



**Inverloch
Childcare**

Kindergarten Information
booklet

Kindergarten is an important time for young children and this booklet is designed to help you to make an informed decision about which best suits your child and family's needs.

Some of the benefits of choosing Kindergarten at Inverloch Childcare

The teachers have the same qualifications- All teachers running a four year old Kindergarten program are required to have a Bachelor of Early Childhood Education and use the same learning framework which means all children are getting the same education.

As sessional Kindergartens follow the Victorian government term dates you do not have to try and find care during the school holidays which are 11-12 weeks per year.

Convenience of longer hours- Children attending Kindergarten in a long day care program can be dropped off at any time during the centres opening hours of 7am-6pm however we do recommend arriving no later than 9am to have full access to the Kindergarten program.

Convenience for younger siblings- Younger siblings can attend the same centre meaning no need for extra drop offs.

You will still receive your CCS (childcare subsidy) entitlements and therefore it will be no extra to access our Kindergarten program and the additional programs provided such as Beach/Bush Kinder.

As we are a long day care centre we are under strict guidelines and have regular compliance checks to ensure your child's health and safety.

Choosing days- You get to choose what days your child can attend whereas some sessional Kindergartens have set days you must attend.

Group size- Due to the layout of Inverloch Childcare we are able to offer smaller group sizes meaning more one on one time as well as more individual focused learning.

Some of the benefits if your child is already attending Inverloch Childcare

1. They know the educators
2. They already have solid friendships and have been with the same children throughout their time here.
3. You know the educators
4. Meals are still provided you do not need to pack a lunch box
5. Easier transition within the centre

6. Easier for parents who work.
7. Access to beach Kinder and other programs
8. Stability

Our Program

We deliver a forward planned indoor/outdoor program that is based from the children's interests and strengths and is strongly a play based learning program. Our program also involves intentional teaching to support children in reaching individual learning goals. Our program provides opportunities for children to play, explore and discover, use their imagination, build and create, negotiate, solve problems and make decisions for themselves in a fun and natural environment. We support the children in developing social and emotional competence, confidence, independence and literacy and numeracy skills. We endeavour not only to prepare children for school, but for lifelong success.

Our Daily Program

Each day we have an additional activity within our program

Monday- Library Day

Tuesday- Beach/Bush Kinder

Wednesday- PMP (Perceptual Motor Program)

Thursday – Community outing to Opal aged Care

Fridays- Children's choice

Beach Kinder

The Beach / Bush kinder program is based on exposing children to outdoor learning environments under safe & controlled conditions. The program has been designed to be conducted in specific designated areas with the approval of Land Managers & under DET risk assessment requirements. Children are exposed to a range of different learning styles while exploring the natural environment, learning maths & science, improving literacy skills & problem solving all whilst having fun outdoors. The program will be offered one day a week from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. The Rotary Rotunda on The Esplanade Inverloch will be the designated meeting place. Parents will have the option to bring their Child to the designated meeting place at the commencement of the session or to drop their child off at the Centre as normal, where by the child will then be accompanied to the meeting place. On completion of the session Children will be accompanied back to the centre for pick up as normal. A great deal of research has been conducted on the benefits of Bush Kinder, listed below is just a few.

- Develops confidence & resilience.
- Develops independence
- Develops social interaction skills & broadens friendship circles
- Develops a better understanding of "sense of place" & the local environment.
- Removes the pressures of learning in a traditional class room space
- Children are given the freedom to explore & learn to manage risk, in a controlled setting.

TESTIMONIALS

"Making the decision to access kinder through Inverloch Childcare was not taken lightly and we have been thrilled with our decision. Staff are well qualified, compassionate and professional. The advent of Beach/Bush Kinder has been a game changer. Our son has been exposed to new learning opportunities he would otherwise not have had access to. He comes home full of stories and wonder. "How was your day mate?" I ask at the end of each day. "Soooo good!" **Natalie & Alistair**

"From the moment my son started at Inverloch Childcare, right through to the moment he graduated Kinder, both he and myself have been so supported and nurtured by the amazing team. All of the staff are so warm and welcoming and this made it an enjoyable experience for both of us - no more tears on drop off! Over the years, he learnt so much and the staff helped him develop so many skills, both mental and physical. I loved that the staff really encouraged his interests and made an effort to base activities around things that they knew he would enjoy - he would always be bursting to tell me what he seen and done that day! I would highly recommend Inverloch Childcare to anyone who is looking for a childcare service with a difference - the staff genuinely care about the children and I saw this every single day my son attended the service. I am so grateful to the team and know that my son received the very best care during his time there. They did such a great job at preparing him for his next big milestone - starting Primary School and I am pleased to say he is thriving in Grade Prep, thanks to the dedication of the educators at Inverloch Childcare." **Carina & Archer**

"Our family are incredibly grateful for the care and development of our son (and me too) at Inverloch Childcare kindergarten. As a working mum, the longer kinder days allowed me to maintain my work. I could keep up to date through the Family Lounge app to understand the learning outcomes underpinning the games and activities. My son had some attachment issues and the staff at the centre were amazing. They encouraged and fostered children's independence through small things like getting their hats out, however they were always there to help if required. It gave me so much relief to know that not only were they working on it but they truly cared for my son and would support him when he needed it too. This together with the friendships that our son developed at kinder made the transition to school so much easier. He was surrounded by friends, more independent and had an enthusiasm for learning." **Clare & Patrick**

If you would like more information on Beach/Bush Kinder please see Kellie for a copy of our Beach/Bush Kinder handbook

If you have any questions please speak with Aleesha, Angela or Kellie we will be more than happy to help. We will be taking Kindergarten enrolments for 2020 in August 2019. If you are already attending Inverloch Childcare you will get preference in choosing your days.