

Kindergarten Term 1 Learning Overview

Kindergarten is a fabulous introduction to the world of school!

Kindergarten will embark on an incredible learning journey together, where curiosity is encouraged and every day brings something new to discover. Children will begin to learn many essential skills for working within a classroom environment, and at Granville East, much of this learning happens through play.

We also introduce our students to rules and routines. While these may seem simple to adults, learning how to sit, listen, focus, take turns, and move safely from one place to another can be quite challenging for young learners. There is so much for them to remember!

At GEPS we pride ourselves on dedicating time to teaching about rules, routines and relationships.

We are passionate about developing a classroom culture that is joyous, fun, safe and nurturing for your children. Kindergarten is a place where confidence grows, friendships form, and a lifelong love of learning begins one exciting step at a time.

In the mornings we play so we can learn to...



Make new friends



Work as a team



Share



Take turns



Get to know each other



Enjoy school

In the middle session we develop fine motor skills by...



Scrunching



Gluing



Cutting

We work on our literacy and numeracy skills by...



Reading



Making puppet shows



Acting out stories



Singing nursery rhymes



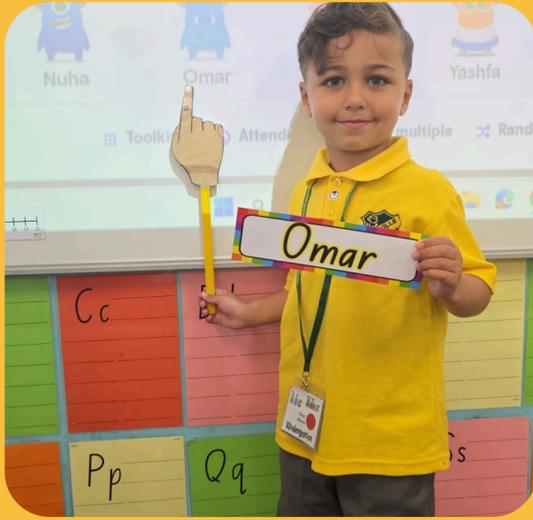
Singing number songs



Counting objects to 10



Recognising letters



Recognising / writing our names



Drawing

We eat our lunch together



Outside



At our tables



Pack away

We play outside with our friends



Aiming



With chalk



Building



Soccer



Throwing



Catching



Nature Play



Playing in the cubby house



Climbing

Moving towards the end of term 1...

As students get used to school and their ability to focus on class work grows, we will slowly reduce some of our indoor play time. This allows us to gently introduce more structured learning experiences.

Children will begin learning the foundations of **reading** through daily small group reading sessions. In groups of 5 to 6 students, children work closely with a teacher to develop positive reading behaviours and early reading skills. Students also take part in **phonics** lessons where they learn letters and their most common sounds, and then apply this knowledge in their writing. Children are encouraged to **draw** their ideas first. Teachers then support students to **talk** and **write** about their drawings, helping them connect their thinking, speaking, and writing.

Students will also participate in daily **maths** lessons, where they practise counting, writing, and matching numbers and dot patterns to 10. Through fun, hands on number games, children develop a strong understanding of number sense.

Throughout the day, students will learn to recognise their own **names** and practise **forming letters** correctly using a variety of fine motor activities that strengthen hand control and pencil grip.

Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...



More information

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:

Please visit the Department of Education's Policy Library AND The Department's Attendance Matters Website

The school leaving age:

Please visit the Department of Education's Wellbeing and Learning website

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on **131 450**. You will not be charged for this service.

Best Start Kindergarten Assessment

Information for parents and carers

Dear parents and carers,

The Best Start Kindergarten Assessment will take place at our school in Term 1.

The Best Start Kindergarten Assessment is a state-wide assessment that helps show teachers the literacy and numeracy skills of each student at the beginning of Kindergarten. This helps teachers to plan lessons to best support the learning needs of every child.

Children come to school with a range of experiences, skills and abilities. Some are familiar with books, can recognise letters of the alphabet or even write their name or count to ten, while others have not yet learned these skills.

The Best Start Kindergarten Assessment provides teachers with the opportunity to sit with a child one on one, focusing on what that child can do.

The assessment is not a test but provides teachers with useful information to help support your child's learning at school. If you wish to withdraw your child from participating in the assessment, please contact the school.

The attached information sheet provides further information on the Best Start Kindergarten Assessment.

Please contact the school if you have any questions regarding the Best Start Kindergarten Assessment.

Telephone Interpreter Service

If you need an interpreter to assist you to contact the school, please call the Telephone Interpreter Service on 131 450 and ask for an interpreter in your language. The interpreter will call the school and will stay on the line to assist with the conversation. You will not be charged for this service.

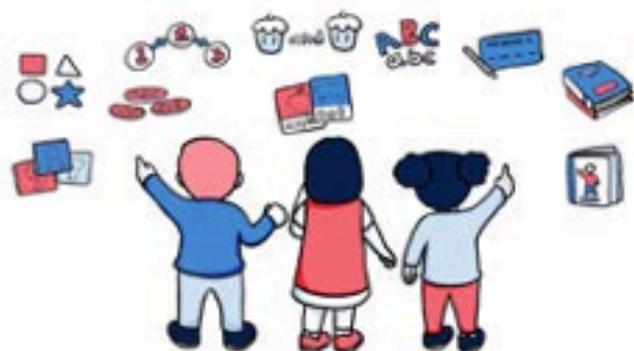
Principal



Best Start Kindergarten Assessment

A guide for parents and carers

The Best Start Kindergarten Assessment is a state-wide assessment that helps teachers identify the English literacy and numeracy skills of each student at the beginning of Kindergarten.



Children start school with a range of early literacy and numeracy skills, knowledge and understandings developed from connecting with the world and people around them. The Best Start Kindergarten Assessment includes a literacy and numeracy component and provides teachers with information on a student's individual strengths and needs.

The assessment supports teachers to develop teaching and learning programs that build on what students know. Teachers sit with each student individually, focusing on what they can do. Your child does not need to prepare or study for the assessment. As children learn at different rates there is no need to be concerned if your child cannot answer all questions.

Shortly after the assessment, teachers will provide you with information about the skills, knowledge and understandings your child demonstrated during the assessment.

The Best Start Kindergarten Assessment is inclusive of all students. If English is not your home language or your child requires adjustments, contact your school for more information on how your child can be supported.

Literacy assessment

The literacy tasks are designed to identify whether students can write their name, recognise sounds, letters and familiar words, and recall details about a short book that has been read to them.

During the literacy assessment the teacher will ask your child questions like:

- 'Listen to these words: map, tap. Can you think of another word that rhymes?'
- (after reading a short book) 'Can you tell me about the story that I just read to you?'

These questions help teachers determine if your child can recognise words that sound the same and recall information from a short book read to them. These are important literacy skills that children will develop over their first year at school.

Numeracy assessment

The numeracy tasks are related to early number concepts and are designed to identify how well a student can count, which numbers they can recognise, whether they can count objects, add or subtract small numbers; and recognise repeating patterns.

During the numeracy assessment the teacher will ask your child questions like:

- 'start counting from one and I'll tell you when to stop'
- 'can you tell me what number this is?' (5)

These questions will help teachers determine if your child can recognise numbers and count from one onwards. These are important numeracy skills that children will develop over their first year at school.

For more information about the Best Start Kindergarten Assessment, contact your child's school. If you require an interpreter, contact the Telephone Interpreter Service on 131 450. They can arrange for an interpreter in your language to assist the conversation with the school. You will not be charged for this service.