



ADVANCED EARLY LEARNING PRESCHOOL PROGRAM 2020



A specialized
School
Readiness
program
to ensure your
child is
'School Ready'

What Does the Term School Readiness Mean?

'School readiness' is a measure of the knowledge, skills and behaviours that enable children to participate and succeed in school.

Parents sometimes think that school readiness means being able to read, write and do basic maths before starting school. But this is not the case! School readiness is about the development of the whole child, their social and emotional skills, physical skills, Language and communication skills and cognitive skills.

Children cannot thrive at school if they have not developed the skills to manage things like getting along with other children, following instructions, and communicating their needs.



Contents

- Our Program 3
- Our Curriculum 4
- Our Learning Contexts 5
- Our teaching staff 6
- Choosing the Right Program for You and Your child 7
- Is my child ready guide 8
- Frequently Asked Questions 9

Our Program

It is our belief that a comprehensive and holistic Preschool Program is an essential part of a child's learning journey and transition to school. Our school readiness program offers a wide range of stimulating and Educational learning experiences to promote the development of fundamental lifelong learning skills.

Choosing the right Education facility is one of the most important decisions to make as a parent, so you want to get it right from the start.

Studies show that children who attend preschool are better equipped to deal with the challenges of primary school. As experts in child development we understand the difficulties children can face when they are not properly equipped with the skills necessary to begin their formal learning journey so we here at Advanced Early Learning have designed our School Readiness Program to ensure that we give each child the very best possible start to their Education.

“Did you know...

At Advanced Early Learning your child will not only receive the same high quality prep school program that is offered in a stand-alone Preschool your child will also have the opportunity for greater developmental growth as we provide our comprehensive, tailored curriculum five days a week for longer hours than regular prep schools.”

The National Early Years Learning Framework is the foundation of our program and guides the curriculum to support smooth transitions from prep school into primary school.

Our aim is to ensure that each child that graduates from the Advanced Early Learning Preschool Program is fully prepared for their next educational step. We are passionate about this responsibility and have created this booklet as a way of sharing precisely what it means to attend the Preschool Program at our centre.

Our **Prep school** program is created by industry professionals in collaboration with our families to meet each child's individual learning needs

We hope this booklet provides you with enough information and context to make the best choice for your child.

Our Curriculum



At the core of our Program is the curriculum. This provides the framework around which all our learning activities are structured. Our Curriculum is delivered by our well trained and highly skilled Educators who adapt their interactions and teaching styles to meet the needs of their students. Below is just some of the learning experiences Advanced Early Learning provide.

Science, Mathematics & Technology

- Measurement, quantity Weight
- Shape formations & dimensions
- Spatial perception
- Understanding patterns
- Number recognition
- Addition and subtraction
- Problem solving &
- Sorting and categorising concepts
- Memory and recall games
- Sequencing
- Complex puzzles
- Number structure
- Science experiments
- critical thinking
- Cause and effect studies
- Exploring primary and secondary colours

Language, Literacy & Communication

- Letter recognition
- Letter structure
- Exploring digital media
- communication technology
- Phonics and sounds
- Storytelling and retelling
- Concepts of Print
- Relationship between text & sound
- Public speaking
- News time
- Explore written text
- Name writing
- Sight words
- Weekly Homework
- Literacy projects
- Reading groups
- Rhyming concepts

PDHPE

Physical development, Health & physical Education

- Personal safety
- Road safety
- Sun safety
- Health and hygiene
- Fitness & sports
- Scissor cutting
- Pencil grip, pressure & control
- Nutrition & Healthy lifestyles

HSE

Human Society and Environment

- Community awareness - Local and wider
- Sustainability concepts
- Environmental studies
- Culture and diversity
- Discover roles within the community
- Community involvement
- History

Extra curricula activities

- Excursion
- Lunchbox week
- Library visits
- Visits to local school
- Incursions
- External programs
- Graduation Ceremony
- Special event Days
- Book week
- Book Fair

Our Learning Context

A variety of different techniques are used by our highly qualified teachers and educators to promote children's developmental outcomes.

Some of these techniques include a **daily schedule** of both structured and spontaneous indoor and outdoor activities, regular adult-and-child and child-and-child interactions in an **informal** and **formal** educational setting and exposure to multiple educational resource

“We use learning areas to create learning hubs where resources can be added or changed according to the children’s interests.”

Educational Leader

Our **research-based** curriculum is developmentally, **culturally**, and **linguistically** relevant for all children and tailored to suit the age and stage of each individual child and delivered by our team of dedicated educators.



Research shows that children are more likely to learn when they are engaged in an activity.

Our Teaching Staff

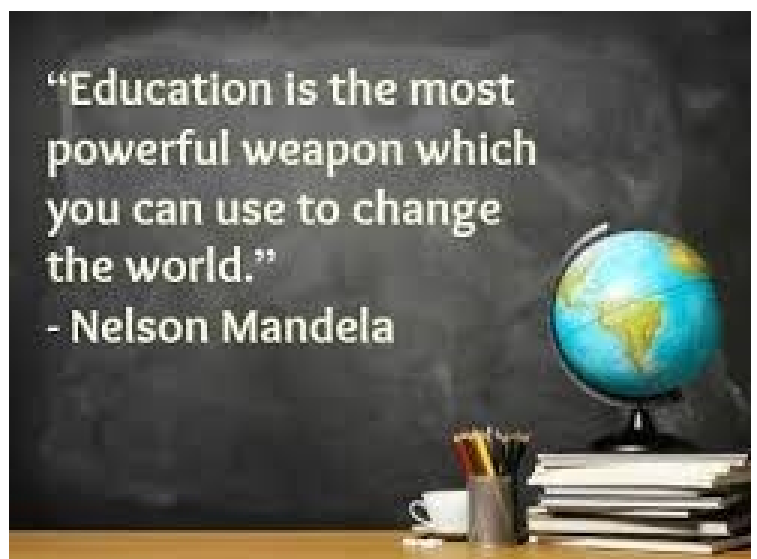
Our team of bachelor qualified teachers and educators are responsible for integrating the requirements of the Early Years Learning Framework into our learning contexts to ensure that your child's learning outcomes are achieved.

Our trained Educators will work to support your child to enhance their self-confidence, build resilience to promote positive attitudes towards learning and strong emotional wellbeing as these attributes not only have a positive impact on a child's schooling but all through their life.

Some of the day to day tasks that they will perform with your child include:

- Fostering independence through routines, transitions, and daily tasks.
- creating a language-rich environment through class discussions, public speaking opportunities and reading and literacy activities.
- practising letter formation, sequencing and name writing.
- Inviting curiosity and cognitive brain function skills with science experiments and investigative research topics.
- Increasing attention span and focus through interactive experiences.
- Build knowledge of ways to keep healthy and safe.
- Promote cognitive skills through challenging puzzles and problem-solving activities
- Develop phonological awareness and an understanding of the connection between written text and their oral sounds.
- Practice pre-writing skills such as pencil grip, control, and pressure.

Our dedicated team of Educators undergo regular professional and teaching development programs to ensure that practices are consistent with industry best practice.



If you are not sure if your child is ready for school, please come and speak to us and we will be able to help you with assessing your child's development and readiness for school.

Choosing the right program for you and your child

We pride ourselves on a Program with a high-quality curriculum taught by a highly trained team of teachers and educators.

Long day care programs and sessional preschools provide similar programs however, it is important to be aware of the key differences to ensure you opt for the environment that best suits your needs.

INCLUSIONS	AEL PRESCHOOL	SESSIONAL PRESCHOOL
Eligible to attend at four years of age	*	*
Curriculum based on the EYLF learning contexts	*	*
Extracurricular activities	*	-
High quality resources and technology	*	-
Nutritious meals provided	*	-
Government supported programs	*	*
Bachelor and diploma qualified teachers	*	*
Flexible start and finish times	*	-
Open 52 weeks per year	*	-
Seamless transition from three to four-year-old room	*	-
Program taught in same centre as younger siblings	*	-
End of year graduation ceremony	*	-
Child Care Benefit & Child Care Rebate available	*	

Is my child ready for big school?

In NSW, your child can start Kindergarten at the beginning of the school year if they turn five on or before 31 July in that year. By law, all children must be enrolled in school by their sixth birthday.

When, your child starts school is an individual decision. You may wish to discuss this with your child's preschool teacher, carer, doctor, or your local primary school.

Children develop at different rates and learn skills in different ways and School readiness is determined by much more than a child's chronological age. To make a successful and happy start to school, children also need to have a firm grasp of language, motor coordination, social and emotional skills.

Going to 'big school' will be a change for your child. In the months leading up to your child's first day at school you can help prepare your child for the changes to come by supporting your child's development of these skills:

Language and communication skills

Schools are very verbal environments and your child will need to be able to follow instructions and understand what teachers are saying, as well as being able to verbally communicate what they know, want, and need to teachers and peers.

Motor co-ordination and skills

With 20+ children in a class, it is unlikely that your child's teacher will be able to provide the one to one help that your child is used to at home. Your child will need well-developed co-ordination skills to dress and undress, unwrap lunch, use a pencil and scissors correctly, and participate confidently in learning activities that require eye hand and motor co-ordination.

Concentration and emotional maturity

At school, your child will need to be able to socialise, follow the rules of a game and play cooperatively with classmates. Your child also needs to be able to deal with the structured nature of a classroom and be able to remain focused on set tasks, follow instructions from teachers and cope with transitions from one activity to another.

Social and Emotional Maturity and Independence

There will be times when your child will have minimum adult supervision at school. This includes going to the toilet by themselves, dressing, and being able to follow a structured classroom routine, assert themselves to remain focused on set tasks Your child will need to be able to manage their emotions deal with challenges like not always being the winner and complying with what a teacher asks of them, even if they do not want to. Your child must have the ability to get along with other children, demonstrate basic manners, share, and turn take, follow rules of a game, and play independently and cooperatively with classmates

it is important that families are aware that without the above-mentioned skills a child will have difficulties meeting academic goals and expectations such as reading and writing.

If you would like a more comprehensive school readiness checklist, please see your child's teacher for a copy of the NSW Government school readiness guide

Frequently asked questions

When can my child participate in the AEL prep school program? Our prep school program is designed for children aged 4-6 years that will be attending kindergarten the following year. Children who are turning 4 on or before July 31st and are transitioning to kindergarten the following year may be eligible to participate. Please speak to one of our Preschool teachers to learn more about our eligibility requirements.

Can my 3-year-old participate in the prep school program? Our prep school program is designed to provide preschool aged children with a highly focused and complex curriculum to ensure they have the tools and knowledge required to start kindergarten. If your child is not developmentally ready for this program it may cause unnecessary frustration for them. We do however offer a pre prep school program which caters for children aged 3-4 years. The children within this age group are provided with similar activities to that of the prep school program it is simply delivered in a way that is more age/stage appropriate. Please speak to one of our Preschool teachers to learn more about our prep school program eligibility requirements.

What does self-regulation skills have to do with my child's learning? A child's ability to learn depends on how well they have mastered the art of self-regulation. Posner and Rothbart (2006) show that there is a sensitive period, when self-regulation can be enhanced, between the ages of three to five. During this time, the area of the brain that supports the development of self-regulation, experiences a major growth spurt. While self-regulation continues to develop into adulthood, having acquired age appropriate self-regulation by the time a child enters formal schooling, will benefit their learning trajectory. Following directions, staying on task, and managing emotions and social situations are the skills that will allow your child to focus on their academic activities.

How will my child benefit from participating in a prep school program? National and international research highlights the importance of quality fulltime early education and smooth transitions to formal schooling to aid children's long-term educational outcomes. Research tells us that children learn best when they actively construct knowledge of their world around them. Therefore, your child will be actively involved in an inquiry-based learning program where teachers and children work together to explore, observe, ask questions, discuss observations, and seek answers about everyday experiences. Daily your child will be developing their physical skills through a perceptual/gross motor program. They will also be building literacy skills through a variety of language activities including language games.

How will the AEL program help my family? Advanced Early Learning have structured our Prep school program to support our families and maximize your child's educational opportunities. Our school readiness program is provided in a high-tech long daycare facility with long day care hours to support family's working arrangements, maintain sibling bonds and emotional support while also providing extended learning opportunities for our preschoolers. The prep school experiences offered at AEL have been designed to build on your child's mathematical knowledge and exposure to literacy and your child will be promoted to make decisions, solve problems, develop thinking skills, collaborate, communicate, and develop a positive sense of self. These factors have also been identified in research as the indicators for success in school learning and as the foundations for success in later learning.

How can I be involved in my child's learning? Building partnerships is a key part of the new early year's curriculum. Making partnerships between families and Educators is a key element to a positive learning environment for young children. Prep teachers will be building on these partnerships and involving families in a variety of ways in the Prep classroom. Families have access to information on our daily learning experiences and are encouraged to use this to scaffold their child's learning at home. Families Can support their child's learning by reading to them at home. Discuss health and safety concepts with your child. Provide opportunities for your child to develop their self-help skills to increase responsibility and independence. Organizing times for your child to socialize with other children to develop positive social interactions.

Frequently asked questions

How will the AEL prep school program help my child learn? Our Educators are trained to work with your child regardless of their age or level of development, They will incorporate topics of interest to your child into their planned intentional teaching activities so that they can build on what they already know and do. Answers are discovered by exploring resources such as books, and the Internet and by talking to special guest visitors e.g. ambulance, scientist, council representative, nurse, etc. Your child will be encouraged to think about what they have learnt and how they can best communicate their findings and understandings. In our prep program, your child will participate in exploratory, intentionally directed Educational learning activities from formal structure worksheets, reading group experiences and public speaking practice to STEAM challenges and games with rules. Teachers will select texts that will build knowledge of reading and writing in the context of real-life texts.

What will my child do at prep school? Your child's days will involve discussions and activities that will equip them with the knowledge and skills required in the next chapter of their learning journey. Your child will discover kindergarten expectations and routines, your child will be encouraged to participate in special learning experiences such as lunch book week and canteen days to support their understanding of lunch practices within a kindergarten environment. Your child will have the opportunity to spend time investigating the local school library and facilities during excursions to our local public school. Your child will practice every day routines that will be expected from a kindergarten child such as lining up, sharing educator attention and tucking in their chairs when they have finished, putting their rubbish in the bin, packing away their belongings and interacting with their peers and Educators.

Is my child ready to start big school next year? Children can start Kindergarten at the beginning of the school year if they turn 5, on or before 31 July that year. By law, all children must be in compulsory schooling by their 6th birthday. Can your child Wait patiently for several minutes for adult attention? Is your child able to complete day to day tasks independently but also confident to ask for help when needed? If you are unsure if your child is ready you can arrange an appointment to speak to one of our qualified Early childhood teachers who can assist you.

How will I know what kindergarten will I send my child to? Most schools have open days for new families to go along and learn more about the school and the programs they offer. During these open days, the schools will provide information on the enrolment process and possible orientation days towards the end of the year to welcome children starting Kindergarten the following year. Many schools also have transition to Kindergarten programs, held over several weeks in the second half of the year. Contact your local school for details.

What is the Learning framework for Australia? The *Early Years Learning Framework* for Australia has five learning outcomes that reflect contemporary theories and research evidence about children's learning. The outcomes are used to guide planning and to assist all children to make progress.

The Learning outcomes are:

1. Children have a strong sense of identity.
2. Children relate to and contribute to their world.
3. Children have a strong sense of wellbeing.
4. Children are confident and involved learners.
5. Children are effective communicators.