

**THE SCOTS SCHOOL ALBURY**

# **PRE-SCHOOL**



Cnr. Young and Borella Rd  
Albury NSW 2640  
PMB 6006 AMDC  
Ph. 02 60 220011  
Fax. 02 60 413210

Email: [preschool@scotsalbury.nsw.edu.au](mailto:preschool@scotsalbury.nsw.edu.au)

## SCOTS PRE-SCHOOL – Let the journey begin!

Scots Pre-School is the first step in the The Scots School Albury experience. Set within The Scots School Albury grounds, the centre provides a quality early childhood program, caring and experienced staff, and unique opportunities in the provision of 'transition to school' experiences.

At Pre-School we provide a safe and secure environment for children to learn in. We believe that children learn effectively through free play although we also aim to provide age and developmentally appropriate structured experiences. The Pre-School programme is developed to meet individual and group needs, while incorporating the interests of each child. It aims to cater for each child's unique and individual rate of development. Staff are trained and experienced in facilitating children's learning, identifying their strengths, aiming to challenge their skills and enhance their level of development. We consistently promote a nurturing atmosphere to equip our children with a strong educational foundation for their future.

Our close ties with the Scots Infants Department encourages familiarity with the school environment, between school and pre-school children and school staff. During the year the centre offers a wide range of experiences to ensure children's smooth transition into school life. These include the children having opportunities to be involved in 'school like' experiences (visits to the Library, Speciality Classrooms, Kindergarten room and playground) and also making use of other school facilities such as the John Edwards Theatre, the Indoor Sports Centre and Alistair Todd Chapel Hall.

These activities are made freely available to all Scots Pre-School children, regardless of their final choice of school.

## PHILOSOPHY AND PROGRAM

### The Early Years Learning Framework:

In 2010 the Australian Government introduced the Early Years Learning Framework with the aim of ensuring that all children receive a quality early childhood education. Staff will use the framework, in consultation with families, to develop a responsive and authentic program for each child.

'The Early Years Learning Framework describes childhood as a time of belonging, being and becoming.

- **Belonging** is the basis for living a fulfilling life. Children feel they belong because of the relationships they have with their family, community, culture and place.
- **Being** is about living here and now. Childhood is a special time in life and children need time to just 'be' – time to play, try new things and have fun.
- **Becoming** is about learning and development that young children experience. Children start to form their sense of identity from an early age, which shapes the type of adult they will become.'

*(From Belonging, Being and Becoming: The Early Learning Framework for Australia – Information for families. Further information is available from [www.deewr.gov.au/earlychildhood](http://www.deewr.gov.au/earlychildhood))*

We consider that everything children experience during their day is an opportunity for valuable learning. This includes everyday routines like morning tea, the physical environment, our materials and equipment. It also includes ensuring children have time to play in meaningful ways, the positive interactions and relationships that occur between children and other children and with educators, and our partnerships and communication with families and the wider community.

## **INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAMME (IB PYP)**

In 2018 The Scots School Albury Junior School become an accredited IB world school, delivering the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (IB PYP). As the IB PYP involves children aged from 3 through to 12 years it includes the Pre-School children.

The IB PYP is an inquiry based, concept driven, programme. Learning is relevant and meaningful and inspires children to engage with local, national and global challenges through inquiry, action and reflection. 'The IB knows that young learners are intelligent, resourceful and creative individuals who grow, develop and learn at different rates. They explore their environment and learn about their world through play and relationships with peers, teachers, family and community members. Early learning in the PYP is a holistic learning experience that integrates socio-emotional, physical and cognitive development. In the PYP classroom, it takes place in dynamic environments that promote play, discovery and exploration.' (*The IB Primary Years Programme in an early years setting - laying a solid foundation for future learning; International Baccalaureate Organization, 2015*).

### **STAFF**

Director / Teacher:

Ms Belinda Cottrell / Mrs Natalee Goodwin

Educators:

Ms Jennie Dewar, Mrs Keira Hood,  
Ms Renee Hudson

### **TIMES AND DAYS OF ATTENDANCE**

**Prior to School (4-6 Year Old) Group:** 8.00am - 4.00pm Monday - Thursday

**Friday (3-4 Year Old) Group:** 8.45am – 12.45pm Friday

*All Scots Pre-School holidays coincide with the term dates of The Scots School Albury*

Group sizes are capped at 20 - 25 children per session. In groups of 20 the Pre-School is staffed by a 4 Year Trained Early Childhood Qualified Teacher and a qualified Educator.

Groups of 25 have a minimum staffing of a 4 Year Trained Early Childhood Qualified Teacher and two qualified Educators.

**Flexible Arrival and Departure Times** – to meet the needs of our family's we have implemented flexible Arrival and Departure times. Children in the Prior to School Group can arrive at the centre between 8.00 and 9.00am and be picked up between 3.00 and 4.00pm. This allows parents and carers flexibility to collect children a little earlier if necessary, encourages families to be involved with the child in the programme and provides opportunity for staff and parents to exchange information.

**Outside of School Hours Care** is available after school until 6.00pm for children involved in Prior to School Groups. This is organised through CAMP AUSTRALIA and takes place in The Scots School Albury Junior Campus.

### **PARENT INTERVIEWS**

Before your child starts Pre-School we invite parents/guardians and children to an interview. At the interview you will meet your teacher and other educators, and your child will have the opportunity to become more familiar with the Pre-School environment. We will provide you with further information about the Pre-School, and are happy to answer your questions, or discuss any concerns you may have. There will also be time during the interview to discuss confidential information and information specific to your child's individual needs.

When you attend the interview you will need to bring the completed Pre-School Enrolment Form (obtained from the Pre-School when the Enrolment Interview is arranged), original Birth Certificate for staff to sight, copy of the Child History Statement from the Australian Immunisation Register stating your child is up to date with their scheduled vaccinations, any Management Plans relating to your child's health (allergies/ asthma / anaphylaxis / etc) and any Court Orders relating to your child.

## FEES 2019

In 2017 the funding model for NSW Pre-Schools changed. The NSW Early Childhood Education and Care Directorate, Department of Education and Communities, has created the 'Start Strong' funding model which targets funding to support eligible children attending 600 hours of quality preschool education in their year before school. Eligible children are children who are 4 years old on or before 31 July of the school year or who are 3 years old on or before 31 July and from a disadvantaged background (i.e. with a low income Health Care Card or from an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Island background).

**Long Day**                      **Daily rate:**                      **\$30.00**

This Long Day fee applies to children who are enrolled for two days of Pre-School per week.

### Friday Group (unfunded)

Because children enrolled in the Friday Group attend Pre-School for 4 hours a week they do not attract any state government funding.

**Hourly rate:**                      **\$10.00** (Friday Group \$40.00)

### PLUS

**Equipment Levy**                      **\$81.00**                      P/A for 2019

## FEE RELIEF

Families who have a Low Income Health Care Card or who are from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) backgrounds are eligible for fee assistance. Staff at the Business Office or Pre-School will need to take a copy of the family Health Care Card to support this application.

**Long day rate:**                      **\$15.00**


This Long Day fee applies to children who are enrolled for two days of Pre-School per week.


**Friday rate**                      **\$20.00**


## PAYMENT OF FEES

Fees are calculated on an annual basis and paid in three instalments (in Terms 1, 2 and 3).

Fees are payable at the Business Office located in the main office at the The Scots School Albury (cnr Wood and Perry Sts) by the due date on the invoice.

 Any difficulties parents may have in regard to fees should be discussed with the Business Manager at the School.

 **One month's notice in writing is to be given if a child is to be withdrawn from the Pre-School.** In default of such notice one month's fees are payable.

 Please Note: Offers for placement at Pre-School will be made in July/August. To accept an offer, a payment of \$100.00 as Fees In Advance is required (this is deducted from the first term's fees). If your circumstances change and your child will not be commencing at the Pre-School you will be required to give notice of intention to withdraw in writing by 15 November, in the year prior to your child commencing, to receive a refund of the Fees in Advance.