



Chapman Primary School

Perry Drive Chapman ACT 2611
chapmanps.info@ed.act.edu.au
02 61422400
ABN: 48 529 566 431



“Achieving Excellence Together”

Dear 2021 Preschool Families,

We look forward to welcoming you and your child to the first day of Preschool next Monday 1st February at 9:00am for our Spots & Frogs, and Wednesday 3rd February at 12:30pm for our Stripes and Turtles preschool groups. We want to provide you with some important information to support you and your child to have a smooth and positive start as you join our Chapman Primary School community.

Staffing news

During the holidays Amelia Doering the preschool teacher educator for Spots and Stripes has decided to leave Canberra to join her family in a move to the coast for new work opportunities and a ‘sea change’! We are very pleased to have been able to secure two new experienced part time teachers to take Amelia’s preschool groups in 2021. Karen Watson will be the teacher educator for the Spots and Elspeth Windeyer will be the teacher educator for the Stripes. Both teachers are very excited to be joining our preschool team and are looking forward to meeting your children very soon. Unfortunately, Karen Watson will not join us until week 2 so Paola Tulley has agreed to return to welcome and settle the Spots into week 1 of preschool.

Week 1 procedures

Whilst some COVID -19 restrictions have been lifted we have a number of ‘health safety’ procedures that we still need to follow to ensure we comply with social distancing requirements as per ACT Health guidelines. We wish to support you and your children to feel safe and secure on the arrival and pick-up times each day. Please help us by practicing social distancing whilst waiting inside the preschool grounds, use hand sanitiser on entry (and as required) and only have your immediate family member/s enter the grounds at drop and pick-up times. Parents are requested to remain on site for a short time e.g 5-10minutes to comply with COVID requirements (maximum of 15minutes).

Drop off procedures:

- Please enter preschool from the side gate of the preschool closest to Chapman Shops. We will have red balloons on the gate to indicate the entrance. *(Please do not use the gates from the primary site as our Kindergarten families will be in that space)*
- Please support your child to hang up their bag and to place their lunch box and drink bottle on the trolleys outside their preschool classroom.
- There will be learning experiences for your child to play with in both the indoor and outdoor learning spaces. You are welcome to spend 10 – 15 minutes joining your child in that activity to help your child settle in.
- If your child would like to participate in one of the indoor activities, please ensure that no more than 15 adults are in the room at any time.
- If your child becomes upset when you leave, a teaching staff member will help comfort your child and support them to say goodbye. We will have additional staff on hand to support families with this for the first week.

Pick up procedures:

- Please enter via the same gates as the morning and wait outside on the preschool grassed /playground area.
- Your child's preschool teacher will bring the children out to the verandah and will send the children to join you one by one. Teachers will ask you to give a wave as they send your child over to you.
- It is important that you wait until your child's preschool teacher brings the children outside. We ask that you refrain from entering the preschool room at pick up time.
- Once you have picked up your child, we ask that you move outside of the school gates as soon as possible to allow other families to collect their children and reduce crowding.

When it is time for the children to go into their classroom of a morning, a short and reassuring goodbye will encourage independence. It is important to let your child know who will pick them up at the end of the day and to ensure you collect your child on time, especially in the first few weeks as children can get upset if the person picking them up comes late. It can be helpful to talk to your child about there being 'long days' and 'short days' (Wednesdays) at preschool and to remind them in the morning of which day it is.

For the first few weeks of preschool, if your child is distressed in anyway, staff will your child until they are feeling more secure. If your child is ever distressed for a long period after separating from you, and we are unable to support them to settle, rest assured we will always make contact with you.

We look forward to being able to welcome families back into our classrooms and playground areas in the future and appreciate your support while the current health measures are in place.

We look forward to working together for a successful 2021 school year. Please talk to your child's preschool teacher if you have any questions or concerns.

Warm regards,
James Barnett
PRINCIPAL
29th January 2021



