

Partners, together in your child's journey



Open 5 Days and Most Public Holidays
Fully Flexible to meet your needs



Little Learners
Early Education



Letter from the Centre Director

Hello Parents and Carers!

I'm Michelle Covelli, the centre Director and I'm delighted to invite you to take a tour of our beautiful childcare centre with me.

Choosing the right educational environment for your child is one of the most important decisions you'll make as a parent, and it starts early!

As an early childhood educator for over 17 years, I can tell you that Little Learners is different. We have a unique and genuine commitment to excellence in early education. We know that great communities and great futures begin with thriving children and well-supported families!

Our mission is to lead from the front in innovation for early childhood education. Our families and community are supported because we remove the chaos and replace it with individual help, warmth and care.

Our early childhood expertise combined with our professional connections in the community mean that you will receive personalised service, tailored to your requirements. Should you require allied health and community services we assist by connecting you and your child where required. And we are flexible enough to take your child to those appointments should you require. We build trusted relationships with parents by being more than just a daycare or kindergarten.

I'm proud to say that the Little Learners Early Education is consistently rated as **Exceeding the National Standard**. This is exactly what you and your child received.

How do we exceed expectations?

By preparing children for success at school and for life.

My door is always open and I am here to support and assist you at all times.

**Kind regards,
Michelle Covelli**

A Message from the Owners



As parents, we understand that this is an important step in your child's education and we are here to support you every step of your family's journey.

The best education starts with providing the highest facilities managed by an experienced and loving team.

Our team delivers an innovative benchmark in childcare. Every child is an individual and each one has a unique style of learning. That's why we provide an individually tailored program to suit every child's needs, within a happy, safe and nurturing learning environment.

We don't turn children away or make your job as a parent any harder than it needs to be. We are here to support you!

The most important years in a child's development is from birth to age five. Your child's emotional growth and social development are formed during these vital years and the resilience and strengths your child learns will continue to be used for the rest of their lives.

We recognise children should be accepted for who they are, cared for by educated professionals (who treat children as a parent would), and engaged to learn, thrive and be inspired to begin the next stage of their learning journey.

Working together we aim to give your child the very best start in life.

We look forward to welcoming you to our wonderful centre and being part of our close-knit family.

**Much love,
Aaron, Rachel, Davin, Jane, and families**

Better, Together... More Help for Parents

Head Start Curriculum

Our unique Head Start Curriculum is centred around developing and nurturing emotional confidence, resilience and empathy as the core building blocks to developing a child's social and cognitive skills. Your child's learning journey is tailored to suit their knowledge, strengths, culture, abilities and interests.

This play-based curriculum helps children to socialise, build confidence, and develop communication skills, early literacy and numeracy skills to ensure your child is school ready.



School Ready, Life Ready!

Educational foundation skills

- Effective communicator
- Strong sense of identity
- Strong sense of wellbeing
- Connected with and contribute to their world
- Confident and involved learners

Educators apply their foundation skills, paedology, knowledge and passion together with a child centred education program to help develop each child as an active learner.

Child and educator relationships

Safe, secure and reciprocal relationships will allow your child to fully develop their confidence, emotional resilience and ultimately their empathy.

No two days are the same at Little Learners. Our teaching team tailors each day's learning, taking into account the interests of the children in the group.

The spacious and natural environment at our centre is thoughtfully planned and well resourced. There is a focus on music, drama, literature and visual arts and we allocate plenty of time for outdoor play and discovery.

Did you know?

In the first five years, your child will develop and learn much faster than at any other age. This is the time when the foundations for learning, health and behaviour throughout life are laid down. By six your child is developing their confidence, perseverance and communication skills. These life skills have an enormous influence on their future and actively need to be developed.

Developing Emotional Strengths for School and Life

Social Needs

- ✓ Safe relationships
- ✓ Secure relationships
- ✓ Reciprocal relationships

Physical Needs

- ✓ Medical
- ✓ Safety
- ✓ Ability

Emotional Strengths

- ✓ Wellbeing
- ✓ Identity
- ✓ Communication
- ✓ Community
- ✓ Involved Learners

Emotional Needs

- ✓ Inclusion
- ✓ Interaction
- ✓ Peer Learning
- ✓ Cultural Identity

Most importantly we help your child to be emotionally resilient for life. This is established by focusing on relationships that we share with others, recognising and understanding how our feelings and actions affect others and ourselves combined with the ability to express thoughts, feelings and behaviours in effective ways.



School Ready

Ready to engage in and benefit from learning experiences that best promote a child's success.

Resilience

Confidence

Empathy

By knowing the strengths, interests and needs of each child, we work collaboratively with them utilising intentional teaching strategies that supports them to build their own confidence, resilience and empathy.

Life Ready

Equipped with the skills to think critically, solve problems and make informed decisions about health, safety and wellbeing.



Why Choose Us



Our Benefits

Individually tailored education programs combined with active play-based learning that's focused on the development of your child's needs and strengths.

- Knowing Each Child's Emotional Needs
- Build Positive Relationships
- Inclusive Culture
- Open-Ended Learning
- Develop Emotional Resilience
- Build Self-Confidence
- Adventure, Exploration & Discovery
- Provide Challenging Activities
- Child-Led Education

Our Teachers

Our kindergarten rooms are managed by dedicated teachers with certifications in Early Childhood teaching.

They have experience in teaching at a primary school level and fully understand the primary school requirements and exceeding the government kindergarten curriculum.

Our teachers can meet with your child's preparatory teacher from the local schools throughout the year to ensure a smooth transition from kindergarten to primary school.

Our Extra Curricular Activities at No Extra Costs



Dance & Drama



Little Athletics



Little Chefs



Little Linguists



Little Musicians



Little Green Thumbs



Little Yogi



Little Scientists



Little Tradies



What we Provide

The below is fully inclusive in fees – no more to pay!



The full Child Care Subsidy to our families and can help you navigate Centrelink.



Open 12 hours, Monday-Friday 6:30 am to 6:30 pm, 52 weeks a year including public holidays (except Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day).



Five healthy and delicious meals throughout the day – breakfast, morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea and snacks for your child. Chef prepared in alignment with Nutrition Australia!



Childcare, 3 year old and 4 year old Kindergarten Programs, PLUS Before-After School Care, Vacation Care, Public Holidays/Pupil Free Days for Kids up to 12 years.



All personal care and bedding items provided: nappies, wipes, bibs, face washers, bibs, cots/beds and linen. Nothing extra is required. Just turn up with a spare change of clothes.



The highest quality Early Education (long daycare and full day and sessional kindergarten) for children aged 6 weeks to 6 years.



Fully qualified early educators all with first aid, CPR, asthma, anaphylaxis training. All have additional advanced level training in behavioural and learning difficulties including Autism, ADHD/ADHA. All have training with diabetes, physical needs and emotional needs trained.



Beautiful indoor and spacious outdoor play and learning areas plus amazing resources.



Connection with environment – a place where your child can explore nature, climb trees, play with chickens and learn how to garden and care for our environment and sustainability.



The highest rated centre in the area and the most affordable PLUS exceeding National Standards every year!



Victorian
Approved
and Funded
3 and 4 year old
Kindergarten

Kindergarten Program

Delivered by fully
qualified teachers

3-4 Year Old Kindy Program

A burst in language development, the opportunity to learn about taking turns and socialising is the stimulus for the Toddler educational program.

We provide a quality kindergarten program specifically designed for 3-year-olds that offers them the opportunity to be more socially adept, better able to cope with their emotions and develop better attention skills.

This program lays the foundation of literacy and numeracy through play-based learning to inspire curiosity and discovery. Creating seamless learning builds stronger pathways academically and socially.

Our educators are about creating inspirational learning spaces for children, while incorporating sleep, rest, relaxation to help rejuvenate them for an afternoon of exploring.

As a child transitions into 4-year-old Kindy, they apply these skills acquired through play into more focused learning. This 'scaffolding' of skills and learning creates better learning habits, develops deeper literacy and numeracy abilities, and advances emotional resilience.


4-5 Year Old Kindy Program

Graduates of the Little Learners full-day kindergarten program are recognised by local schools as socially, physically and developmentally ready for Prep!

Educated to a higher level, our Head Start Curriculum focuses on exceeding all school benchmarks, while developing emerging extra-curricular skills and interests.

The full-day Kindergarten focuses on all areas of your child's social, emotional, physical, intellectual and language abilities.

Children will flourish with all the unlimited opportunities provided to them. The biggest one is the freedom to explore and experiment with no limitations on their learning journey.



Out of School Hours Care

We offer a before-school and after-school care program from Monday to Friday, from 6:30am to 8:30am and from 3:30pm to 6:30pm.

This program gives parents the flexibility to work and commute outside of regular school hours, while their children are in a safe, supportive and caring environment. We include a healthy breakfast, afternoon tea, and snacks prepared by our qualified chef.

Transportation to and from school is provided by a trained staff member under very stringent safety policies. We will drop off and collect children directly from the school.

We liaise directly with school teachers of each child to work with them on their strengths and goals, support them with their homework, combined with their physical, social and emotional development.

**Vacation Care, Public Holidays, Pupil Free Days
(preschool and school age up to 12 years)**

Have to work but school is closed?

Then let us help you by looking after your children!

At Little Learners, we offer a vacation care program during the school holidays for school-aged children (aged 5 years to 12 years), pupil free days and public holidays*.

We provide a safe, welcoming and respectful environment with a wonderful outdoor area to encourage physical activity and interaction, healthy snacks combined with a team of highly qualified and experienced staff.

If your child is not enrolled at Little Learners, that's not a problem. Just make sure you book in advance to guarantee your child has a place during this busy time.

*Except Christmas, Boxing and New Year's Day.



Little Learners Village

Little Learners Village Community Garden To Plant a Garden is to Believe in Tomorrow

We believe in a sustainable future, and we know that we are stewards of the planet. Teaching our children to respect and care for mother earth is part of our curriculum and an essential part of their learning journey as they come to understand their responsibilities as global citizens.

What better way to teach sustainability, stewardship, and citizenry than by creating a garden in the public space next to our Centre for all to enjoy!

The Little Learners Village Community Garden was created in partnership with the Whittlesea Council, Melbourne Water and Yarra Valley Water and is supported by the local schools, horticulturalists, aged care, local community groups and businesses.

Our intention is for the gardens to be more than places to which plants grow. The space will provide artists an area to display work, book and poetry readings, children to explore and discover, older residents to pass on their skills and for neighbours to connect.

The garden is to be shared and enjoyed by all who visit.

Everyone in our community is welcome – neighbours, individuals, families, residents in our area – to help care for the garden, to plant sustainably, to enjoy the produce and to be used as a recreational facility for relaxation, family gatherings, picnics, quiet time, games, and fun!

Would you like to participate and maintain a garden bed?

To get involved with the community garden, please visit the website and become a member! All members of the community are welcome!



Contact Us

www.littlelearnersvillage.org.au

Become a Member





Active Community Member

One of the most challenging parts about getting allied health programs and support for your child is finding the time to take them to their sessions.

However, you don't have to stress!

Little Learners accommodates parents and can take your child to their session, be with them during the session and then relay the information, strategies and progress to you, allowing for continuousness between therapy, care and home.

By developing relationships with allied health professionals we then establish a holistic approach to your child's learning.

We can help with:

- ✓ Speech Pathologists
- ✓ Occupational Therapists
- ✓ Physical Therapists
- ✓ Dieticians
- ✓ Oral Hygiene

Discuss your needs directly with the Centre Manager.

"Little Learners has been fantastic in supporting our transition process from Kinder to Prep. Their school readiness program has certainly helped prepare children for school. The teachers work with us willingly to ensure a smooth transition process. The children appreciate the follow up visits In Prep and absolutely love saying hello to their kinder teachers again) We look forward to working with Little Learners for many years to come".

Grace Lucie Deputy Principal — St Francis of Assisi Primary School

"It was so nice of the kindergarten teachers to visit our school yesterday. I commend you on taking such a caring interest on the Little Learners kinder children as they transition to school. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you and the kinder program staff for the informative and useful transitions statements that you prepared for the Little Learners children as they transition to school. They are professionally written and provide our prep staff with valuable information about each child".

Leanne Weston Prep Transition Coordinator — Plenty Parklands PS



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What
Primary
School
Teachers
Say



What our Parents Say

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“Although both of my boys had some separation issues, I knew that each day they were at Little Learners they were going to be loved and cared for as if they were family and that when I picked them up at the end of the day I would be able to hear about how wonderful their day was”.

Rebecca

“They say for children to flourish a mother needs the support of her ‘village’. Although I don’t have the traditional family ‘village’, I have found my supportive ‘village’ in the beautiful ladies at Little Learners... Nothing is a bother and there is always reassurance and a smile whenever I have hit a parent hurdle. To say thank you doesn’t feel adequate to demonstrate the amount of appreciation and love I and my boys have for the centre.” **Ange**

“The staff have always had my Children’s best interest at heart, and have developed great relationships with them. It has been reassuring to know my children are being looked after with such great care while I am unable to be with them!” **Fiona**

“Everyone does such a great job with the children at the centre, and when I read letters like this [about the fee schedule update] it makes me so happy that we found a place that genuinely cares for the families that use your service”. **Craig**

“My daughter has been coming to little learners since she was one and she is now five heading off to prep. The past year she has been in the penguin room and the staff have been absolutely amazing I cannot thank them enough for all their hard work and support and caring nature that they shown towards myself and my daughter. The past four years have been a pleasure I want to thank every staff member that has helped my daughter Ruby along the way and a special shout out to the centre manager Michelle you are amazing we are truly going to miss you all”. **Emma**

“My son has been going here for 5 yrs now, you cant get a better centre, from the dedicated staff in each room, to the excellent staff in admin, they have done an extraordinary job looking after us. You definitely can’t get better”. **Adam**



Little Learners

Early Education

BOOK A TOUR



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