

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What are the opening hours of the Kindergarten?

- The Kindergarten is open from 6:30am until 6:00pm Monday to Friday for 50 weeks per year, excluding public holidays. The service will close for 2 weeks during the Christmas and New Year period. The Kindergarten is closed all gazetted public holidays.

2. What model of operation does the Kindergarten have?

- Kindertartens can operate under a 'sessional' or a 'long day care' model. Living Faith Lutheran Kindergarten operates as an Approved Kindergarten Program within a long day care model.
- The Kindergarten receives some State Government Operational Funding to assist with the cost of the Early Childhood Teacher.

3. What does Long Day Care model mean?

- Sessional Kindergarten provides sessional care and education programs for children with specified attendance hours and days per week. Long day care provides part time or full time care and education, often better catering for parents who are working or studying, with minimum attendance hours per week, and minimum attendance weeks per year.
- Families will be able to select the days their children will attend. This means children can attend 2, 3, 4 or 5 days per week. This provides continuity for children and allows development of strong peer relationships.
- A Teacher-directed program will operate for a minimum 40 weeks per year.

4. What is an Approved Kindergarten Program?

An Approved Kindergarten Program is a service that complies with the following:

- Holds a current **Service Approval** (Licence) under the new National Law.
- Holds Public Liability insurance of at least \$10 million.
- Offers a learning program for children who are at least four years of age by 30 June in the year they attend; for a minimum of 15 hours per week, 40 weeks per year.
- Offers a learning program delivered by a four-year trained early childhood education teacher who is approved by the Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA).
- Offers a learning program based on the Queensland Kindergarten Learning Guidelines which is aligned with the principles of the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF).
- Helps prepare children for school.

5. What age group will the Kindergarten take?

- The Service Approval (Licence) for the Kindergarten is for children who are between the ages of 3 and 5 years.
- Priority will be given to children who are age-eligible for Kindergarten; that is, children born between 1 July 2017 and 30 June 2018 for the 2018 class, and children born between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2019, for the 2019 class.

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6. What will the Fees be?

- The fees will \$92 per day in 2018 and will be reviewed in October 2018 for 2019.
- The Australian Government provides families with two types of financial assistance to help cover the cost of approved child care: the Child Care Benefit (CCB) and Child Care Rebate (CCR). CCR covers up to 50% of out-of-pocket costs for eligible families and is not income tested. CCB is based on family income and covers a percentage of out-of-pocket costs as decided through the Department of Human Services:
(<http://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/services/centrelink/child-care-benefit>)
- In July 2018 this will change to CCS, please ensure you update your details on MyGov.
- Families who are eligible will receive an additional Health Care Card Subsidy.

7. How can I apply for a place for my child at the Kindergarten?

- Complete a Kindergarten Waiting List Application Form available from Living Faith Lutheran Primary School office, the Kindergarten office or via the website www.livingfaith.qld.edu.au.
- Submit the Kindergarten Waiting List Application Form together with a copy of your child's birth certificate and the \$22 non-refundable Waiting Fee (applications will not be accepted without copy of a birth certificate).
- Applications can be sent to:
POST
Enrolments
Living Faith Lutheran Kindergarten
PO Box 383
Kallangur QLD 4503
EMAIL
kindy@livingfaith.qld.edu.au

8. What is the enrolment policy for the Kindergarten?

The Kindergarten is required to follow the priority of access guidelines set out by the Federal Government. When filling vacant places, a service must fill them according to the following priorities:

Priority 1: a child at risk of serious abuse or neglect

Priority 2: a child of a single parent who satisfies, or of parents who both satisfy, the work, training or study test.

Priority 3: any other child

Within these main Priority categories, priority should also be given to children in:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families
- Families that include a disabled person
- Families on lower incomes
- Families from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- Socially isolated families
- Single parent families

Alongside the Priority of Access, places will be offered according to the date received and the age of the child. Priority age group will be children who turn 4 by the 30th June in the year they commence at the Kindergarten.

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9. When will we know if our child has a place at the Kindergarten?

- Places will be offered in writing approx. May/June the year before attendance.
- Families will be sent an enrolment package with further information and instructions, when offered.

10. Does this give me priority to the Living Faith Lutheran Primary School?

- Living Faith Lutheran Kindergarten and Living Faith Lutheran Primary School (LFLPS) are governed by different enrolment policies and report to separate government bodies around compliance, enrolment protocols and legislation. Therefore, the process for enrolment is separate.
- Families enrolled in the Kindergarten who would like their children to attend Living Faith Lutheran Primary School are required to adhere to the School's enrolment policies and procedures, independent of the Kindergarten.
- Children attending Living Faith Lutheran Kindergarten **do** gain priority access to Living Faith Primary School upon completing the Primary School's enrolment application.

11. Can my child attend the Outside School Hours Care program at the school?

- No – only children who attend school can attend Living Faith Outside School Hours Care. This facility is open to all schools. Children are required to be of school age, 5 years and older.
- *As the Kindergarten operates as a long day care model, extended hours care is available at the Kindergarten.*

12. How can parents be involved?

Parents will be encouraged to be involved within the Kindergarten in a variety of ways: An Advisory Group will be established each year in order to assist with various activities of the Kindergarten. The ways parents can contribute include, but are not limited to:

- Fundraising
- Organising social events
- Reviewing policies
- Book covering, inventory compliance and equipment maintenance
- Providing feedback and generally supporting the staff

13. Who is the Approved Provider?

The Lutheran Church of Australia Queensland District (LCAQD) is the Approved Provider for the Kindergarten as it is the legal entity for the Church. Congregations, Colleges, Schools and Early Childhood and School Aged Care Services sit under the umbrella of the LCAQD.

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14. What is Queensland Lutheran Early Childhood Services Branch (QLECS):

- QLECS is a Branch of Lutheran Education Queensland (LEQ). QLECS holds the delegated authority of the Approved Provider and acts on behalf of the Approved Provider (LCAQD). The QLECS Branch has oversight of all services within this District.
- QLECS works to promote best practice and quality within each service. Each service also provides opportunity for ministry and mission for the Church – an outreach for the local congregation, College or School.
- QLECS will work in partnership with LFLPS and Kindergarten during the ongoing operation of the Kindergarten. A Children's Services Manager (CSM) is allocated to the Kindergarten to oversee the operation of the Kindergarten and works in partnership with LFLPS Management and the Parent Advisory Group.

15. Who do I call for more information?

For further information contact Kym Garth, Service Leader on t: 3886 5717 or e: kindy@livingfaith.qld.edu.au.