



What to Expect : The First Day

A family's first day at childcare is often a mixture of excitement, nerves and possibly a few tears. Preparation is the key to making the transition to Child Care a breeze for both you and your child.

Talking to your child about Child Care and what to expect, along with reassurance that you will be there to pick them up at the end of the day is a good introduction. We also encourage orientation visits to familiarise yourself and your child to the Educators, room routines and the environment. This will give the entire family a sense of security when the first day arrives.

To make the transition a little bit easier, here are a few common questions (and answers!) about what to expect on the first day.

What time should I turn up?

Our centre is open from 6:30am to 6:30pm. Families are encouraged to turn up on their first day at the regular time they will be dropping their child off going forward. This is so they are familiar with the room routine at that time. Our friendly staff will be ready and waiting to welcome you and your child and help you both settle into the room.

What do I need to bring?

We provide everything children might need during their day. However we do ask families to bring a water bottle/sippy cup for their child to use throughout the day, some spare clothes as some experiences can get messy and any comforters such as a dummy or sleeping bag/blanket the child might need to make them feel more settled.





Who should I ask for when I arrive?

When arriving on your first day, please proceed to Reception and our friendly office staff will confirm we have all paperwork in order and then show you to your room where the Team Leader will help you and your child settle in.

What will happen when I arrive in my child's room?

When families arrive our friendly Educators will assist you to sign your child in on our electronic sign in system. Then Educators will show you where to put your child's belongings and bag before introducing the other room Educators.

If you have time, it is comforting for your child to help them find an activity they like and join in for a few minutes. Otherwise, the Team Leader (normally) will settle the child in by taking them over to an experience, introducing them to the other children in their room or offering breakfast (if it is a morning drop off).

What's the best way to say goodbye to my child?

It is important to always say goodbye and remind your child that you will be back to get them later as this provides them with a sense of security especially when they see you at pick up time just like you promised.

Give a short and confident goodbye and leave the room. If your child is upset it is best to avoid the temptation to go back, everything will be fine and you can call at any time to check on their progress.





My child seems upset, how do you settle them in after I leave?

If you leave after drop off and your child seems upset we will reassure them that you will be back and encourage them to explore the environment and engage in experiences. Educators will stay close by to settle your child as well as build a relationship to help them feel safe and confident in the space. Plenty of reassuring cuddles will be offered where needed.

We also use [KeptMe](#) to communicate with families about their child's day. We will send you through a photo of your child once they have settled in and engaged in activities. We use KeptMe to keep families up to date with their child's progress at Child Care.

What will you do with my child on their first day?

On your child's first day Educators we will work with your child on building relationships between each other and other children in their room to help them create bonds which will make them feel secure and safe. We will also support them to get to know their new environment by encouraging them to engage in some fun and creative experiences which are of interest to them.

Our team of Educators will work with you to ensure that your child has a happy and enjoyable educational experience at Child Care. You know your child best, therefore regular communication with our Educators is encouraged to ensure your child receives the maximum benefits from their time with us.

