



## EARLWOOD CARING FOR KIDS INC.

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### 2024 Kindy Families- General Information Sheet

**Earlwood Caring for Kids Inc.** (ECFKI) is a community-based, not-for-profit service managed by a volunteer parent committee. We operate before and after school care for the students of Earlwood Public School.

ECFKI is located in the school grounds, on the corner of Richard Ave and Boomerang St, down from the nature garden. We are currently licensed for 125 children per session and cannot exceed these numbers.

ECFKI, in allocating places for care, follows the Priority of access guidelines set by the Department of Education and Training and service policy.

#### Contact information

Phone: 02 9718 8031 Email: [director@caringforkids.org.au](mailto:director@caringforkids.org.au) Website: [www.caringforkids.org.au](http://www.caringforkids.org.au)

#### Hours of Operation

##### **Before school care:**

7:00am – 9:00am

##### **After school care:**

3:00pm – 6:00pm

We do not operate during the school holidays, public holidays, or pupil free days (EPS uses 'Team Kids' for vacation care- [www.teamkids.com.au](http://www.teamkids.com.au)). Vacation care is also available through Clemton Park OOSH.

#### **2024 Fees**

**Membership fee:** 1 child- \$40, 2 children- \$45, 3 children- \$50, 4 children- \$55 (paid annually regardless of start date). Membership includes a sun safe hat to keep at the centre.

**Before school care (BSC) permanent** -\$21.00

**Casual**- \$24.00

**After school care (ASC) permanent** -\$25.00

**Casual**- \$28.00

\*A permanent booking is for a minimum of a term and is for the same sessions each week. A casual booking is a one-off and is subject to availability.

**Non-Notification Fee** - \$10.00 per session (where the service is not notified that a child is absent for care)

**Late Collection Fee** - \$3.00 per minute per child for the first 15 minutes. Then \$15.00 for the next 15 minutes or part thereof.

#### **Child Care Subsidy-**

All families must be registered for a My Gov account and have completed a Childcare Subsidy assessment in order to use this service (regardless of intention to claim a subsidy). This assessment means that families *may* be eligible for Child Care Subsidy (income tested).

This subsidy is sent to the service directly which means that families may be eligible to pay reduced fees. It is important for new families to have their My Gov account set up & linked to Centrelink when their child is about to attend our service. More information can be found at [education.gov.au/childcare](http://education.gov.au/childcare) & [www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/child-care-subsidy](http://www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/child-care-subsidy).

- Please note- families will receive a full fees policy & family handbook upon enrolment.

**Our Program-** is based on play & recreation, is child directed & focuses on the outcomes in 'My Time Our Place' (A framework for school aged care). We offer a variety of daily activities including craft, cooking, science, gardening, group games, sports & life skills. The program is based on the children's needs, interests & suggestions and educators evaluate the program on a continual basis with an aim of continual improvement. Parent participation, feedback & suggestions are always welcome.

**Our Menu-** Breakfast is available every morning from 7.30am to 8.20am. There is a variety of healthy cereals available as well as toast, muffins, raisin bread, fresh fruit and yoghurt. Milk & water is also available.

Afternoon tea is based on the Australian Dietary Guidelines and varies from week to week. Typical menu items include pasta bake, sandwiches, yoghurt & muesli, curry, baked potatoes & rice cakes. A variety of fruits & vegetables is also available every afternoon.

**Our Educators-** Currently, ECFKI has a permanent team of 11 staff and 7 casuals. All permanent staff have senior first aid, safe food handling, child protection & asthma and anaphylaxis management certification. All employees have a current approved working with children check.

### **For Kindergarten Students-**

For the **first six weeks** of Term 1, kindergarten children are picked up from their classrooms. After this time, we gradually teach the children to make their own way to the centre. Upon arrival from school, all children are signed in by an educator and any child who has not arrived is quickly followed up by checking the classroom & calling parents.

### **Other important information-**

- ECFKI is a **separate** service to the school; hence separate enrolment, paperwork & communication is required at the time of enrolment.
- For children with health care needs, additional paperwork (and any required medication) will need to be provided prior to children starting at the centre.
- Due to large numbers, our Kindy/year 1 program often operates from 3 kindergarten classrooms in the school during after school care (Monday to Thursday). Before school care is in the main centre.
- Kindy 2024 families will attend a school orientation in October or November this year. An ECFKI representative will be at the orientation to introduce the service and go through the application process.
- In the school's orientation pack will be an 'expression of interest' form for ECFKI. Once this is completed and returned management will contact families with enrolment information if there is a place available. These forms will only be accepted by email (no photos) **from Monday 13 November** (forms emailed before this date will not be considered).
- All families will know by the end of the 2023 school year (December 15) what sessions they have been allocated and which they may be on the waiting list for.
- Until orientation time there is nothing for new 2024 Kindy parents to complete regarding ECFKI.
- For further service information, visit our website- [www.caringforkids.org.au](http://www.caringforkids.org.au).

***We look forward to meeting you soon!***

