FROM THE HEADMASTER

Dear Parents,

Welcome to The Scots School Bathurst and thank you for your enquiry about The Scots School Pre-Kindergarten Program. We hope this will be the beginning of a long and happy association between your family and The Scots School.

Here at The Scots School we pride ourselves on offering our students a quality education in an inspiring, vibrant and caring environment. Pre-Kindergarten at Scots is step one in an education program that encourages creativity and excellence, while ensuring your child feels valued, respected and safe.

The enclosed package will provide you with an overview of our Program and life at Scots. We are also happy to arrange a meeting with the teachers of the Pre-Kindergarten Program and to offer you a School tour.

Please note that the selection of days is quite flexible, however some days book out quickly. To avoid disappointment we suggest you enrol as early as possible to secure your preferred days.

Thank you again for your enquiry and please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Rebecca Norris on 6331 2766 if you have any questions about our Pre-Kindergarten Program.

Yours sincerely,

David Gates
Headmaster
The Scots School Pre-Kindergarten Program aims to prepare our students for Kindergarten while ensuring they are happy and have many opportunities to develop their confidence and self-esteem.

Our Pre-Kindergarten class offers a more structured environment than a preschool, but less structured than a Kindergarten class. It is not a ‘day care centre’ or a ‘preschool’, and is specifically designed to prepare our students to enter Kindergarten.

Our Program will see your child work on pre-number skills, pre-literacy and pre-writing. Each student will be considered on an individual basis and the program adjusted to suit their level. For example, students ready to embark on foundation level literacy and numeracy will be provided with the opportunity to learn these skills.

**Our Aim**

We aim for our Pre-Kindergarten students to:

- Be happy
- Know that they are cared for
- Build their confidence and self-esteem
- Enjoy coming to School
- Not be so overworked that they do not enjoy coming to School
OUR PROGRAM

A typical day for our Pre-Kindergarten students would include some of the following:

- Art, craft and other fine motor skills
- Physical education and games for gross motor development
- Rhymes, singing, singing games and poetry, generally from a thematic approach and covering all Key Learning Areas
- Music
- Books and stories
- Outside play
- A quiet time for rest, a read or a sleep, depending on the needs of each child
- Free role play

Pre-Kindergarten have many opportunities to be involved in whole school events such as: The Easter Hat Parade, Mothers’ Day and Fathers’ Day celebrations, Cross Country Fun Run, Creative Arts Concert and Book Week celebrations.

The Pre-Kindergarten Mathematics Curriculum covers the areas of Numbers, Patterns, Algebra, Data, Measurements, Space and Geometry.

PRE-KINDERGARTEN AND KINDERGARTEN LINK PROGRAM

This program focuses on Creative and Performing Arts, Science and Information Technology, Sport, Gross Motor Skills, Maths and Literacy games.

REPORTING

A Student Profile will be completed each Semester to provide you with a guide to the level your child has attained. This will generally be in a ‘Can do...’ format and will include a teacher’s comment. These will not be ranked against a standard.

A comprehensive School Readiness Report will also be provided for students who are enrolled for three or more days.

ELIGIBILITY

The Pre-Kindergarten Program is designed for children planning on entering Kindergarten the following year. The School reserves the right to assess children’s readiness for the Program.
Welcome to The Scots School – Bathurst

Here are some things you need to know as you begin your education at Scots...

- Your classroom is called the Pre-Kindergarten Room and is at the side of Cooerwull House.
- The School is open from 8:30am.
- Class starts at 9:00am.
- Pick-up time is from 3:00pm.
- Class finishes for the day at 3:20pm.
- After-school supervision is available on application until 5:00pm.
- Pre-Kindergarten students must be signed in and out each day.
- The sign-in book is on a table at the front of the classroom.
- Only registered people listed on your enrolment form are able to pick up students unless other arrangements have been made with the School.
- Students will need to bring a hand towel, small cushion and Scots broad-brimmed hat.
- Each student will need a painting shirt, which can stay at School.
- Please have all belongings clearly labelled.
- Each student has a special hook to hang their bag on.
- The Scots School is a NUT-FREE School. This includes peanut butter and Nutella. Please check all foods carefully for nuts. This year we ask for your special consideration as we have students in Pre-Kindergarten with severe allergies to the following: EGG, CASHEW NUTS, PEANUTS, PISTACHIO NUTS, PINE NUTS, PECAN NUTS AND MACADAMIA NUTS. Parents, please ensure that your child does not bring any of the above to School.
- Students need to bring morning tea and lunch in a lunch box and a drink in a non-glass drink bottle; a drink of water is also a great idea.
- The Scots School asks that students have at least one piece of fruit for morning tea and hopes that you will try to limit any unhealthy foods.
- Parents, please make sure you inform your child’s teacher if they have any allergies or illnesses.

Most importantly... enjoy going to school at Scots!!!
At The Scots School we believe that:

- Self-esteem is critical in determining a student’s success. When they experience success, self-esteem is elevated.
- Students learn best in an inspiring, vibrant, caring environment that encourages creativity in the learning process and where they feel valued, respected and safe.
- Learning is a partnership between the School and the home.
- Learning should be relevant, meaningful, challenging and fun.
- Students achieve best when there are personally relevant, high expectations.
- Students learn in different ways and at different rates. Differentiating the curriculum is essential for effective learning to take place.
- Teaching is not confined to the classroom; as educators we aim to be role models and active participants in the lives of children.
- Learning is a life-long experience.
At The Scots School we seek to ensure a K – 12 learning continuum which is of the highest standard and supportive of good teaching and learning practices. Our teaching and learning programs are in alignment with Board of Studies Syllabus documents.

Our School provides learning experiences in the Key Learning Areas for each child during the primary schooling years. The six Key Learning Areas align closely with the Key Learning Areas of the secondary school, thereby supporting the transition of students from primary to secondary school and facilitating the continuum of learning.

The use of computers is included in every stage of every Key Learning Area.

There are six Key Learning Areas for K – 6:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science and Technology
- Human Society and Its Environment
- Personal Development, Health and Physical Education
- Creative Arts

The Primary Curriculum is organised into Stages:

**EARLY STAGE 1:** Kindergarten

**STAGE 1:** Year 1 and Year 2

**STAGE 2:** Year 3 and Year 4

**STAGE 3:** Year 5 and Year 6

Most students will be working towards the outcomes for their Stage. Some students will be working towards outcomes that are above or below their Stage, based on individual assessments of their needs and abilities.
Information and Communication Technology

The Scots School scope and sequence of skills for Information and Communication Technology (ICT) provides students with a broad perspective on the nature of technology, how to use and apply a variety of technologies, and the impact of information and communication technologies on themselves and on society.

The ICT curriculum is not intended to stand alone, but rather to be integrated within the broader curriculum and programs.

Facilities include:
- Specialised Computer Laboratory
- Interactive Whiteboards

Curriculum – Key Learning Areas

ENGLISH

English is the Key Learning Area where students develop knowledge, skills and understanding about the English language and literature. English also has a wider role as a means of learning in all Key Learning Areas.

MATHEMATICS

Mathematics involves students in analysing and solving problems in the areas of space, measurement and number. It involves the study of patterns and relationships and provides a means of communication.

CREATIVE ARTS

This Key Learning Area includes the art forms of dance, drama, visual arts and music. Learning in these art forms provide opportunities for students to develop their abilities to make works and appraise their own works and the works of others.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Science and Technology provides opportunities for students to learn about natural and made environments by engaging in scientific and technological activity.
**KEY LEARNING AREAS**

**Curriculum – Key Learning Areas**

**PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

This Key Learning Area helps students develop self-esteem, social responsibility, personal fitness and the ability to make informed decisions about health and lifestyle.

**HUMAN SOCIETY AND ITS ENVIRONMENT**

This area deals with the interactions of people with one another and with the social, cultural and physical environments as they attempt to meet their needs.

**Allocation of Learning Time**

- **English:** 30%
- **Additional Activities:** 15%
- **Creative Arts:** 10%
- **HSIE:** 10%
- **PD/H/PE:** 10%
- **Science & Technology:** 10%
- **Mathematics:** 15%

**Assessment and Reporting**

Assessment is ongoing and includes evaluation of student work samples, observation, standardised and class tests.

NAPLAN tests are conducted in Years 3 and 5.

Our reporting plan is as follows:

- **Term 1:** Parent/Teacher interviews
- **Term 2:** Written report and portfolio
- **Term 3:** Student-led conference
- **Term 4:** Written report and portfolio
At The Scots School we believe that every child has strengths, gifts and talents. Our School programs provide many opportunities to strengthen and develop these abilities. These co-curricular opportunities include:

- Sporting teams
- Debating
- K – 6 Public Speaking
- English, Maths, Science and Research Competitions
- Choir
- Instrumental Groups
- Highland Dancing
- Camps
- Robocup
- Chess Club and competition
- HICES Leadership Day
- Specific student leadership roles within our school

Programs in each Key Learning Area are designed to provide extension opportunities and include the use of open-ended tasks, higher order thinking skills and strategies that develop and cater for different learning styles and levels of intelligence.

The Scots School has the opportunity to participate in other Gifted and Talented programs:

- HICES Gifted and Talented Camp
- Tournament of the Minds
- The Scots School initiative ‘Mighty Minds Muster’ is an exciting, enrichment experience for students across the region.
Facilities for Learning at Scots

- Specialised Computer Laboratory
- Interactive Whiteboards
- Well-equipped Library
- Gymnasium, Tennis Courts, Playing Fields
- School Intranet
- K – 6 Reading Program
- Quality resources to support current curriculum

Support for Learning at Scots

- Learning Programs and Professional Development are designed to meet individual needs
- Small class sizes
- Current research-based resources and innovative teaching strategies
- Individual Education Plans
- Collaboration between teacher, student and parents