



kindle  
early learning centre



MLC

# Our Approach

The MLC Kindle program celebrates the natural curiosity of children through hands-on exploration of the world around them. A play-based learning program allows our teachers and educators to introduce elements of teaching and learning to the experiences and activities that children are naturally drawn to.

MLC Kindle welcomes both girls and boys aged from six weeks to five years and is staffed by a dedicated and experienced team of educators. The program, which is inspired by the Reggio Emilia philosophy, combines high quality care with a family centred approach and MLC's renowned educational expertise. Parent participation is encouraged, and teachers maintain open communication with parents to optimise each child's learning experience.



# we endeavour

At MLC Kindle we value relationships with children and their families, working together in partnership to ensure each child's early learning is fostered. We are proud to offer a range of programs to cater for the unique needs of every child and their family.

Early childhood experiences at MLC Kindle will provide your child with a sound education and a breadth of opportunities to develop as an individual and grow in confidence.

The Early Childhood Curriculum is based on developmentally appropriate play experiences together with an inquiry program strengthened through centre wide research.

The development of every child's identity, community, wellbeing, learning and communication is nurtured through individual and group learning.

Opportunities for early literacy and numeracy are incorporated into the curriculum at an appropriate level to each child's individual learning needs and is supported by an extensive co-curricular program.

At MLC we celebrate diversity and endeavour to provide every child with the opportunity to reach their potential. We look forward to welcoming your family to MLC Kindle.

**Kristen Myers-Tapim**  
Director of MLC Kindle



# Educational Focus

Underpinning our philosophy at MLC Kindle is an image of the child as being competent, full of possibilities and a protagonist in her/his own learning. We take inspiration from a play based education philosophy developed in the Italian town of Reggio Emilia, which has established a world-wide reputation for excellence in its approach to early childhood education. It is an approach where the expressive arts play a central role in learning and where a unique reciprocal relationship exist between the child and teacher.

The curriculum at MLC Kindle is designed to foster a lifelong interest of learning. Children are encouraged to develop appropriate language, emotional, social, cognitive and motor skills. MLC Kindle educators build relationships with each child to maximise their learning and development, while our close links with MLC Junior

School provide access to a vast range of specialist teachers and resources to ensure that individual needs are being met.

## **MLC Kindle's comprehensive program incorporates:**

- Specialist classes including Music, Gym, Library and Japanese;
- Opportunities to explore literacy, numeracy, drama and digital technology;
- Accelerated learning opportunities through individual and group project work.

All practice and documentation is informed by the National Quality Framework.



# The MLC Kindle Difference

## World-class facilities

MLC Kindle offers modern, purpose-built spaces to stimulate learning and encourage exploration and enquiry.

In addition to customised homerooms, the multi-purpose Piazza provides a space for incursions, cooking lessons and activities. Moveable walls allow students to move seamlessly between learning experiences and all spaces are bright, airy and colourful. Both learning and play also take place in the extensive landscaped gardens which incorporate soft fall surfaces.

Our on-site cook prepares delicious and nutritionally balanced meals and snacks and caters for individual needs and allergies.

The comprehensive security system includes swipe cards for building access and safe and easy off-street drop-off and pick-up areas.

In 2018 MLC Kindle achieved certification from the Little Scientist Project. MLC Kindle is one of the first to achieve this endorsement in Victoria. The Little Scientist Project is funded by the Australian government Department of Education and Training through the National Innovation and Science Agenda. The certification is awarded to learning environments that are actively progressive and incorporate inquiry-based learning and STEM subjects in the curriculum.

## Qualified and experienced educators

Our team of educators are highly skilled professionals who are committed to working with young children and providing the best quality learning experiences for your child.

Japanese, Library and Kindergym are all taught by specialised teachers with expertise in these areas.

Ongoing professional development programs allow staff to extend their knowledge and approach to early childhood development, ensuring our evolving pedagogies remain relevant.

## Individual care and learning programs

At MLC Kindle each child in our service receives a personalised learning program and an individual portfolio highlighting all their learning throughout the year.

## Flexible programs and extended hours

MLC Kindie is open from 7.30 am to 6.30 pm Monday to Friday for 50 weeks of the year. The centre is closed for two weeks over Christmas and on public holidays.

Core program hours run from 8.30 am to 3.30 pm. Outside these times, the Sunrise and Twilight programs run from 7.30 am – 8.30 am and 3.30 pm to 6.30 pm.

### Program Overview: Program Options

- 5 day Monday to Friday
- 3 day Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday
- 2 day Thursday and Friday

## Exceeding National Quality Standards

In 2021, MLC Kindie was assessed and rated by the Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA) as 'Exceeding National Quality Standard'. MLC Kindie received an outstanding report in regards to all seven areas of the National Quality Standards, which relate to all early learning centres, kindergartens and childcare centres within Australia.

## Child Care Subsidy

As MLC Kindie is an approved child care centre, the Child Care Subsidy is available for parents to claim if eligible.

## Infant and Toddler Care

### Sparrows' Nest – 6 weeks to 18 months

The educators in the Sparrows' Nest understand how important it is for children to feel secure and be part of a friendly and stimulating environment.

Our family centred care approach provides children of similar ages with opportunities to grow and learn together. Each child's individual home routine is replicated throughout their stay. Parents are encouraged to liaise with staff on a daily basis to optimise each child's learning experience.

Our program is based on learning through play. Children are encouraged to explore a variety of developmentally appropriate experiences designed to enhance children's skills in all areas of development by utilising a wide range of materials and resources.

The Sparrows' Nest program operates from 8.30 am to 3.30 pm with Sunrise and Twilight programs also available. The maximum class size is 12 children.

### The Pelican House – 18 months to 3 years

The toddler program is designed to introduce children to a group situation where they have a variety of exciting experiences.

The emphasis is on learning through play. Children have the opportunity to practise language skills through play, music and interacting with their peers. We use a range of materials and resources to achieve our program goals and encourage children to explore and experiment while expressing their thoughts, feelings and ideas.

Parent participation is encouraged and staff work in partnership with parents to optimise each child's learning experience.

The Pelican House program operates from 8.30 am to 3.30 pm with Sunrise and Twilight Programs also available. The maximum class size is 15 children.





We aim to develop each child's skills, knowledge and abilities, to develop self-confident, independent and inquisitive learners.



## 3 Year Old Kindergarten

### Garden Class – Core kindergarten program

This specialised program for three year old children is sensitive to the enormous developmental changes that occur during this time.

We acknowledge a child's need for exploration, experimentation and discovery, as their vocabulary and intellectual skills are rapidly expanding. We believe that establishing a balance between their striving for independence and their need for continual reassurance is of the utmost importance. We aim to provide children with the confidence and ability to make a smooth and positive transition to the next stage of their education.

All children must be 3 years old before April 30 in the year of attendance.

The Garden Class operates from 8.30 am to 3.30 pm, with Sunrise and Twilight programs also available. The maximum class size is 20 children.

## 4 Year Old Kindergarten

### Ocean Class – Core kindergarten program

The Ocean Class program is designed to cater for each child's needs and strengths in all areas of development, with an emphasis on the development of confidence and self-esteem.

All children must be 4 years old before April 30 in the year of attendance.

Ocean Class program operates from 8.30 am – 3.30 pm on Monday to Friday, with Sunrise and Twilight programs also available. The maximum class size is 22 children.

### Dolphin Class – Sessional kindergarten program

The sessional kindergarten program caters for individual requirements across all areas of development and is designed to build confidence and self-esteem in each child. Through embracing inquisitive learning and expanding on knowledge, skills and abilities, Dolphin Class prepares children for the next stage in their education.

All children must be 4 years old before April 30 in the year of attendance.

The Dolphin Class operates Monday to Thursday from 8.45 am to 3 pm, during school term only.

Sunrise and Twilight Programs are not available. The maximum class size is 22 children.

# Join Us

We trust this information has provided you with an insight into what makes MLC Kindle so special and unique. Book a Personalised Tour at [mlc.vic.edu.au/Join-Us/Visit-Us](http://mlc.vic.edu.au/Join-Us/Visit-Us) or contact our our Admissions team with any questions you may have.

### MLC Admissions

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