



# Yidarra Catholic Primary School

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## 3 Year Old Pre-Kindergarten Application Information

Acceptance into the 3 Year Old Pre-Kindergarten Programme at Yidarra does not guarantee enrolment into K-Year 6 classes at Yidarra Catholic Primary School.

A separate Application for Enrolment Form must also be submitted for K-Year 6 classes.

### Application Procedure

1. Lodge a 3 Year Old Pre-Kindergarten Application Form together with all the required documentation set out below.
2. An Offer & Acceptance Form will be sent to you if places are available.
3. Return the Offer & Acceptance Form if you wish accept the offer.
4. There is no interview process for the 3 Year Old Pre-Kindergarten Programme.
5. Your child may only begin sessions after they have turned 3 years of age, starting at any time during the relevant term, if places are available.
6. An account & direct debit form will be issued on acceptance of a place.

### Application Requirements

1. Duly completed, signed & dated Application Form.
2. Original Full Birth Certificate (not extract).
3. Current Immunisation Record.
4. Passport, Visa, Permanent Residency or Australian Citizenship must be provided for child **and/or** parent/s born outside Australia.
5. Other relevant information such as health conditions or other needs.
6. Parenting Orders (where relevant).
7. \$50 Application Fee – non-refundable, and payable by correct cash, cheque to Yidarra Catholic Primary School, EFTPOS or Credit Card payment (no surcharge). No American Express Cards can be accepted. Payments can be made over the phone.

### Fees for 3 Year Old Pre-Kindergarten Programme

1. \$75 full day session (subject to change).
2. Fees are payable by direct debit or full amount can be paid up front by cash or EFTPOS.
3. No refunds for missed sessions.
4. No refunds for withdrawal from the programme.
5. No sibling discounted fees.
6. Health Care Card discounts not applicable.
7. An account will be issued on acceptance of a place in the 3 year old programme.

**SESSION OFFERED:** (Session offered in the future may vary)

**Thursday Session  
8.55am – 2.40pm**

### Catholic Education Office of Western Australia Mission

*“Through its service to schools, the Catholic Education Office of WA strives to facilitate the delivery of an authentic and empowering Catholic education aimed at improving learning outcomes and life opportunities for the maximum possible number of children, families and communities across Western Australia”*

*Catholic Education Office of Western Australia  
Strategic Plan 2008 – 2012.*

## **Rationale for three year old education programme**

One of the key drivers of the Catholic Education Office of WA's mission is to improve learning outcomes and optimise life outcomes for Catholic students. The current research in the early years of a child's life shows that what occurs in the early years is vitally important for long term life outcomes. The brain development that occurs in the early years, particularly, the first three years of life is crucial and occurs more rapidly than at any other period. During this time the brain develops a multitude of pathways. The pathways that become permanent in the young child's brain are those that are used or practiced most often.

Positive experiences lead to positive pathways and negative experiences lead to negative pathways, therefore children who have positive early years experiences form strong positive pathways and go on to have improved opportunities later in life. Research shows that those with positive early experiences have increased life opportunities in education, self esteem, social development, health and employment (Shore, 1997). It is therefore essential that as a community we work to ensure the best possible start in life for those important members of our community; the very young.

During this most impressionable and malleable stage of a child's life the family and community should work to support one another to ensure the best possible start for each child. The family is the faith community of the child and the CEOWA acknowledge and support the family as the first educator of the child. Christian parents have a responsibility for the formation of their child's faith from the earliest years. This role of the family can rarely be substituted; (Mandate, 2001 – 2007) however, it can be supported by the community to ensure the child has the best possible start to life. The introduction of three year old **education** programmes in Catholic Education in Western Australia seeks to continue the mention of Jesus Christ as set out in the Mandate letter.

The Catholic Education Office of Western Australia has a long history in providing quality education to the Catholic children of Western Australia, hence is well placed to provide three year old educational programmes to children.

### **What is a three year old educational programme?**

Three year old education programmes are those which operate at a school as part of an education course. A three year old education programme is only available to children who have turned three years of age. It is **not** available to children who have not yet turned three years of age. The programme is provided to the children on a sessional basis. This means children will only attend for some portion of the week. This differs from programmes offered to 3 year olds in child care which are offered for longer periods of time and are bound by the Child Care Act 2006.

A Catholic three year old programme endeavours to provide a learning environment that is concerned with the development of the whole child. This includes all the developmental domains, physical, cognitive, language, social and emotional and spiritual. While this is the basis for all three year old programmes each will differ according to the community it is located within. It is essential that when planning and developing a three year old programme it responds to the needs of the local community. A three year old education programme provides an introduction to schooling for children and their families and sets the foundation for future school learning.

### **Aims of a three year old education programme.**

The aims of the three year old programme are to:

- Promote school readiness in the children, families and school.
- Encourage self help and independence in young children.
- Enhance the development of the whole child across the physical, social and emotional, language, cognitive and spiritual domains.
- Assist children to develop a positive self image and self efficacy.
- Encourage parent participation in the school environment.
- Provide an aesthetically pleasing environment that encourages learning in the young child.
- Create a safe, secure and nurturing physical and human environment.
- To acknowledge, value and celebrate each child's individuality.
- Make available support to parents in relation to the child's development.
- Include flexibility in the programme which allows for individuals needs of each child.
- Provide a developmentally appropriate programme for three year old children.

