

# Senior Kindergarten



## Parent Information Pack

Sallywaggs Kindergarten & Care **858 7404** – Hand n Hand **858 7405** – Kids Club **858 7405**  
Sprouts In-Home Childcare **0800 777 688** – [www.sallywaggs.co.nz](http://www.sallywaggs.co.nz)

9 Russell Street, Waipukurau, 4200

## **Kia Ora and Welcome to Scallywaggs Senior Kindergarten.**

We extend an open invitation to parents, caregivers, families/whānau to visit us and spend as much time as they wish with their child/children in this stimulating and safe learning environment.

Here are a few tips that will help you settle into our Kindergarten . . .

- Our programme operates between 9.00am and 3.00pm, however, Scallywaggs Kindergarten and Care is open from 7.50am – 5.30pm.
- If your child's booking is before 9.00am and/or after 3.00pm you must sign them in and out on the white sheet in the Main House outside the office door. If your child's booking is between 9.00am and 3.00pm, you need to come straight to the Senior Kindergarten and sign your child in and out on the green sheet.
- We supply morning and afternoon tea. Please supply your child's lunch in a named lunchbox and a water filled drink bottle (children have access to drinking fountains). We encourage healthy eating and children are asked to choose sandwiches or fruit from their lunch boxes first. We are able to heat up food which has been brought in a microwave proof dish. Yoghurts can be put in our fridge (please ensure they are named). We appreciate your support by not sending lollies or chocolates in your child's lunchbox.
- Lunchboxes are stored in the cubby holes in the bag area.
- Please send your child with an adequate amount of named spare clothing and a plastic bag. Exploring with water, sand, clay, paint and messy play means clothing can often become wet or dirty.
- Sometimes we go on spontaneous walks into the community so it is important that your child has shoes to wear, gumboots are recommended for the winter/wetter periods.
- Toileting – we support children by reminding them about using the toilet if needed. Please talk to the teachers if your child needs extra support with toileting. (If your child is in nappies or undies and often has accidents, please supply a container of wet wipes.)
- Your child's bag must be visibly named (on outside). We can provide you with a tag if needed.
- Your child's artwork will be sorted in our art box. Please feel free to check our art box and take your child's precious art home.
- Your child's profile book will be available for you and your family to share any time. Children often like to share their 'special books' with their peers, teachers and family. Please feel free to sit with your child and look at their 'special book' or take it home to share with families however their 'special book' needs to be returned to the Centre to enable us to continue to add examples of your child's learning while with us.
- Please let us know if you are taking your child's profile book home.

- We have an 'open door policy'. Our teaching team welcomes parents, caregivers, families/whānau at any time to chat and share what is important for them and to ask questions or queries if they have any concerns. It is also an opportunity for us to share your child's learning experience at our Kindergarten.
- Our teaching team values your support and knowledge of your child to assist us in our role as teachers, and together we can work in partnership to enhance your child's holistic learning and development.
- Please write any special requirements on the sign-in sheet or let any of the teachers know on the day.
- Please ensure written permission in our medication folder is given for us to give any medicine your child requires while here with us. This is a legal requirement that we must have on our records.
- As a centre we undertake self review on a regular basis to ensure we are meeting the needs of our children, families, the community and any legislative requirements. We encourage parents to be actively involved in this process so your needs are met. We have policies which we review on a monthly basis which are available at anytime through the office and then surveys we will send home with your child.
- Scallywaggs receives funding from the Ministry of Education, details of this spending is displayed on the parent notice board.
- In this pack there is a "Welcome to my World" sheet. Please fill this in and return to our centre as soon as possible. This information helps us to better understand your child as she/he enters into their new Kindergarten.

**We are looking forward to having you and your child/ren in our Kindergarten.**

## **Sallywaggs Kindergarten and Care Mission Statement**

Sallywaggs Kindergarten and Care aims to provide quality care to children within an enriching educational environment. All teachers aim to fulfil each child's individual learning and developmental needs.

## **Sallywaggs Kindergarten and Care Philosophy**

Respect for children comes first and foremost.

As teachers we regard each child as a unique individual.

As a teaching team we work collaboratively for the benefit of our children and aim to meet their diverse personal and educational needs.

We endeavour to form reciprocal relationships with our children's whānau/families. Children and their families are treated in a respectful, anti-bias manner in which their beliefs and culture are respected.

We endeavour to offer a nurturing and stimulating environment, which fosters children's natural curiosity and fosters their self esteem. Their unique individual strengths are supported by teachers who are committed to implementing developmentally and age appropriate experiences and curriculum.

Reviewed January 2008

## **Senior Kindergarten Philosophy**

Our teaching team strongly supports the Sallywaggs Kindergarten & Care Philosophy because it overarches our core values and beliefs.

At the Senior Kindergarten, we provide quality education curriculum with appropriate learning experiences (play) that are: SAFE, FUN, POSITIVE and STIMULATING. We encourage children to EXPLORE their interests and DISCOVER the many possibilities of learning through PROBLEM SOLVING using TRIAL and ERROR in a CARING and SUPPORTIVE environment. We are passionate teachers who are committed to teach children in partnership with parents/whānau with warmth and respect.

Revised February 2009

## Daily Programme

- 9.00am Senior Kindergarten opens and the programme commences  
Children are supported and encouraged to be responsible for putting their lunch boxes and bags away in the correct areas  
  
\*\*Children may engage in learning experiences already set up based on the interests observed or choose from any of the resources available inside or outside
- 10.00am Rolling Morning Tea (provided) – allowing children to finish what they are doing before stopping for morning tea. It is important for teachers to monitor this process to make sure all children are encouraged to have morning tea
- 11.30am Clean up time – children are encouraged to work together and take some responsibility to tidy their Centre environment
- 11.40am Group Time – coming together in a group to share children's current interests and learning in a whole group dynamic
- 12.00noon Lunch Time – Learning appropriate social skills at meal time
- 12.30pm Children engaging in learning experiences of their choice, inside and outside. Teachers support children's play by providing safe and appropriate resources, timely interventions, and engaging in meaningful sustained conversations
- 2.00pm Rolling Afternoon Tea – learning experiences are still available during this time for children that do not want to have afternoon tea
- 2.45pm Group Time – Opportunity for children and teachers to reflect on the day, read book/s of interest or songs/rhymes to end their day at the Senior Kindergarten
- 2.55pm Support children to be responsible for getting their belongings into their bags and getting their shoes on before being collected
- 3.00pm Senior Kindergarten closes.

Children with bookings after 3.00pm move into the Main House.

## Is my child ready for school???

This is a question many parents ask us as their child is approaching school age. Here is a brief list of things your child should be doing by the age of 5 ensuring they are prepared for their school years. Please remember children develop at different rates so talk to one of our teachers if you have concerns or questions about your child's development.

### Self Help Skills

Recognise own clothing (named)  
Dress himself/herself  
Tie shoe laces or do up Velcro shoes  
Be responsible for their belongings  
Put things in their bags  
Access resources and put them away  
Tidy up after themselves  
Use a toilet independently

### Social Skills

Is your child able to:  
Get on with others, co-operate, share, take turns,  
be persistent, work alone, follow instructions  
for example: boundaries, doing as he/she was asked  
or told

### Memory

Is your child remembering what is heard and seen?  
**Can your child ...?**  
Follow simple directions  
Remember simple rhymes  
Remember a simple story that has been told or read

### Visual

Is your child seeing,  
understanding and reacting  
appropriately?

### Auditory

Is your child hearing,  
understanding and reacting  
appropriately?

### Reading Readiness

Children grow towards readiness for reading at different rates which vary widely in their abilities, skills and understanding. A preschool child may not learn all these pre reading skills before five but will learn and understand some of them.

For example

- What a book is?
- Know that a book contains words and pictures
- Know that words are what are read
- Know that a book has a beginning, an end, a back and a front
- Understand that reading is done from left to right, top to bottom
- Understand that a printed word represents one spoken word
- Children need to learn to love and care for books in order to want to read
- Children have enough vocabulary to express what they want to say

## **Motor Development**

### **Small Body Movement (fine motor)**

Use scissors and pencils

Do jigsaw puzzles

Play with and manipulate toys, small interlocking blocks like lego

Play with balls – throw and catch

### **Large Body Movement (gross motor)**

#### **How can you help?**

Allow/encourage your child to...

Climb trees, adventure playground equipment, slides

Walk on a plank, a line drawn on the ground, the curb, walk backwards

Hang upside down on a monkey bar, play equipment, low trees

Skip with a rope

Throw and catch large balls, run and kick balls

Run and change directions

Crawl around objects, through tunnels, under and between objects

Move freely to music and to the beat

Ride three wheeled bikes, scooters

Play lifting and carrying games

## **Language**

Talk to a variety of people, e.g. another child, a family member, a family friend

Say his/her name clearly

Talk in sentences so that he/she is clearly understood

Understand simple concepts such as on, in, under, between

## **Writing Readiness**

Writing experiences allow children to develop their curiosity, imagination, and through enjoyment, their concentration. Talking to children about their writing will help their language to grow also.

Children need opportunities to:

Learn what happens when she/he puts pencil, pen or paint on paper

Learn how to hold a pencil or brush comfortably

Explore scribbling, draw circles and make shapes

Enjoy painting and drawing

Learn about letters and words

Adults are responsible for children's diet as this may affect children's ability to develop and master skills in all areas of development highlighted in this handout.

# "Welcome to my world"

My name is:



My birthday is:



The people in my family are:

The people who are special to me are:



My pets are:



The things I am good at are:

The community activities I belong to are:



What I would like to be when I grow up: