

Dear Families,

I am delighted to write to you about your journey with your child in their Kindergarten year and the learning and adventures that await your child and family in a Lady Gowrie Community Kindergarten.

Community Kindergartens have a long and proven history in offering a safe, caring and engaging environment where children gather together and grow in confidence and unity. Their everyday learning is based on their interests and results in children engaging with one another to further their knowledge and acceptance of who they are, where they are from and where they are going too. Friendships often develop that will last for years, with children travelling similar pathways to schools and universities, to swimming clubs, football, ballet and the inevitable just wanting to be with one another. Kindergarten is a very important step in each individual's child's life and lays the foundation for lifelong learning.

Kindergarten is not only for the children to learn and experiment through play, the whole family also has a role in participating as part of the Kindergarten Community. There are events to be a part of and a Committee that is made up of parents, guardians and members of the Community. This is your place too. There is a role for everyone.

The Kindergarten is reliant on the Community which it resides in. By becoming part of the Kindergarten Community through enrolling you are contributing to the legacy of the Kindergarten that has been established and supported by many families and the Community before you.

You will find the teachers are experienced in providing a program that will create individual learning as well as intentional teaching, working with the Queensland Kindergarten Learning Guideline to promote and encourage a smooth transition into their school year.

Not only has the Community given time and significant efforts into making the kindergarten a wonderful and safe place to learn you will find the Teachers and Staff team have also had a huge and most important part in its development and are dedicated to their beliefs in their Community, teaching and place of work.

Lady Gowrie Qld became a Central Governing Body in 2010 and we are proud to say that there are over 100 Community Kindergartens that have become affiliated with us and therefore excitedly hold the affiliation name of a Lady Gowrie Community Kindergarten.

Gowrie has been in the community for over 78 years. We were started by Lady Zara Gowrie who was the wife of the then Governor General. Lady Gowrie saw clearly that Communities throughout Australia needed a place where families could go with their children to be supported in health, care and education.

The Gowrie continues to be recognised in the broader community and the Government sector as a provider of high quality services for both children and families, acknowledging the contribution to education and care in all our programs.

As a leader for over 78 years in early childhood programs, our advice and services are sought by many stakeholders, with attendance on many forums in both the Government and Early Childhood sectors. Our influence extends beyond our own services, in promoting the importance of high quality educational programs across the sector. We are particularly known for our innovative and flexible practice, integrated service provision, meaningful partnerships with parents and evidence based practice.

Becoming part of your Community Kindergarten has made us proud and we will continue to work as a team to ensure all your family is supported and that your children have a meaningful educational journey and through reciprocal partnership you enjoy their Kindergarten year as much as they do.

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Louise Jackson', written in a cursive style.

Louise Jackson
CEO
Lady Gowrie Qld