

PREP

at

Cloyna State School



Early Childhood Philosophy Statement

We believe every child is unique in terms of life experience, developmental readiness, and cultural heritage. Partnership between family and school is, therefore, essential to the optimal growth and development of young children.

Our aim is to provide a safe, nurturing, stimulating environment that accommodates and embraces differences. Our goal is to promote the physical, social, emotional, and cognitive development of each child.

We believe in the integration of learning and play, as children learn best by doing. We strive for a balance between teacher-directed and child-initiated activities, providing the foundation of a developmentally appropriate early childhood program. Given opportunities to explore the world around them, young children become active, involved learners. School becomes a place where they can be successful and children discover that learning is fun.

We believe, with this foundation, children become curious, well rounded learners, able to make independent choices and act responsibly.

Goals of the Prep Program

The program is designed to help each child gain skills and attitudes, which will assist their development as a lifelong learner.

Each child will have the opportunity to develop by engaging in activities through play, real-life situations, investigations, routines and transitions and focused learning and teaching in a comfortable, safe, inclusive and flexible environment.

The activities presented come from the child's interests and past experiences, through participation they develop:

- *Self confidence*
- *Literacy and numeracy skills*
- *Friendships*
- *Co-operation and interactions skills*
- *Independence*
- *Responsibility*
- *Communication skills*
- *Thinking processes*
- *Gross and fine motor skills*
- *Health and safety awareness*
- *Cultural understandings*
- *Understanding of natural, built and technological environment*

An effective curriculum values each child's uniqueness. Understanding children and building partnership with parents and the community, optimises learning in the Preparatory setting.

Introducing your child to Prep School

Cloyna Prep is an integral part of our school

Postal Address: Cloyna State School
8 William Webber Road
Cloyna Qld 4605

Telephone: 4168 6257

Start time: 8:45 – 3:00

Days: Monday – Friday

Parade: Monday 2:45 p.m.

Attendance and Pick-up

Children will not be allowed in classrooms prior to class start time. Children should not be dropped off before 8:30 a.m. If children are dropped off prior to 8:15 they will need to go to the Library.

Please be punctual at all times, as your child may miss some important learning at the beginning of the day.



If for some unforeseen reason parents cannot collect their child on time please notify us as soon as possible.

What to wear

Your child is to wear the complete school uniform except for the hats (which will remain at School).



Parent teacher communication

Please feel free to arrange a meeting at a mutually convenient time to discuss your child's development and progress. Often teachers are busy in the morning, however afternoon are usually more convenient. Always make an appointment so the teachers can prepared for the interview. If there is something, you are unsure of with our program, which affects your child, please ask and we will happily explain it to you.

Swimming

As many children will be experiences water safety for the first time there is a need for 75% of parents to attend so the children are able to participate safely. If we are not able to get enough parents to attend, students will not be offered swimming.



Buses

Your child may catch the bus. After school a teacher aide will supervise the Preps to the bus.

Spelling Program

This will focus on the alphabet in semester one and throughout semester two writing, recognising and copying short words.

Sickness

Always notify the school if your child is sick. It is recommended that your keep them at home if you are in doubt as to whether to send them. Children should be allowed time to rest and recuperate from illnesses. If a child has fallen sick at Prep then you will be rung during the day and will be asked to come and collect them. Infectious complaints require that you keep the child at



home, so that other children are not exposed to the disease. Such diseases include: measles, mumps, and conjunctivitis.

Lunch Breaks

Each child needs to bring enough for first meal (11 a.m.) and second break (1:30 p.m.) Preps will have a healthy food break – children will only be allowed to have a healthy snack at 10:a.m.. Please include a bottle of water in lunch boxes. Monitor and adjust your child's lunches as needed.

Homework

In the Prep Year, generally students will read a book and revise sight words.



Play and what your child can learn through it.

When you visit the Prep classrooms you will see a room full of children playing. Like most parents you're probably wonder what your child is learning.

When children build with **blocks** they are experimenting with the beginning of mathematics. They learn to use their imagination, to co-operate and play with others. They gain satisfaction from the completed task.

When children play in the **home corner**, they learn a method of self-expression and how to deal with everyday situations as they see them. This gives the children opportunities to take control of situations.



When children play with **puzzles** they develop shape and colour discrimination, fine motor skills, concentration span and eye hand co-ordination.

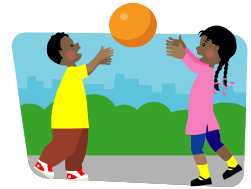


When children play with **scissors, glue and craft materials** they experience texture, make choices, develop creative skills plan

and carry out a task. Such skills they will use for the rest of their lives.

When children play with *paint*, they express their ideas, thoughts and feelings; they develop fine motor skills.

When children play *outside* they use their bodies in challenging tasks and improve their co-ordination skills.



When children play with *pens, pencils, and crayons* they are using symbols to communicate, using fine motor skills, and controlling movement. These skills are essential for writing.

When children engage in both *inside and outside activities*, they improve concentration, develop speech and confidence, co-operate with others and learn to express their originality.

In conclusion

Our main aim is to provide a happy and stimulating educational environment in which children can achieve success and enjoy recognition for their individual achievements. We encourage the children to take responsibility for themselves so that they develop ownership of their own behaviour and actions. It is important to encourage the children to develop as individuals while respecting the rights of every child to be a unique person while learning to live within their environment.

