



Playhouse
Parent and Childcare Centre

Kindergarten – Perentie
4 years to 5 years
Information Sheet

Our long-standing Kindergarten program at Playhouse is highly reputable and accredited by the Queensland government. We prioritise activities in Perentie that foster learning and development. We take great care with your child, inspiring and encouraging them to learn and think for themselves. We help them become comfortable with a classroom-like environment and include them in decision-making. We also focus on numeracy and early literacy, and we work closely with local schools, including Ironside State School. We want your little one to be in the best possible place to embark on their next big chapter – primary school.

Program Overview

Playhouse Parent & Child Care Centre St Lucia has been proudly operating since 1975. We've always had a pre-school room for 4-5-year-olds, and since 2014, our Kindergarten program has been officially accredited by the Queensland government.

At Playhouse, your child comes first. Activities that foster learning and development are the foundation of our days. We look after your child, offering them inspiration to learn, and including them in classroom decision-making. We also prioritise numeracy and early literacy. We work closely with nearby schools, such as Ironside State School, to help transition your little ones for their next big adventure - school life.

Keeping your child at Playhouse for their Kindergarten year helps with continuity of care. There's no need to juggle enrolments at two centres or orientate into an entirely new environment. Our longer hours take the pressure off at drop-off and pick-up times. We're pleased also to offer OSHC and Vacation Care programs, to support you as your children move on to primary school. There's nothing we love more than continuing these relationships with our special Playhouse families.

Our Team

Our experienced Early Childhood Teacher, Wendy, has a degree in Early Childhood and has taught for more than three decades. Her expertise and passion for teaching shines through in everything she does for the kindergarten children and Playhouse as a whole.

Our Assistant Lead Educator, Hala, has a Diploma in Early Childhood and has worked with Playhouse for four years. Hala works alongside Wendy and has a passion for science within the Early Childhood Curriculum.

Curriculum

Playhouse is fully accredited by Education Queensland, and we use the Queensland Kindergarten Learning Guidelines to guide our Kindergarten program. Our curriculum at Playhouse is primarily play-based, as research indicates this builds deep connections in the brain. Play is as essential to our health as sleep and nutrition as it opens our mind to think in new, innovative ways.

“It takes over **400** repetitions to create a synapse in the brain (true learning) without playful engagement or about **12** repetitions to create a synapse when you use play to teach.” (Stevie Wilson, The Biology of Play)

We foster a love of learning in children and work with them to make plans for each day. Through group and individual experiences, children learn enquiry and investigation skills, as well as how to collaborate with others.

A day in the life of a Playhouse Parent

Your ‘kindergarten day’ begins at 9 am. Each morning starts with us discovering the different languages and cultures in the room and an acknowledgement of country. There are special jobs you can do, like be ‘teacher of the day’ or ‘news reporter of the day’.

Throughout the day, our Kindergarten activities will include:

- Whole group discussions and shared reading sessions
- Public speaking
- Painting
- On-campus incursions
- Science experiments

You will be involved in all kinds of decision-making. When the University of Queensland (UQ) wanted to build a playground, children were invited to submit plans. They also named the rooms of the new centre (all very exciting tasks they loved being involved in).

Transition to school

We support the transition to school in so many ways, encouraging your child toward independence. Our team incorporate activities such as lunchbox days and wearing uniforms to support this transition. We also work closely with local schools. Our educators regularly collect work samples for the learning stories journal and continually assess your child's emerging learning dispositions and skills. At the end of the year, we provide you with a Transition Statement you can choose to share with your child's new primary school.

Facilities

Playhouse is conveniently open all year round, except for public holidays and two weeks over the Christmas period, providing continuity of care for your child and peace of mind for you.

Everything in the room has been placed at child height to encourage self-selection of toys, activities and resources. There are familiar toys and resources and exciting new equipment. Through imaginative, open-ended play, children explore trial and error, and problem-solving. Construction, mathematics and creative thinking all occur organically in a typical day, fostered by our Playhouse educators.

Lizzy - the Kindergarten mascot

The Kindergarten classroom, 'Perenties', has 22 children and two core staff. The children chose Australia's largest lizard as the mascot and room name for the Kindergarten. Lizzy is a much-loved room member. She has visited every Kindergarten child at their home (and had some overseas adventures, too!)

Fees & Inclusions

Perentie
\$102.50
What we provide: Meals (morning, lunch & afternoon tea) Digital photos Daily updates All learning materials State-of-the-art Kindergarten facility