

At Callington Kindergarten, we aim to acknowledge, respect and connect with the natural surrounds where we play, learn and grow together on Peramangk Country. We pay our respects to Peramangk Elders past and present, and respectfully recognise the neighbouring and connected Kaurana, Meru and Ngarrindjeri Countries across this region.



WHAT WE ARE LEARNING

The Language of Curiosity: Children's questions, ideas and wonderings leading the way
This term, we are intentionally noticing and strengthening children's curiosity and agency – the ways children wonder, ask questions, make choices, test ideas, solve problems and influence what happens next in their learning.

TERM 2 – 2026

Dear Families,

Welcome to Term 2 at Callington Kindergarten and Occasional Care. This term is an exciting one as we continue getting to know each child, family and our wider Callington community. As the new Director, I am really valuing the opportunity to listen, notice and learn about what makes Callington Kindergarten special. As you know, we are a small site, and this gives us a wonderful opportunity to know children deeply, work closely with families, and build a learning program that is responsive to children's strengths, ideas and interests. – Ali

QIP GOAL

This year, our Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) focus is strengthening children's agency. This means we are intentionally supporting children to:

- share their ideas
- make choices and decisions
- ask questions
- revisit their thinking
- contribute to what happens next
- see themselves as capable, competent learners

Our goal is not just for children to "join in" with learning, but to increasingly help shape the direction of the learning.

CHILDREN'S INQUIRY

This term we are beginning a shared inquiry with the children:

Who are we in our community, and how can we contribute?

Educators will be listening carefully to children's ideas about Callington, the kindergarten, the school, local places, nature, people who help us, and ways children can contribute to their community.

Children's questions, theories, drawings, maps, conversations and decisions will help shape where this learning goes.

You may notice us talking with children about:

- places that matter to them
- people in our community
- what they notice around Callington and the surrounding area
- how we care for our environment
- how children can help, contribute and belong

EDUCATOR INQUIRY

As educators, we are also inquiring into our own practice. We are asking:

What happens when we offer children more open-ended, natural and unfamiliar materials, and step back to allow children to lead the learning?

This means we are intentionally noticing when we as adults might take over too quickly, solve problems too fast, or direct the learning before children have had time to think, test, negotiate or create their own ideas.

We are aiming to create environments where children have more opportunities to explore, wonder, problem-solve, collaborate and make decisions.

OUR FLOOR BOOK: MAKING LEARNING VISIBLE

This term we will be using our floor book to capture the children's learning journey.

A floor book is more than a scrapbook of what we did. It is a place where we document:

- children's ideas and questions
- conversations and theories
- photos of investigations
- drawings, maps and plans
- decisions children make
- how learning changes over time

The floor book helps children revisit their thinking, add new ideas and see that their voices matter. It also helps educators plan with children, rather than only planning for children.

Families are warmly invited to look through the floor book, add comments, share ideas or tell us about connections you notice from home.

WEDNESDAY WALK AND TALKS WITH ALI

This term I would love to invite families to join me for a Wednesday Walk and Talk at around 9 to 9:30am.

As I continue learning about Callington, I would love families to help show me the places, stories and connections that matter in this community. This might be a short walk around the kindy, school grounds, nearby spaces, or simply a conversation at drop-off or pick-up.

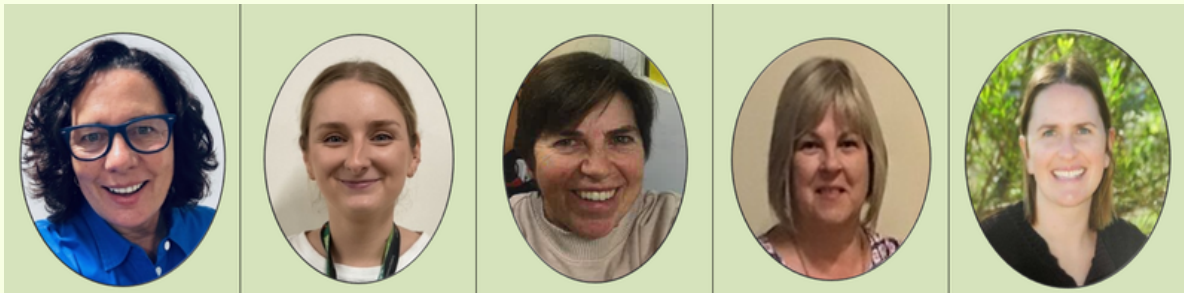
You might like to share:

- places your child talks about
- local people or groups we could connect with
- community stories
- ideas for children's learning
- what you value about Callington

These conversations will help shape our children's inquiry and strengthen our connection between kindergarten, families and community.

OUR TERM 2 TEAM

We are very pleased to welcome and introduce our Term 2 team.



Ali: Director - Jasmine: Teacher/Educator - Mandy: Early Childhood Worker/Occasional Care - Mary: Early Childhood Worker - Ashlyn: Early Childhood Worker. We are fortunate that all staff have a bachelor's degree or higher, which is an amazing strength for our small site. Mary and Ashlyn are new to the site along with Ali, and we are looking forward to families getting to know them across the term. Many of you already know Jasmine and Mandy. Together, we are working to create a calm, welcoming and responsive learning environment where children feel safe, known and ready to learn.

COULD EARLY CHILDHOOD BE FOR YOU?

We know there are many skilled, caring and capable people in our community.

Have you ever thought about working with young children?

Early childhood education is meaningful, relationship-rich work, and there are study pathways available for people interested in becoming an Early Childhood Worker.

A common starting point is the CHC30121 Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care. Families can check recognised qualifications through ACECQA and search South Australian training options through Skills SA - My Training.

Some study options may be online, mixed delivery or face-to-face. Mount Barker may be one of the closest face-to-face training locations, but families should check current availability directly with training providers.

Please speak with Ali or one of the team if you are curious - even if you are only beginning to wonder whether early childhood might be for you.

THINGS TO KNOW FOR A SUCCESSFUL TERM

LOCKERS INSIDE:

To support our approach in strengthening your child's agency we have made some changes to the environment. The lockers are now inside. This will provide better access for children to manage their belongings, lunch boxes, water etc. They will still use the routine of separating their fruit or vegetable snack option at the beginning of the day.

CHILDREN'S LEARNING CAN BE MESSY:

This term children may be exploring natural materials, loose parts, outdoor learning, mud, water, drawing, construction and investigation. Comfortable clothes that can get dirty are very helpful.

SPARE CLOTHES:

Please pack spare clothes, including socks and underwear, even if your child does not usually need them. As mentioned before, mud, water, paint and outdoor play are all part of rich learning.

NAMED BELONGINGS:

Please name all your child's belongings such as jumpers, lunch containers, drink bottles and bags.

ARRIVAL AND COLLECTION:

Please sign your child in and out each day. This is important for safety.

FOOD AND DRINK:

Please continue to pack a healthy lunch, fruit/snack and a water bottle each kindy day.

GOVERNING COUNCIL:

These meetings will continue to be via email. As we are a small kindy we need all of you to be part of the council so that we have a quorum. In the term planner you will see when the meetings are, meaning that an email will be sent out that day with meeting actions to be followed up. Governing Council also supports decision-making about finances and helps inform the needs of the site. Thank you for your ongoing support with this.

FORMS TO FILL OUT

LOCAL WALKS

We plan on getting out and about in the community more. With the children we plan to go on nature walks to the community oval, the garden path behind the community hall, the local store, the school... and who knows?

Upon enrolment you may have given permission for your child to participate in local walks. These forms have been updated and require your permission again.

Prior to any local walk, there will be a risk assessment

and staff will follow correct procedures to ensure your child's safety is paramount.

Please keep an eye out for this updated form.

FAMILY SURVEY

Term 2 is the final term of kindy for some of the children. To support meeting your child's learning needs and the site improvement priorities, we have made a family form that seeks your input about your child's goals and your priorities.

Family input strengthens our understanding of your child and supports us in working together to support your child's development.

Please keep an eye out for this updated form.

FEES and CONTACT DETAILS

Kindergarten fees are \$85 per term. Department for Education Head Office will email invoices on the site's behalf. Occasional Care fees are either \$50 or \$15 per term depending on health care card level.

Payments can be made by cash in a named envelope or by direct deposit. Please use your child's surname as the reference.

Callington Kindergarten

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Callington Kindergarten and Occasional Care Term Planner for Term 2 2026

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday <i>Walk and Talk with Ali</i>	Thursday	Friday
		Educators: Ali & Mary	Educators: Jasmine & Mandy	Occ Care Educators: Mandy & Ali	
Week 1	27 April	28	29	30	1 May
		Kindy 8.30am-3.15pm	Kindy 8.30am-3.15pm GOVERNING COUNCIL FOCUS: Philosophy and QIP	Occasional Care 9.00am – 12.00pm	
Week 2	4 th May	5	6	7	8
		Kindy 8.30am-3.15pm	Kindy 8.30am-3.15pm	Kindy 8:30 – 1:30 Educators: Jasmine & Ashlyn Occasional Care 9.00am – 12.00pm	Mother's Day 10 th May
Week 3	11 th May	12	13	14	15
		Kindy 8.30am-3.15pm	Kindy 8.30am-3.15pm	Occasional Care 9.00am – 12.00pm	International Day of Families
Week 4	18 th May	19	20	21	
		PUPIL FREE DAY (TBC) PD day with Catharine Hydon – Early Years consultant (Ali, Jasmine, Mary, Mandy TBC, Ashlyn TBC) No kindy	Kindy 8.30am-3.15pm	Occasional Care 9.00am – 12.00pm	
Week 5 National Reconciliation Wk	25 th May	26	27	28	29
		Kindy 8.30am-3.15pm Mobile Junk Incursion	Kindy 8.30am-3.15pm GOVERNING COUNCIL Focus: Policy and Risk assessment check	FARMER DARCY VISIT Kindy 8.30am – 1.30pm Occasional Care 9.00am – 12.00pm	
Week 6	1 June	2	3	4	5
		Kindy 8.30am-3.15pm	Kindy 8.30am-3.15pm	Occasional Care 9.00am – 12.00pm	World Environment Day
Week 7	8 th June PUBLIC HOLIDAY King's Birthday	9	10	11	12
		Kindy 8.30am-3.15pm	Kindy 8.30am-3.15pm	Occasional Care 9.00am – 12.00pm	
Week 8	15 th June	16	17	18	19
		Kindy 8.30am-3.15pm	Kindy 8.30am-3.15pm KINDY PHOTOS	Kindy 8.30am – 1.30pm Occasional Care 9.00am – 12.00pm	
Week 9	22 nd June	23	24	25	26
		Kindy 8.30am-3.15pm Mid-Year finishers Statement of Learning sent home	Kindy 8.30am-3.15pm GOVERNING COUNCIL FOCUS: Budget check	Occasional Care 9.00am – 12.00pm	
	29 th June	30	1 July	2	3
Week 10		Kindy 8.30am-3.15pm	Kindy 8.30am-3.15pm Mid-Year finishers last kindy day - celebration	Occasional Care 9.00am – 12.00pm LAST DAY OF TERM 2	