



Growing Into Kindy

A Parent Guide to Kindergarten
at Uniting Early Learning

Where children are known.
Ready for what's next.



Welcome

Every big journey starts with a small step.

Starting Kindergarten is an exciting milestone for children and families. It's a time when children build confidence, develop friendships, become more independent and strengthen the skills that support a successful transition to school.

At Uniting Early Learning, our Queensland Approved Kindergarten Program provides children with opportunities to learn, play, explore and grow in a community where they are already known and supported.

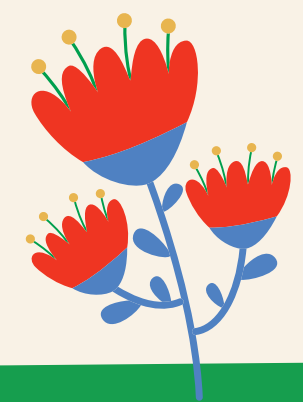


What is kindy?

Kindergarten, often called Kindy, is an educational program for children in the year before they start Prep.

Delivered by qualified Early Childhood Teachers, Kindy helps children develop the skills, confidence and curiosity they need for school and beyond.

At UEL, our programs are guided by the Early Years Learning Framework and the Queensland Kindergarten Learning Guideline (QKLG), supporting children's learning through play, exploration and meaningful relationships.



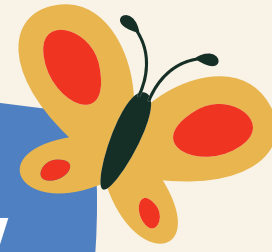


Why Kindy Matters

Kindy is about much more than learning letters and numbers. Children are developing:

- ☀ **Confidence** — Trying new things and becoming independent.
- ☀ **Friendships** — Learning to cooperate, share and work together.
- ☀ **Communication** — Expressing thoughts, feelings and ideas.
- ☀ **Resilience** — Navigating challenges and building problem-solving skills.
- ☀ **Curiosity** — Developing a lifelong love of learning.





Learning through Play

Children learn best when they are actively engaged, curious and interested in the world around them. Our educators create learning experiences that encourage children to:

- Ask questions
- Explore ideas
- Solve problems
- Create and imagine
- Develop independence
- Build confidence



Day in the Life



Every day looks a little different, but children can expect a balance of play, learning, outdoor exploration and social experiences.

A typical day may include:

- Outdoor play
- Small and large group learning
- Literacy and numeracy experiences
- Creative arts
- Investigations and project work
- Story time
- Meal times
- Rest and wellbeing opportunities
- Time with friends





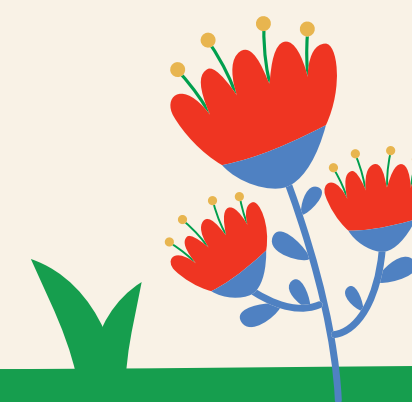
School Readiness

What does school readiness really mean?

School readiness is not about children already knowing everything before they start Prep. These foundations help children navigate new environments, relationships and learning opportunities as they transition to school.

A typical day may include:

- **Confident learners**
- **Independent thinkers**
- **Effective communicators**
- **Curious explorers**
- **Positive contributors to their community.**



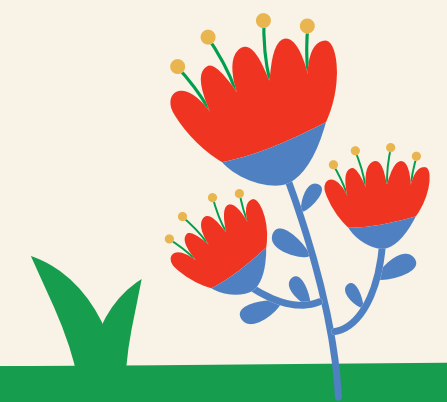


Growing Together



Nursery > Toddler > Junior Kindy > Kindergarten > School

One of the benefits of staying within the UEL community is continuity. Children continue building relationships with familiar educators and friends while developing the confidence to take their next step.



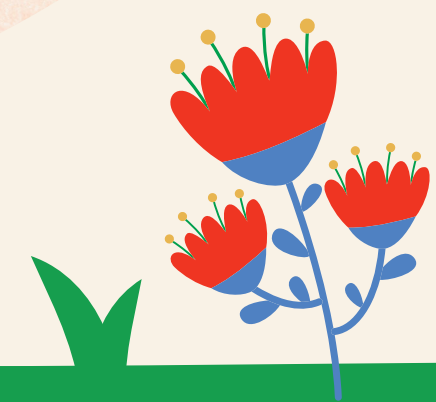
Why Families Choose to Stay at UEL



Many families tell us they value:

- Familiar educators who know their child
- Existing friendships
- Consistent routines
- Strong family relationships
- Sibling connections
- A sense of belonging
- Quality learning experiences

When children feel known, they are often more confident to embrace new opportunities and challenges.



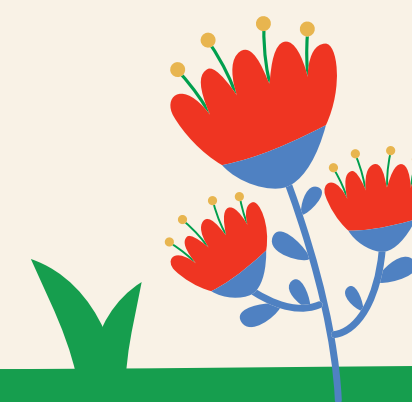


Understanding Free Kindy

Eligible children can access:

- ✓ 15 hours of Free Kindy each week
- ✓ Up to 600 hours each year
- ✓ A Queensland Government Approved Kindergarten Program
- ✓ Delivered by qualified Early Childhood Teachers

Your local Centre Director can help explain how Free Kindy and Child Care Subsidy arrangements may apply to your family.



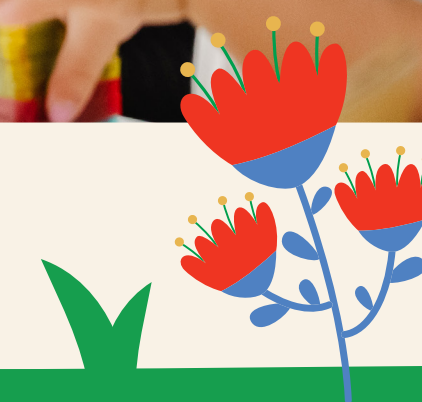
Partnering With Families



Families play an important role in each child's learning journey.

We work closely with families through:

- Storypark
- Family conversations
- Newsletters
- Regular updates
- Shared celebrations of learning



Frequently Asked Questions



What age does my child start Kindy?

Children need to be four years old by 30 June in the year they attend Kindergarten.

Is Kindy different to childcare?

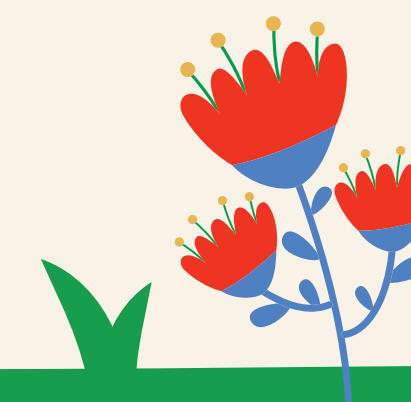
Yes. Kindy is a government-approved educational program specifically designed for children in the year before school.

Will my child be prepared for Prep?

Our Kindy program focuses on building the confidence, skills and learning habits that support a positive transition to school.

What if my child is shy?

Every child develops differently. Our educators work closely with families to support children as they build confidence, relationships and a sense of belonging.



Want more info on Kindy?

Growing Into Kindy

Whether your child is already part of the UEL family or you're exploring options for the year ahead, we'd love to support your next step.

- Chat with our Early Learning Teacher
- Ask your Centre Director about 2027 re-enrolment via Kidsoft

uel.org.au/kindy





We look forward
to inspiring your
child's learning in
Kindy in 2027

