follow this link for the eligibility criteria as set out by Bayside Council in conjunction with DET regulations <https://www.bayside.vic.gov.au/how-do-kindergarten-offers-work>

### **Contact Details**

Please feel free to direct your enrolment queries to Hurlingham Preschool's Operations and Enrolments Manager, who will direct you to Council if required. Please remember our Operations and Enrolments Manager is bound by stringent Council regulations and our own policies, in particular the Enrolment Policy.

Sam Jensen-Muir, Operations and Enrolments Manager, [enrolments@hurlinghampreschool.org.au](mailto:enrolments@hurlinghampreschool.org.au) /PH 0426 206 202

Hurlingham website [www.hurlinghampreschool.org.au](http://www.hurlinghampreschool.org.au)