



HAVEN
EARLY LEARNING



PARENT INFORMATION BOOKLET

3 & 4 - Year- Old Kindergarten 2025



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Our Kindergarten Programs & Teachers

Both Kindergarten programs here at Haven are seamlessly integrated into a long day care setting (and all inclusions) with children able to access more than 15 hours of quality education.

3 Year Old Kindergarten (Forest Room)

Teacher- Lauren qualified with a Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood Teaching)

4 Year Old Kindergarten (Field Room)

Teacher- Caila qualified with a Bachelor of Education (Honours) in Early Years and Primary.
Full VIT (Victorian Institute of Teaching) Registration

Kindergarten at Haven Early Learning

At Haven Early Learning, our Kindergarten Programs, teachers and curriculums are designed to set foundations for children's learning and development for lifelong success. Our genuine, kind and engaging relationships, alongside our professional teaching teams, are committed to delivering 2 years of the highest quality kindergarten programs.

The 4 values of Haven are:

1. We collaborate as one
2. We value children as leaders
3. We facilitate learning and development
4. We believe in equal opportunities



Eligibility

- ✓ Child turns 4 by April 30th, 2026 (4-Year-old Kinder)
- ✓ Child turns 3 by April 30th, 2026 (3-Year-Old Kinder)

- Please talk to your kinder teacher if children are born between Jan- April to determine what year they will begin school.



2 YEARS OF QUALITY KINDERGARTEN IS BETTER AT HAVEN.

- When children receive the right support in the early years of life around their learning, this lays a strong foundation for all future education and development.
- Both Caila and Lauren work together across the 2 years of Kinder to create content curriculums that support children to be challenged and have their learning continually scaffolded from 3-year-old kinder into 4-year-old kinder.
- Caila and Lauren work together to optimise children's toolboxes of learning including literacy, numeracy, emotional regulation, social and play skills in both programs.
- The collaboration between both kindergarten programs & teachers, promotes children's outcomes in all learning domains (identity, community, wellbeing, learning and communication) with teachers having developed a deep knowledge of all individual children and their learning.
- Overall, having access to 2 years of quality education at Haven create opportunities to scaffold and challenge every child's learning and development, giving them the best start to life.

WHAT DOES RESEARCH & EVIDENCE SAY?

- As evidence states, there is a window of opportunity for teachers to set foundations for children's lifelong learning.
- At the age of three, there is a key window of opportunity for teachers to support children's learning and development, in particular their social and emotional wellbeing.
- "Between the ages of three and five, children experience a critical period in the development of their self-regulation"
- 15 hours of a high-quality kindergarten program per week is the optimal number of hours to have a positive impact on children's learning and development

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au>



Kindergarten fees & funding

- To receive funding in 2026, children will need to attend primary school in 2027 or 2028.
- Children can only attend **one funded** Kindergarten Service
- 'Free Kinder' Offset provided by the Victorian Government = \$2100 funding per child (in a long day care setting) *subject to change
- At Haven, this equals to \$105 off your fees per fortnight (weekly fees apply) between Feb-Nov.
- Families continue to receive CCS and can access up to 5 days of care & education each week

- Funding provides access to 15 hours where your child is taught by a qualified Kindergarten teacher
- Funding goes directly back into the kindergarten programs/ environments including:
 - Updated resources
 - End of year excursion & a variety of incursions
 - Haven Kinder uniform & pack
 - End of year keep sake



Documentation & Communication

Our teacher use an online platform, Storypark
On here teachers document and communicate with families about their child's learning and progression including:

- Termly observations
- End of week in-depth emails/posts based on curriculum content
- Midyear reports
- End of year Report (3's)
- Transition statement (4's)

Kindergarten programs also offer:

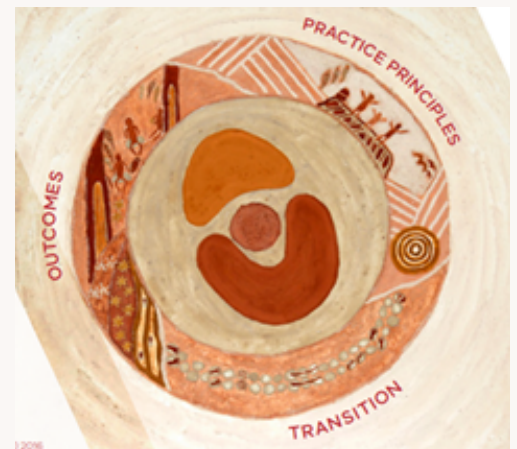
- Parent teacher interviews - as well as availability throughout the year to discuss needs and progress of your child's learning and development
- Individual portfolios of learning (to be taken home at end of year)



Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework (VEYLDF)

Both kindergarten curriculums are supported by the VEYLDF. This document provides teachers with a guide for best practice to support children's learning and development. It has five key learning outcomes:

1. Children have a strong sense of **identity**
2. Children are connected with, and contribute to their world (**community**)
3. Children have a strong sense of **wellbeing**
4. Children are confident and involved **learners**
5. Children are effective **communicators**



National Quality Framework (NQF)

The NQF aims to raise the quality and drive continuous improvement in all early childhood education and care services across Australia.

The National Quality Standard (NQS) set benchmark expectations for all early childhood centres across Australia to meet and exceed.

These standards are:

1. Educational program and practice
2. Children's Health and Safety
3. Physical environment
4. Staffing arrangements
5. Relationships with children
6. Collaborative partnerships with families and communities
7. Governance and Leadership

Services are assessed and rated against these 7 standards by their regulatory authority and given a rating. Here at Haven Early Learning, we have been rated as **Exceeding the National Quality Standards.**

This rating showcases the high quality environments, programs and interactions across all aspects of Haven. This also demonstrates a group of committed educators and teachers who consistently reflect, adapt and implement changes to enhance children's learning and development.

Our Kindergarten Pathway Curriculums

Here at Haven, we invest in providing our families with a point of difference across the 2 years of Kinder. We pride ourselves in providing high quality kindergarten programs, that promote collaboration between the teachers and create curriculums that positively benefit, scaffold and challenge children's learning and development. This ensures a smooth **pathway** and continuation of learning for children attending both our 3 and 4-Year- Old kindergarten program.

Play-based learning combined with intentional teaching drives our kindergarten programs, with Caila and Lauren creating purposeful curriculums that provide children with opportunities to seamlessly explore, question, discover and scaffold their learning age appropriately from the 3 to 4-year-old kinder at Haven.

Curriculums are inclusive of:

- Phonological awareness and articulation
- Emotional regulation and resilience
 - Numeracy and literacy
 - Social skills and collaboration
 - Concentration and attention
- Fine and gross motor development
- Language development (ELLA Program)
- Identity, self-help and independence
- Building on new ideas, concepts, knowledge and skills



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3-Year-Old Kindergarten (Forest room)

36 place room- Kinder offered 4 days per week

Our 3-Year-Old kindergarten room (Forest Room) is run by a qualified teacher and experienced educators who scaffold children's independence, play skills, friendships, emotional regulation and social relationships. Children are constantly learning and forming new understandings of the world. This room incorporates learning through play with moments of intentional teaching, focus topics and structure. Furthermore, Forest Room offers engaging experiences and interactions that expand upon children's interests, goals and development, while supporting their readiness for our to 4-year-old Kindergarten program.



The Forest Room team are creative, adaptable and innovative in the way they promoted sustained thinking & learning opportunities, an indoor/outdoor program, STEM learning and intentional group times. This ensures all children's needs are met throughout the day, while promoting curiosity, problem solving and a sense of agency as they have multiple opportunities for learning across all experiences and routines.



Parent Feedback



“We love Haven, the Forest Room and their three-year-old kindergarten program. L***’s learning journey seamlessly transitions between the kinder program and daycare. But why we love kinder, is that in each session all that interests and puzzles L*** is being taught, holistically, in engaging and creative ways. Kinder is helping her to safely navigate three-year-old challenges - beyond what we imagined. It's been wonderful and unnerving as we watch her grow up. Thank you, Haven”.

4-Year-Old Kindergarten (Field room)

22 place room- Kinder offered 5 days per week



Our 4-year-old funded Kindergarten is run by highly experienced teachers who implement a curriculum that builds children's literacy and numeracy knowledge, social skills, self-regulation and language capabilities.

Our goal in 4 year old Kinder is to ensure children are prepared to enter primary school. This is promoted through scheduled routines, intentional teaching times, individual child goals and promoting learning through play. Across the year children's learning is enhanced through multiple incursions and excursions, including connections with local primary schools promoting school readiness.

The kindergarten program runs similar to a school classroom with the program starting at 9am with it expected children are here by then. This ensures children are getting the most out of our high-quality program.



Parent feedback

"We absolutely love the Haven kindergarten program and all that it offers. After our oldest child completed her kindergarten experience through Haven, we had no doubt in our mind that our youngest would follow in her footsteps.

Upon starting primary school, the foundation teacher made comments about how impressed they were by how much my daughter had already covered in kindergarten. To this day, we believe her strong start at Primary school was because of the skills Haven helped her to develop.

This year, the children in the 4-year-old kindergarten room have had a multitude of extra learning experiences offered to them. Caila and the team have organised so many interesting incursions and opportunities for the children to develop and understand the world in which they live. Every day my child comes home buzzing with excitement about the day she had.

Would we recommend the kindergarten program that Haven offers? Without a doubt!"

