



MLC
kindle

MLC Kindle

6 weeks – 5 years

Welcome

At MLC Kindle, we celebrate and embrace the natural wonder of children's curious minds and endeavour to cultivate a life-long interest in learning.

Through our early learning experiences, children at MLC Kindle receive a comprehensive education, as well as a breadth of opportunities to develop as an individual and grow in confidence. We embrace diversity and are committed to empowering every child to reach their potential.

With a strong sense of community, we highly value the relationship between our students' families and our educators, understanding that collaborative partnerships are crucial for a child's early learning. Our goal is to work hand in hand with you, forming strong partnerships to ensure children feel happy and confident in their journey of development.

We look forward to welcoming your family to the MLC Kindle community, where your child's growth and development will be cherished and supported.

Kristen Myers-Tapim
Director of MLC Kindle

Cover: Poppy and Jack enjoy play with educator Ruby, in a dedicated space with age-appropriate equipment.



Director of MLC Kindle, Kristen Myers-Tapim (R), with Deputy Director of MLC Kindle, Sally Polson.

Our philosophy

Where play and discovery intersect.

MLC Kindle is a leader in childcare and early learning for all children aged six weeks to five years. With a program that exceeds national quality standards, we consistently inspire self-confident, independent and inquisitive learners.

We take inspiration from the globally renowned, play-based education philosophy, Reggio Emilia. It is an approach where expressive arts play a central role in learning and a unique co-learning environment between teachers and children is created. What does this mean? At Kindle, children learn through intentional play and inquiry, becoming active participants in their own learning and exploration of the world around them.

“To us, learning through play means we follow children’s interests and guide them towards intentional discoveries. We listen to their ideas, pay close attention to what engages them, and then turn this into broader research to strengthen their understanding of the world around them.”

Kristen Myers-Tapim, Director of MLC Kindle



Amy and Rafael explore aspects of nature by creating their own dew drops in the garden beds.



Students illustrate their observations and learnings of the environment through expressive art.



Daisy, Charlotte and classmates tend to the gardens.

An exceptional environment from the start

MLC Kindle has long received the highest eligible rating from the National Quality Standards for early childhood education and care in Australia.



With the help of Jess, Ash develops his spatial awareness skills through building a city with blocks.

This recognition highlights our commitment to exceeding national benchmarks in children's health and safety, physical environment, staffing, relationships with children, collaborative partnerships, and governance and leadership.

Our team of qualified and caring staff genuinely care about your child's wellbeing and are dedicated to creating engaging and creative learning experiences. With critical reflection groups and a high staff-to-child ratio, our educators work closely with MLC Kindle students to encourage exploration and make discoveries about the world.

When it comes to safety and wellbeing, MLC Kindle takes every measure to ensure your child is in a safe and secure environment. Our comprehensive security system includes swipe cards for building access, easy off-street drop-off and pick-up areas, and 24-hour security patrol and cameras at the main access points.

To support the wellbeing of every child, we provide an on-site chef who prepares nutritionally balanced meals and snacks, and caters for individual needs and allergies.

“We absolutely loved MLC Kindle for our two daughters. The Reggio Emilia approach used throughout the centre supported the girls to develop deep emotional connections with peers, educators, the play environment and nature. The educators are kind, empathetic, interested and well-supported professionally; and in turn, our family felt supported with every life bump, transition or celebration across our ten years.”

Kate, past parent

A world of exploration and curiosity

We believe that the environment is a vital teacher in a child's learning journey.

Influenced by the Reggio Emilia approach, where beautiful environments and materials invite the children to learn through exploration, our learning centre includes elements such as natural light and materials, open-plan learning spaces, and inviting outdoor learning environments.

Moveable walls allow students to motion seamlessly between learning experiences and the multi-purpose Manna Gum Room, providing an interactive space for educational visits, cooking lessons and activities.

All children take part in indoor and outdoor play to spark curiosity and an appreciation

for the natural world. Our immersive Outdoor Education program teaches them about sustainability, Indigenous culture and land practices. Our outdoor areas offer natural play spaces with soft fall surfaces, a recyclable water pump, a digging patch and yarning circle. There are areas for private play and a retractable roof to enjoy the outdoors in all weather.

MLC Kindle students are also able to experience learning opportunities within the broader Prep-Year 12 MLC educational environment, including the gymnasium, science laboratories and music performance spaces.

“I love coming to Kindle. I like my teachers, because they do lots of things with me, like puzzles and playing games with the football. And they help me to make things, like a bee out of paper. I like playing with my friends Charlie and Ruby. I like it when they play chasey with me outside.”

Abigail, aged 5



At the forefront of early learning practice

We celebrate and embrace the natural wonder of children's curious minds and endeavour to cultivate a life-long interest in learning.

Our MLC Kindie curriculum is developed through drawing on the best of theory and practice and encourages children to develop a love of learning through a play-based inquiry approach.

Building the earliest foundations for literacy and numeracy as well as STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Maths) are incorporated into the curriculum alongside extra-curricular and specialist programs.

In 2018, MLC Kindie was one of the first early learning centres to achieve certification from the Little Scientist Project. This certification

is awarded to learning environments that are actively progressive and incorporate inquiry-based learning and STEAM subjects in the curriculum.

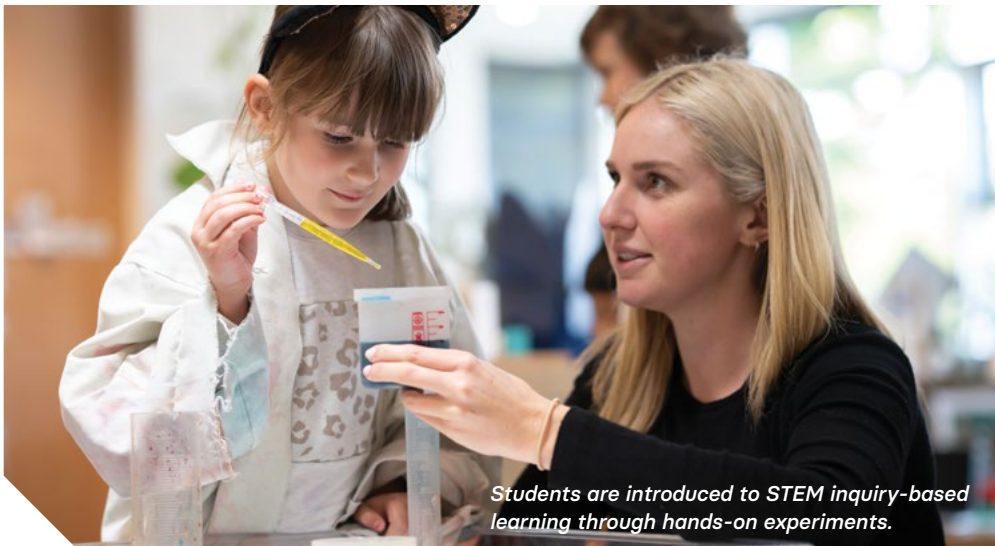
Our curriculum strikes a balance between child-initiated and adult-supported learning experiences, with ongoing development of technology skills embedded across all age groups.

Our passionate, qualified educators are well-supported through professional development, with a strong culture of active participation and leading in pedagogical research projects.

Personalised learning

We understand that every child is unique which is why each child at MLC Kindie receives a personalised learning program and individual learning portfolio to highlight their progress throughout the year and track development.

Our dedicated educators and carers across all programs build strong relationships with each child to help develop their unique potential. We work closely with MLC Junior School to provide resources tailored to meet the individual learning needs of each child.



Students are introduced to STEM inquiry-based learning through hands-on experiments.



Murrundindi, Ngurungaeta of the Wurundjeri people, engages students through storytelling, dance and artistic expression.

Leading educational research on show

MLC Kindie conducted a three-year research project, partnering with Murrundindi, Ngurungaeta of the Wurundjeri people, and Dr Stefania Giamminuti, Senior Lecturer in Early Childhood Education at Curtin University into how children connect with each other and the natural world ("make kin"). Through interviews, observations and classroom inquiry projects, we championed the voice of children and their right to learn in natural outdoor spaces.

In 2023, the research was shared at Reggio Emilia Australia Conference and at the European Early Childhood Education Research Association Conference in Portugal.

Another successful research project, investigating encounters with the outdoors led to the adaption of our Outdoor education program and redesign of our outdoor learning spaces.

Murrundindi still visits our Kindie students regularly to share his Indigenous perspectives with the children, as an expert on land and country.

Specialist learning experiences

At MLC Kindle we provide children with an array of exciting and engaging learning experiences.

We regularly integrate the College's renowned facilities into Kindle learning, such as visits to the biology lab. Our close links with MLC Junior School allow students to take part in specialist classes, including music, Japanese, gymnastics and library.

Music

Facilitated by qualified music specialists, children begin to learn the language of music, including pitch, rhythm and melody.

Japanese

Our immersive lessons in Japanese integrate vocabulary, sentence structure, scripts and customs through song, books, props, technology and games.

Gymnastics

Kindle students enjoy professional gymnastic equipment housed in our College Physical Education Centre where they build on core strength, agility, muscle development and gross motor skills.

Library

This specialised library program presents three to five-year-old students with opportunities to learn sophisticated vocabulary through a diverse breadth of literature. Our dedicated MLC Kindle library also maintains an up-to-date collection for children of all ages.



Finlay and Ruby learn through action in their music class.

“My children’s sense of belonging in the community and their confidence in their own skin is explicitly targeted through the Kindle curriculum, where their interests and thoughts are valued and welcome means that they matter. At Kindle, all children have a voice, their opinions are encouraged and respected and the warm smiles and diving hugs at ‘pick up’ reinforces this each and every day.”

Monique, parent

Flexible programs and extended hours

We know that modern families lead busy lives, so MLC Kindle offers flexible programs and extended hours to accommodate their schedule.

We are open from 7:30am to 6:30pm Monday to Friday during 50 weeks of the year. This includes our Core Program, as well as Sunrise and Twilight Program. The centre is closed for two weeks over Christmas and early January holiday period, public holidays and Melbourne Cup Eve.

Core Program 8:30am to 3:30pm

Sunrise Program 7:30am to 8:30am

Twilight Program 3:30pm to 6:30pm

Multiple program options of 2, 3 and 5 days are available to suit each family from birth to 3 years, while 4-day and 5-day 4-year-old kindergarten programs provide consistency of learning for older children.

Childcare subsidy

MLC Kindle is an approved childcare centre and the Child Care Subsidy is available for parents to claim depending on their circumstances.



Our learning environment has both active spaces alongside places and opportunities for rest, relaxation and promoting meaningful relationships between students and their teachers.

Our classes

We offer four distinct classes that cater to each age group and provide a nurturing and enjoyable learning experience for children.

- **Infant class (6 weeks to 18 months)**
- **Toddler class (18 months to 3 years)**
- **3-year-old kindergarten**
- **4-year-old kindergarten**

Our goal is to cultivate a lifelong love for learning and foster their language, emotional, social, cognitive and motor skills.

In each of our classes, we provide a variety of learning experiences where your child can learn and grow, including whole group, small group and individual settings. We ensure that our practices and documentation exceed the National Quality Framework standards.

We understand that each age group has unique needs and stages of growth, which is why we have carefully designed tailored learning and personal development programs within each of the four classes.

Infant and toddler classes

Grevillea – 6 weeks to 18 months

In Grevillea, we understand the importance of creating a secure and friendly environment for your child.

We work closely with families to replicate individual home routines, ensuring that our classes are tailored to specific stages of learning and development. This includes regular communication with your family to learn mealtimes and rest times, allowing a smoother transition for the children.

Our family centred approach provides children of similar ages with opportunities to grow and learn together and, with a maximum class size of 12 children, we encourage each child to become a hands-on, curious and enthusiastic learner through our personalised play-based learning approach.

Murnong – 18 months to 3 years

The Murnong class is where your toddler can thrive in a group setting and have opportunities to connect with the world around them. With a maximum class size of 15 children, we encourage each child to explore, experiment and express their own thoughts, feelings and ideas. Our curriculum is designed to nurture their sense of wonder and curiosity as they navigate this exciting stage of development.

All of our under-three classrooms have a staff to student ratio that exceeds National Standards.

3-year-old kindergarten

Dianella – Core kindergarten program

Our Dianella class is designed to cater to the developmental changes occurring during this stage. With a maximum class size of 20, we acknowledge and support their need for exploration, and discovery as their vocabulary and intellectual skills rapidly expand.

Children who attend three and four-year-old kindergarten participate in specialist classes, including music, library, Kinder-gym and Japanese. These classes are designed to provide additional opportunities to learn in different disciplines.

Children must be three years old before April 30 in the year of attendance.



William, along with Ash, enjoys spending time in dedicated play spaces for our younger children.

4-year-old kindergarten

Woorike – Core kindergarten program

The Woorike class is part of our core kindergarten program for four-year-olds. With a maximum class size of 22 children, we ensure that each child's unique needs and strengths are catered to. Our focus is on nurturing their growing confidence and self-esteem, preparing them for the next stage of education.

Melaleuca – Sessional kindergarten program

The Melaleuca class operates as a dual program, including a full time cohort and a term time only cohort. The term time cohort runs Monday-Thursday aligned with school hours.

Children must be 4 years old before April 30 in the year of attendance for both Woorike and Melaleuca programs.

“I like coming to Kindle. I like making books. The teachers help me. I write the words and then I will draw the pictures and then I will show the class. I love telling my jokes and my teachers laugh.”

Xavier, aged 4



Building the earliest foundations in literacy is part of the MLC Kindle curriculum.



Older children enjoy self-directed and intentional experiences.



A multitude of sensory play spaces help children develop their motor and social skills. Here, Andy and Matilda discover the joys of playing with sand.

Discover more

We hope this prospectus has provided you with an insight into what makes MLC Kindle so special and unique.

Families will need to submit an online Application to go on our waiting list. The College accepts applications during pregnancy up until 30 April of the year prior to commencement. Preference is given to early applications, those with a direct family or staff connection to MLC or in consideration of the Commonwealth Government Priority Access guidelines for childcare service, in line with MLC's Enrolment Policy. Please note, Murnong, our Toddler Room, is not an intake year.

Girls who attend MLC Kindle are guaranteed a place in Prep at MLC, although this is also subject to availability.

If you have any questions, please contact our Admissions team, who will be able to assist you further.

We look forward to assisting you as part of your enrolment journey.

MLC Admissions

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