



# MIDDLE POINT

# SCHOOL

Middle Point School  
615 Anzac Parade  
Middle Point NT 0822

Po Box 96  
Humpty Doo NT 0836

Ph: 08 8988 1688  
Mob: 0429 080 668

Email: [middle.pt@ntschoools.net](mailto:middle.pt@ntschoools.net)

<https://www.facebook.com/middlepointschool/>

**Dear Parents,**

Your child has already learnt so much by the age of four and the purpose of preschool is to build on this knowledge using a variety of teaching approaches.

At Middle Point we engage the Principles, Practices and Learning Outcomes of the “**National Early Years Learning Framework**”. The Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) focuses on creating a learning program that builds on children’s interests and abilities. It involves a process of identifying children’s interests, strengths and needs through observations, interactions and communication with families. This information is then used to design the learning environment and to choose appropriate teaching strategies.

**The Early Years Learning Framework describes childhood as a time of belonging, being and becoming.**

- **Belonging** is the basis for living a fulfilling life. Children feel they *belong* because of the relationships they have with their family, community, culture and place.
- **Being** is about living here and now. Childhood is a special time in life and children need time to just ‘be’—time to play, try new things and have fun.
- **Becoming** is about the learning and development that young children experience. Children start to form their sense of identity from an early age, which shapes the type of adult they will become.

**To support the EYLF vision for learning there are 5 learning outcomes:**

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

Our Preschool classroom is set up to encourage imaginative play, manipulative play and experimentation. Play is one of the most valuable learning experiences for young children. It is specifically through play that children are guided to develop new skills and understandings. At Middle Point Preschool, children are allowed to make choices, to make mistakes and are given many opportunities to practice new skills and understandings.

Play is one of the most valuable learning experiences for young children. So it is through play that teachers and parents may guide children to new understandings. The aims of our preschool are:

- To provide a caring, secure environment, which allows learning to take place.
- To help your child build on and develop their social & emotion skills. This will then enable a happy transition into the wider community.
- To further develop your child’s independence, self-confidence and a love of learning.
- To further develop physical skills which is necessary for strong body development.
- To emphasise healthy eating to encourage a happy healthy lifestyle.
- To further develop your child’s intellectual skills.
- To incorporate stories and the learnings about many cultures promoting and encouraging respect for all.

## **STRUCTURE**

Children who turn 4 before June 30 are eligible to commence Preschool at the beginning of the school year. Children turning 4 after June 30 may commence Preschool on or after their 4<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The session times for Preschool are: 8.00 a.m to 2.30 p.m Monday to Wednesday.

It is Important that children arrive at Preschool on time so that they may participate in the daily routines at the start of each session. It is equally important that they be collected promptly at the end of each session.

It is mandatory that you sign your child in and out for each session. If you have someone else picking up your children please inform the Preschool Educator and write in this the Preschool Communication Book,

## **LIBRARY**

Children may borrow a book from the library twice a week. Please provide your child with their own library bag. If a book is lost or damaged beyond repair, then we ask that you either replace the book or pay the cost of its replacement.

## **CONTRIBUTIONS**

At Middle Point Preschool we are very appreciative of the contributions made by parents. Thank you to those who have already contributed. These donations go a long way towards meeting the daily costs of running some of the great programs we provide. If you would like to make a contribution please see the Preschool Educator.

## **PROGRESSION TO MIDDLE POINT PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Middle Point Primary School has one intake into Transition at the beginning of the school year, i.e. January. Children eligible for this intake are those who are already 5 or who will turn 5 by June 30<sup>th</sup>. Children turning 5 after June 30<sup>th</sup> will complete the year in Preschool and enter Transition the following year.



## **PARENT INVOLVEMENT**

As a parent you are most welcome to join your child at Preschool at any time. This gives you an opportunity to observe your child with his/her peers and discuss with the teacher your child's progress. We also love parents and families who are willing to share their culture with us. Whether it be stories, cultural songs, dances, arts, craft, musical instruments and or a family recipe to be incorporated into our Preschool cooking lessons.

We welcome celebrations that are significant to your child and family and we acknowledge these in many ways that are appropriate. We would like these and other celebrations at Preschool to be meaningful and reflect the diversity of cultures. If there is anything that you or your family celebrate throughout the year, or if there are celebrations you would like your child not to be involved in, please let us know so that we can meet the needs of your child and your family.

Families and siblings, are most welcome to spend time in the preschool with their child at any time. Please sign in and out of the visitor's book. If you have a toddler, we ask that you stay with your toddler at all times.

## **YOUR CHILD'S REQUIREMENTS**

1 small bag

1 wide brimmed hat for outside play

1 library bag

1 spare change of clothes as we can get messy!

A small healthy snack, piece of fruit and a sandwich for lunch. These could include cut up vegetables, cheese, crackers or yoghurt.

## **FOOTWEAR AND CLOTHING**

We require all children to wear footwear, however during the session it is sometimes necessary for footwear to be removed. Please help your child to choose shoes he/she can easily put on and take off him/herself.

Preschool activities can be very messy and to ensure the children enjoy themselves, without concern for their clothes, please send them in suitable "working" clothes. Preschool T-shirts are \$35.00.

These can be purchased from the main office. Please place your child's name on all clothing.

## **CHANGES IN DETAILS**

Please keep the staff at Middle Point School informed of any changes to address, home/work/mobile phone numbers, child arrangements, medical information and emergency contact phone number.

## **LOOKING AFTER HEALTH**

Children who are unwell are unable to enjoy and benefit from a preschool session and if they attend, they run the risk of spreading illness. Please keep your child at home if he or she is unwell. Do not let them choose if they are well enough for school. Teach your child to blow their nose and encourage frequent hand washing.

Should your child become unwell during the session, you will be contacted and asked to pick your child up from preschool. Please inform staff if your child has a contagious or infectious disease.

## **INFORMATION ON HYGIENE AND PROCEDURES**

Staff, children and volunteers must adhere to the hand washing procedures at all times. All children are encouraged to wash their hands

- Before and after eating or touching food
- After toileting
- After blowing their nose.
- We encourage parents and students to use the hand sanitiser when signing in to the Preschool

# Middle Point Preschool Philosophy

At Middle Point Preschool, we believe.....

- that all children should feel safe, valued and respected
- in working collaboratively with our children and parents as a community of learners to enable every child to reach their full potential
- in working in close partnership with parents as their child's primary educators
- that play is essential to child development and that children learn best through play
- that each child is a unique individual
- that all children have different learning styles and learn at differing paces
- in providing rich and meaningful play-based experiences that respond to the needs, culture and interests of each child
- that Preschool education should be fun and engaging
- that cultural diversity should be acknowledged and embraced
- that children have agency
- in fostering creativity, curiosity and a love of learning
- that happiness is every child's right
- in further developing the school values of Respect, Resilience and Responsibility
- in providing a child-centred and child-initiated approach to learning

*We look forward to working with you this coming year to make Preschool a safe, secure, and stimulating learning environment for your child to learn.*