

Welcome to the Star Fish Room



Your Educator is: Leah

Monday - Friday

Nursery Philosophy

The Star Fish Room

The nursery aims to provide a nurturing, caring and safe environment for all our children to learn, grow and develop.

The children are provided with stimulating experiences and meaningful activities that cater to their individual needs and further develop their natural curiosity, which allows them to explore the world around them.

At *Pedder Patter* we believe that children **Belong** first to their families and that the families are the most important people in our children's lives. We believe it is essential for staff to foster relationships with families to allow collaboration in guiding children through their development.

We understand that children are individual **Beings**, and while it is important to build and maintain relationships with others, we acknowledge the uniqueness of every child in an atmosphere of respect, allowing them to engage the joys and complexities of life throughout their physical, cognitive and social development.

In acknowledging the philosophy of Belonging, Being and Becoming, we believe that our nursery reflects the process of rapid and significant change that occurs in the early years as your child learns and grows. **Becoming**, to us, emphasizes learning to allow participation fully and actively in society so that every child has the chance to reach their full potential.

General Information

Star Fish Room Educator: Leah

Ratios: The Star Fish Room ratio is one educator to four children, 6 weeks-10 months old.

Relief educators are kept the same to ensure the babies feel comfortable and secure.

Meals

All bottles must be clearly labelled with the child's name.

We ask that families pre-mix their child's formula bottles before arriving at care.

Pedder Patter provides babies with a hot lunch and snacks throughout the day, drinks (milk and water are freely available).

Please inform us of any special dietary requirements, our kitchen will cater for your child's needs. The Nursery is provided with a variety of vegetables every day and a small amount of the main dish. Stewed fruit is also provided for morning and afternoon tea. If you would like your child to have breakfast or dinner, this will have to be provided, including any milk and/or spreads. Breakfast will only be given before 8:30am.

Things families need to supply

If your baby is having bottles, they need to be provided by the families.

It is advisable to pack a few changes of clothes (please label all items of clothing).

Remember a hat for sunny days as we love to go outside and explore.

ALL nappies are **supplied by the centre** unless families stipulate otherwise. (e.g. cloth)

Outside Time

On occasions we do venture outside, so it would be appreciated if parents could please supply a hat/beanie (appropriate to season) and shoes if needed (named).

Sunscreen is supplied, yet if a special type is preferred or for allergy reasons it will need to be supplied by the parents please (labelled)

Medical Instruction sheet

If your child requires medication whilst in care, you will be required to fill out the Medical Authorisation Form (located in the Nursery). Please ensure that the form is filled in correctly, as we are unable to give medication if there is an error (please see the *Medication Policy*). Medications **MUST NOT** be left in the child's bag, please leave them with an educator who will place them in the appropriate area. Medications are to be signed both in and out at either end of the day.

Daily Information

In the nursery, each child has their own book where the educator records information about sleep times, meal times, bottles and play experiences. This book can be taken home at the end of each day.

Programme Planning

The centre follows the Belonging, Being and Becoming Framework which supports a model curriculum decision-making as an ongoing cycle. This involves educators drawing on their professional knowledge, including their in-depth knowledge of each child. Working in partnership with families, educators use the Learning Outcomes to guide their planning for children's learning.

The educator will be off the floor for two hours a week to plan for each child. Programme planning involves both educators and families input to determine children's individual interests, skills and emerging abilities. Informal chats about your child's development and care play an important role in planning.

Educators use parental input and observations of the children to plan a programme of experiences which will best assist the enjoyment and development of each child in care. The programme is displayed in the room for families to view and to make comments. Each child has an individual file (electronic), which contains all observations and planning. Families are welcome to read their child's file.

Communication book

A communication book is located on the room bench for families to leave any important information for the day in, or to just leave a message to the educator.

Transition to next age group

As your child gets older, the educators will start to introduce him/her to the next room. This is done through visits with the educator or a visit by themselves for a few hours at a time, helping your child to get used to their new surroundings. A letter will be given to families to inform you of when your child will start transition visits and when they will move over.