

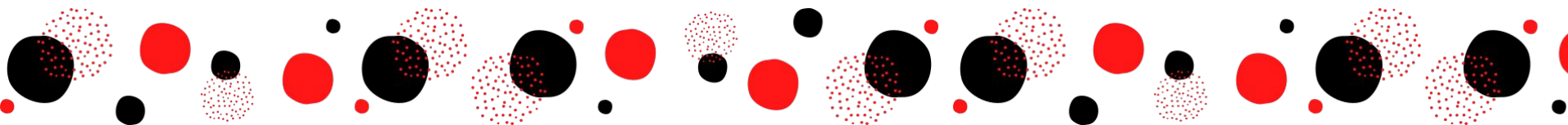


# KINDERGARTEN 2021

## *Virtual Parent Information*

### *Session 5:*

Wednesday, 10th November, 2020





# *Acknowledgement of Country*



We would like to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this land: the Gadigal, Gamelay and Wangal Peoples of the Eora nation. We must always remember that under the concrete and asphalt this land is, was and always will be Aboriginal land.

We would like to pay our respects to the Elders of the past, present and future; for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and hopes of Aboriginal Australia. We acknowledge their living culture and their unique role in the life of the region.

*This Acknowledgement of Country was developed in 2018*

*by our Tempe PS Koori Kids club.*





# *Continuity of Learning*

‘Building on children’s prior and current experiences helps them to feel secure and confident and connected to familiar people, places, events and understandings.’ The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia

Parents and carers, you are your child’s first teacher and children commence school with a variety of skills, experience and knowledge. These experiences shape their language, literacy and numeracy from within their family and community.



# *Skills Children Bring to School*

Children commence school with ways of communicating. They communicate in verbal and non-verbal ways with others for a range of purposes, such as

- engaging with a range of texts and gaining meaning from these. Texts include books and environmental texts, for example road signs.
- expressing ideas and making meaning using a range of media.
- beginning to understand how symbols and patterns systems work
- using information and communication technologies to access information, investigate ideas and represent their thinking



The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia





## *Prior to School Experiences*

In the prior to school environment, parents and carers as well as educators are responsible for the learning, wellbeing and development of the child.

In early childhood settings, children engage in a range of play-based learning that is tailored and centred on learning through exploring their interests.

Educators plan opportunities for intentional teaching and knowledge building and encourage children to explore possibilities and to extend their thinking and learning.

Play is important to the child's development of self awareness and developing their knowledge of how they can interact in their world.

Play is endorsed by the United Nations Charter on the Rights of the Child - "A child has the right to play and be actively involved in their world."



# *The Importance of Play*

Play assists children to become engaged and successful learners. Play encourages curiosity, problem solving, persistence, commitment, cooperation and resilience. Play helps develop language and communication skills. Play helps develop literacy and numeracy skills. For example:

- Home corner - communication, social, fine motor, negotiating and numeracy skills
- Craft activities - fine motor, writing, persistence and sharing skills
- Blocks - cooperative, communication, numeracy and social skills
- Puzzles - problem solving, fine motor, numeracy and social skills



# *Quality Transition to School*



A smooth transition to school is developed by:

- Schools developing connections with each child and their family
- Teachers building a respectful and happy relationship with every child
- Collaboration between preschool and primary school teachers
- An inclusive environment
- Ongoing individualised learning and teaching practice





# *Best Start Kindergarten Assessment*

Best Start Kindergarten Assessment is a literacy and numeracy assessment conducted for all Kindergarten students in the first five weeks of school.

The assessment identifies student's literacy and numeracy skills on entry to Kindergarten. It has been conducted in all NSW public schools since 2010.

The assessment is conducted in line with existing school practices and builds upon teaching and learning programs that support students in the transition to school.







# *Best Start Kindergarten Assessment*

Parents and prior to school service providers lay the foundation for learning that school education will build upon in a more formal setting.

Best Start assists children to move smoothly from informal to formal learning.

It is a time when teachers develop a relationship with each individual student in the classroom.

Best Start is not a test. It is the classroom teacher working with each child on literacy and numeracy tasks to gain a starting point for planning effective teaching and learning activities. The children do not pass or fail and there is no preparation required.



# *What is Best Start?*

Best Start is one component of a NSW Government initiative to increase literacy and numeracy learning support in the early years of schooling. Teachers gather and analyse information as evidence about what children know, can do and understand in Literacy and Numeracy.

Best Start provides important information that supports teachers in meeting children's individual learning needs. It provides families with feedback on what their child can do and how they can best support their child's learning. Best Start assists teachers to monitor children's learning. This is ongoing throughout the child's schooling years.



# *How is Best Start Administered?*


- All Kindergarten children in public schools participate.
- Best Start is administered by the classroom teacher in a classroom environment in the school.
- Children complete most tasks individually with the teacher, though some tasks may take place in small groups.
- Classroom teachers observe and record the child's responses.
- Teachers ask a series of questions to gather information about children's early literacy and numeracy knowledge.
- Teachers record observations and child's responses directly into the Best Start software.



# Example Questions

NSW Department of Education

Best Start: an example of a literacy question




Tell me what happened in the story.

16

NSW

NSW Department of Education

Best Start: An example of a numeracy question



Start counting and I will tell you when to stop.

17

NSW





# *Thank You*

Thank you for viewing our series of slideshows.

Together, we will work to ensure a positive start for all children and their families and carers.

We, at Tempe PS and the community, look forward to working with you and your children.

