

2025 Kindy Families- General Information Sheet

We would first like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of these lands, the Wangal, Bedigal and Kameygal people of the Eora Nation on which we gather in what is now the suburb of Earlwood NSW. We pay respect to any past, present, and emerging leaders of our local community.

Welcome to Earlwood Caring for Kids Inc. (ECFKI). ECFKI is a not-for-profit organisation managed by a volunteer parent/carer committee and is incorporated. The centre provides before and after school care for children who attend Earlwood Public School. Our purpose is to provide a high-quality service that supports children, their families, and the wider community. We hope to create an inclusive environment where children will thrive in all aspects of their learning and wellbeing.

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

Contact information

Phone: 02 9718 8031 Email: director@caringforkids.org.au

Website: 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). Vacation care is also available through Clemton Park OOSH.

2025 Fees

Membership fee: 1 child- \$45, 2 children- \$50, 3 children- \$55, 4 children- \$60 (paid annually regardless of start date). Membership includes a sun safe hat to keep at the centre.

Before school care (BSC) permanent -\$22.00

Casual- \$24.00

After school care (ASC) permanent -\$27.00

Casual- \$28.00

*A permanent booking is for a minimum of one 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 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 & 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 8.10am. There is a variety of healthy cereals available as well as toast, muffins, raisin bread, fresh fruit and yoghurt. Milk & water are 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 five 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. Throughout your time with us, please note separate communication with this centre must also be completed, e.g. notifying a child's absence.
- For children with health care needs, additional paperwork (and any required medication) will need to be provided prior to children starting at the centre.
- If your child will be attending an extracurricular activity during their time in before/after school care, permission must be completed prior to the child attending.
- Due to large numbers, our Kindy/year 1 after school care program operates from 3 kindergarten classrooms in the school (till 5pm). Before school care is in the main centre.
- Kindy 2025 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 11 November** (forms emailed before this date will not be considered).
- All families will know by the end of the 2024 school year (December 18) what sessions they have been allocated and which they may be on the waiting list for.
- Until orientation time there is nothing for **new** 2025 Kindy parents to complete regarding ECFKI.
- If you have a child who **CURRENTLY** attends our centre, the new sibling will be enrolled at the same time your current child is re-enrolled.
- For further service information, visit our website- www.caringforkids.org.au.

We look forward to meeting you soon!

