

BRUNSWICK KINDERGARTEN



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CHANGES TO OUR PROGRAM FOR THREE YEAR OLDS

Teacher-led programs

There has been much discussion in the Early Education industry of late regarding the introduction of formalised government funding for three-year-old kindergarten programs, and with it the requirement to staff those programs with degree-qualified kindergarten teachers.

We are fortunate at Brunswick Kinder to have a team of teachers and educators that continually strive to enhance their own education, for the benefit of the kinder program and the education of the children in their groups. To that end, the Committee of Management has elected to implement this higher level of teaching to our three-year-old program from 2018.

The teaching teams in each of Yellow, Orange and Green groups will now include a degree-qualified teacher, in addition to a supporting Educator.

Green Group Italian Bilingual Program

2018 sees the introduction of a bilingual early education program in Green Group on Wednesday afternoons. This group will be led by Frances who is one of many staff members at Brunswick Kinder from an Italian background.

Bilingual education has many advantages, particularly in the early years. Kindergarten-aged children who can speak more than one language often:

- have better skills in understanding others' perspectives, thoughts, desires, and intentions than children with one language
- also have enhanced sensitivity to certain features of communication such as tone of voice
- benefit academically in many ways- for example, because they are able to switch between languages, they develop more flexible approaches to thinking through problems
- possess higher levels of abstract thought as a result of their ability to read and think in two different languages, which is critically important in learning

Bilingual individuals have the opportunity to participate in the global community in more ways, get information from more places, and learn more about people from other cultures. This aspect is becoming an increasingly more important focus of our kinder program and philosophy.

We are excited to see what the children will explore as part of this new program. If you have any questions regarding the Green Group Bilingual Program, please feel free to contact our Educational Leader, Frances Salatino.