

# Welcome to Preschool for 2022

**NEWSLETTER**  
**Feb/March 2022**

## Important Dates.....

- Meet the Committee at Preschool 3<sup>rd</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> March.
- Preschool AGM 10<sup>th</sup> March at 9:25am.
- Term 1 ends Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April.
- School holidays 9<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> April & Anzac Day 25<sup>th</sup> April – Preschool is closed.
- Term 2 begins Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April.

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[www.facebook.com/springwoodpreschool](http://www.facebook.com/springwoodpreschool)



Visit our Website  
for information &  
events

[www.springwoodpreschool.org.au](http://www.springwoodpreschool.org.au)

## Letter from the President....

To All Parents and Families of Springwood Preschool

I warmly invite interested parents to join our Preschool Management Committee. The Management Committee is an essential function to ensure we continue to operate a high quality, Not-for-profit Preschool. A Not-for-profit operation will ensure we can continue to reinvest funds into our Preschool while keeping service fees that parents pay at a minimum.

The committee meets about eight times a year, including the AGM, for around an hour each time. These meetings are important opportunities to discuss Committee business & make important decisions that directly affect the operations of our Preschool. The Preschool committee draws upon our wide network of Parent contacts, knowledge, experiences & opinions to give the best possible outcomes for the Preschool operation. It is not essential for all committee members to be present at every Committee meeting.

As Committee President last year and Secretary and Committee Member for a couple of years previously, it has been an absolute privilege to participate in the Preschool Management Committee. I have personally found my time on the committee to be a rewarding experience, enjoying the friendship and professionalism as well as learning about and discussing the operational considerations that make a real difference in ensuring our Preschool continues operating successfully. This committee is an essential function for the continued existence of our highly regarded community asset and I encourage any parents interested to enquire about joining the committee this year.

Sincerely,

Von Smith  
President - Springwood Preschool

Springwood and District Preschool Kindergarten Inc.

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ABN: 70 745 650 688



Scan the QR codes to find us



## AGM



### Springwood and District Preschool Kindergarten

Annual General Meeting is to be held on  
**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 9:25am,**  
at Springwood Preschool (outdoors),  
9 Macquarie Road, Springwood.

The AGM will be held outdoors to assist us in maintaining  
physical distancing, thank you.

# All are welcome



### Allergy Alert: Please note that Preschool is a **NUT FREE zone.**

This includes all NUTS and nut products such as nutella  
and peanut butter.

We have children diagnosed with allergies to nuts across both rooms so to  
support these children we ask families not to bring nuts, nut products such as  
nutella or peanut butter in your child's lunchbox, *thank you for your assistance.*

**\* No Nuts both rooms, Thank you**

## Attention:

### Do you have a Pension, Concession or Health Care Card for your family?

If you have a current Low Income Concession or Health Care Card and are not receiving subsidised fees at Preschool,  
please come to the office to discuss how we may be able to assist with subsidising your Preschool fees. The card must  
have all of your family members listed on the card to be eligible. If you think you may be eligible for a concession or

Low Income health care card please visit the Centrelink website for information on eligibility;

<http://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/subjects/concession-and-health-care-cards>

<http://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/services/centrelink/low-income-health-care-card>



# MASK UPDATE

Our aim is to make sure, to the best of our ability we protect the safety and well-being of everyone who is in our preschool community. With this in mind we would just like to update you all in regards to masks.

As of this Friday the 25th of February you will no longer be required to wear a mask within the preschool playgrounds. You may still choose to wear a mask, the choice is yours.

For the next week or two we will continue to have children's drop offs & pick-ups in the playground. We will update our families on entering our preschool building in the near future based on changing advice we are receiving from The Department of Education.

Again we would like to thank you all for your patience as we navigate through this.



## COVID-19 safe practices – Please don't bring your children if they are showing even the mildest cold symptoms.

**As per our Health Declaration, the expectation is that:**

- All children must not come to preschool if they are unwell. Even with very mild symptoms.
- Children who are absent due to cold or flu like illness or who develop flu like symptoms are not to return to preschool until they are **completely symptom free**. Where possible please have your child tested for Covid with a RAHT or PCR test.
- If any family member of an enrolled child is currently unwell and waiting on results of a COVID test, PLEASE DO NOT BRING YOUR CHILD TO PRESCHOOL UNTIL YOU HAVE RECEIVED A **negative COVID-19 test result** AND parents must email through a screenshot of the results to preschool before a child returns to preschool.
- Children have not taken any over the counter medication (paracetamol, ibuprofen, cough suppressant) in the last 24 hours.
- **If in doubt please ask an educator or contact the office.**
- **\* Please contact the preschool to advise of ANY illness when you are keeping children home. We cannot act accordingly or report illness to health authorities if families don't let us know what illness their child may be experiencing. An email or phone call is appreciated, thank you.**





## SICK CHILDREN

As we have many first time families to the Preschool environment we would like to remind all families not to bring your child to Preschool if they are sick. A clear indicator is if you need to administer Panadol to your child on the morning that they are to attend Preschool then it is best not to bring them as; 1) Panadol masks bugs and does not fix bugs, 2) the sick germs pass to 20 other children and 4 staff in the room. **PLEASE** be kind to our teachers and children and keep your child at home!!! Children have limited hygiene awareness at this age. Do not be surprised to receive a phone call from us if your child is unwell or has a green nose and is spreading mucus to others.

## Late Pick ups & Late fees

This is a friendly reminder that our **closing time is 4pm.**

**Late fees are applied for late pickups from 4pm and are charged as follows; from 4pm to 4:10pm or any part of that time period is charged at \$20, and a further \$5 for each 5 minute period after 4:10pm will be charged.**



We understand that everyone is busy and there is always a lot going on but **you must** be within the preschool grounds with enough time to collect your child and leave preschool by our closing time of **4pm**. Please arrive no later than 3:55pm. It would be greatly appreciated if you could also remind any other adults who are authorised to pick up your child of these times too.

Should a late fee be incurred, it will be charged to your account. Two staff are required to be paid overtime to stay from 4pm with a child who is picked up late, hence the reason for late fees charged from 4pm.

We don't wish to appear unsympathetic however these times must be enforced for licence and insurance reasons. When children are not collected from the service by 4pm, the Preschool is breaching the conditions of its license. Furthermore, the preschool's public liability insurance only covers accident claims in conjunction with the conditions of our licence, i.e. between the hours as stated above.

Thank you for your co-operation and understanding in this matter.



# Preschool Clothing Prices from 2022

New shirts and hats are in stock including;

Shirts size 2, 4, 6 & Hats in 2 sizes - child or youth.



Sloppy Joe: \$20.50

T-Shirt: \$11.00

Bucket Hat: \$11.50



Let Kellie in the office or an Educator in your child's room know if you wish to purchase items and they can be added to your account and paid with the next invoice.

**ST THOMAS  
AQUINAS**  
Primary Springwood

168 Hawkesbury Road, Springwood T 4 723 3800 [www.staspringwood.catholic.edu.au](http://www.staspringwood.catholic.edu.au)

**OPEN DAYS**

9 March 9:30am-10:30am  
9 March 12:00pm-1:00pm  
10 March 9:30am-10:30am

Enrolling Now for Kindergarten 2023

Scan QR code to register your interest.



# Policies currently under review.....



## Springwood and District Preschool Kindergarten

### Immunisation and Infectious Diseases Policy

#### **Legislation:**

*Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010*  
*Education and Care Services National Regulation 2018*  
*Public Health Amendment Act*  
*Health Act 1958*  
*Information Privacy Act 2000*  
*Health Records Act 2001*

#### **Quality Area 2: Children's Health & Safety**

*Education and Care Services National Regulations: 77; 88; 168*

*Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010: Section 167*

#### **LINKS TO OTHER POLICIES/ DOCUMENTS**

- *Enrolment and Orientation*
- *Infectious Diseases*
- *Incidents, Injury, Trauma and Illness*
- *Cleaning and Maintaining the Environment*
- *Workplace Health and Safety*

#### **Rationale:**

It is important to work towards maintaining the health and wellbeing of the children both at Springwood and District Preschool Kindergarten and in the community. Taking steps to minimise the spread of disease and infection is a responsibility of all. The Public Health (Amendment) Act 1992 requires parents of all children enrolling in child care facilities and preschools from 1994 to provide documented evidence of the child's immunisation status and if not immunised to keep their children away when there are cases of vaccine preventable diseases at the facility.

The NSW Parliament passed a Bill to amend the Public Health Act to strengthen vaccination enrolment requirements in child care (also known as early childhood education and care) to be implemented from 1 January 2018

#### **Aim:**

- To clearly communicate that a child must be immunised or be on a catch up plan to enroll at preschool.
- To implement clear procedures for identifying, notifying and exclusion of children at risk of harm from infectious diseases.
- To ensure the safety and wellbeing of staff.

#### **Procedures:**

##### **Immunisation Details**

- Children are **not** able to enrol at preschool if **unvaccinated** unless they have documentation to state they are on a catch up.
- It is the ongoing responsibility of families to maintain their child's immunisation record. The NSW government requires all Early Childhood services to keep record of every child's immunisation. A photocopy will be taken of this document for the children's file.
- Under the NSW Public Health Act 2017, an immunisation record **must** be provided in order to enrol your child/remain enrolled as follows:
  - An **Immunisation History Statement** showing your child's immunisations are up to date.
  - If your child has a medical contraindication for a specific vaccine(s) or is on a recognised catch-up schedule, an **Immunisation History Statement** with these details noted will still be required.



**Infection Control Procedures:**

- Wear gloves at all times when assisting a child with soiled or wet their clothing,
- Cover any cuts, abrasions, dermatitis or open skin on hands with a water resistant dressing
- Effectively manage bodily fluid spills and accidents. Blood of bodily fluid spills will be isolated with barricades until the educator can remove the spill hygienically. The educator will: avoid direct contact with the spill; use personal protective equipment; contain the spill as far as possible using paper towel, disposing of it in a sealed plastic clinical waste bag; clean the spill using neutral detergent; dry or ventilate the area; notify the work cover authority if there has been exposure to bodily fluids that may present the risk of the transition of blood borne diseases
- Administer first aid to any educator who has blood or bodily fluids splash into their eyes or mouth by irrigating the eyes for 5-10 minutes and/or blow nose and spit out and rinse out the mouth.
- Store and dispose of soiled items appropriately as per toileting policies. Soiled items not belonging to an individual child or family that have been exposed to bodily fluids will be rinsed in water and bagged for home.
- Encourage children to cover their noses and mouths when sneezing or coughing and to wash and dry their hands afterwards. Model this behaviour.
- Use every precaution to minimise the risk of infection within the education and care service environment for themselves, the children and the families.
- Details of the child’s immunisation will be kept on child’s personal file and regularly checked and updated when necessary by reminding parents throughout the year.
- The Department of Health Directive ‘Notification of Infectious Diseases under the Public Health Act 1991’ mandates that notifiable diseases must be reported to the Public Health Unit. The Director must notify the Public Health Unit as soon as they are aware that a child at the preschool has contracted a vaccine preventable disease (confirmed by a medical practitioner) – this includes diphtheria, measles, mumps, pertussis (whooping cough), poliomyelitis, rubella (German measles) and tetanus. The Public Health Unit will investigate and provide advice about steps to take. See Attachment 2 for list of Disease Notification List current January
- The Public Health Unit website will be checked each year when this policy is reviewed to determine currency. [https://www1.health.nsw.gov.au/pds/ActivePDSDocuments/IB2013\\_010.pdf](https://www1.health.nsw.gov.au/pds/ActivePDSDocuments/IB2013_010.pdf)
- If any child at the preschool contracts an infectious disease, a notice will be displayed advising the parents of the illness, the signs, symptoms and incubation period.
- ‘Staying Healthy in Child Care’ fact sheets will be provided to keep families well informed at all times as well as regular newsletter items and information displays (For the prevention and spread of disease please see both the Illness Policy and the Hygiene and Infection Control policy)
- A clearance from a medical practitioner will be required before returning (see Illness and Exclusion policy).
- An Illness Log Book is kept detailing all illness of children at the preschool, not only vaccine preventable diseases to help determine patterns of cross infection and possible sources.  
The Illness log is kept in the office,

Families can obtain an **Immunisation History Statement** at any time by contacting Medicare:

- using your **Medicare online** account through the **myGov website** or **Express Plus Medicare mobile app**
- By telephone on **1800 653 809**

**PUBLIC HEALTH UNIT:**

Penrith Office	PO Box 63, Penrith 2751 Ph: 02 4734 2022 Fax: 02 4734 3300 / 3444	Ph: 02 9845 5555 (Westmead Hospital) - ask for Public Health Officer on call
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*NB: this policy applies to children and adults.*





**MyTime**

*Supporting parents of children with disabilities*

A Parent/Carer support group for parents of children (0-18) with disabilities, delays or chronic illness.

Contact:  
Deb Emelhain  
0491228258

deb.emelhain@connectcfs.org.au



## MyTime Wednesdays 10am-12pm

Returning:  
16th February 2022  
10am-12pm  
Childcare provided

**Where:**  
Bungarribee Centre  
48-50 Oaklands Rd  
Hazelbrook

**Cost: Free**

**connect**  
CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES

CHILDREN'S DEVELOPMENT  
AND DISABILITY SERVICES



**RAISING KIN**  
grandparents relatives  
and kinship carers

Raising Kin is a support group for grandparents, relatives and kinship carers who care for a child who is a relative. This group meets on the first Wednesday of the month during school term.

**TERM 1 2022 DATES:**  
**Wednesdays**  
**FEB 2 MARCH 2 APRIL 6**

**10:00AM-12:00PM**

**VENUE:**  
**FAULCONBRIDGE COMMUNITY HALL**  
**9-9A HOME STREET**  
**FAULCONBRIDGE**

For more information or to RSVP  
please contact  
Jenny on 0450 001 393

*Striving for a community that is vibrant, caring and inclusive*

Springwood Neighbourhood Centre  
www.sncc.org.au  
reception@sncc.org.au  
02 4751 3033  
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