

The Tiny Tartan Kindergarten

PROSPECTUS



FAITH • HONOUR • SERVICE



The Springfield
Anglican
COLLEGE

Their
Future.
Kindergarten
to Year 12

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Welcome from the Principal

MR STEVEN MORRIS

What an exciting start to your child's educational story! The Tiny Tartan Kindergarten is a high-quality, child-centred space of safety and stimulation for little people. Hundreds of little ones have begun their journey here.

The Springfield Anglican College is widely known for its balanced, holistic approach to students and to their education in the most complete sense of the word. Grounded in Christian values such as Faith, Honour and Service, the Anglican nature of our College encourages us to embrace diversity, accept and honour all people and strive for excellence in moral, intellectual, physical, social and cultural areas of life.

We believe the personal development of students occurs within a community in which young people, parents and staff work together. The support and encouragement of one another within this community enables strong relationships and a connected school. We know people need human connections to feel safe, well, secure and loved. The primary source of these is the family, of course, but a good school provides an extended "family" in which the members are connected to each other, challenged as well as supported and provided with learning experiences and instruction which help them to grow in a balanced way.

Communities need to be small enough for each student to be well-known, and large enough to offer a range of opportunities to cater for most of their interests and abilities. The Springfield Anglican College, on two separate yet connected campuses, provides such wholesome and nurturing communities.

We welcome you to investigate all we can offer your young family.

From the Head of Primary

TANIA BREWER

The Tiny Tartan Kindergarten staff understands that Kindergarten is the beginning stage of a lifelong journey, and that early childhood is the beginning of the foundation on which children develop their love of learning.



The shared vision of the Kindergarten educators is to provide the highest quality Kindergarten program within the safe, secure and supportive environment of The Springfield Anglican College Primary Campus.

The Tiny Tartan Kindergarten provides the children with a curriculum program based on the Queensland Kindergarten Learning Framework. All learning activities are designed to support our young learners in developing independence, resilience and a sense of self-identity through a combination of independent play opportunities, teachable moments and specialist lessons. The staff fosters an environment where young children are encouraged to be inquisitive and creative while learning to be members of a community of learners. Teachers know and understand that children learn at different rates and that early learning opportunities and experiences support each child's cognitive, social and physical development. Each child's learning progress is carefully monitored and parents are kept well informed of their child's development.

Set within the grounds of the Primary Campus, the Kindergarten facility has been purposefully built with creative design features and Kindergarten-specific facilities. These include large, open rooms and outdoor play areas that encourage young children to use their imagination, explore and investigate while developing skills for social play and interaction.

As part of the wider school community, parents are invited to share in their child's learning opportunities. There are regular opportunities for families to contribute ideas, attend special functions and to share in the individual progress of their child. Staff members in the Kindergarten are experienced and qualified in the early childhood field of education, and welcome the opportunity to join in partnership with parents to ensure the best possible start to the lifelong learning journey.

It takes a
big heart
to shape
little
minds

Educational Philosophy

As early childhood educators, we are committed to ensuring the rights and best interests of every child underpin our daily practice and interactions. Within a framework of Christian values, we provide an engaging, stimulating and caring play-based learning environment.



All children, their families and staff are respected without discrimination or bias. We acknowledge and value the individual backgrounds and unique culture and customs of all families. In our partnership with families, we will seek to nurture and maintain positive relationships that will be based on trust, respect and two-way communication. Our practice and meaningful engagement with our families and diverse community demonstrates our commitment to inclusiveness.



Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures are acknowledged, respected and valued. Embedding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, language and culture in practice plays a crucial role in the Kindergarten environment. Valuable opportunities to learn and teach about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures are embedded in our program. We are committed to reconciliation and the part that we play in promoting equality and recognition across cultures.

Our nurturing and caring environment supports each child's individual learning, while promoting resilience, wellbeing and a strong sense of belonging. Children are encouraged to contribute to their world, and are guided to develop positive and enriching relationships with others. All children in our care are viewed as successful and capable learners, who are encouraged to strengthen their critical thinking and have their intellectual curiosity celebrated. Each child has a voice that is respected.

We are committed to providing a program that is based on The Queensland Kindergarten Learning Guideline and the Early Years Learning Framework. Current research and theories are considered important, and used to guide our programs and planning. Children are encouraged to follow their interests, and investigate and experiment as they learn and develop new skills. Through play and purposeful interactions, we aim to develop in each child an active curiosity about the world and an enthusiasm for learning. We will engage in opportunities to develop each child's understanding of their environment and we will ensure that environmental responsibility is embedded in practice and programs. Student safety, health and wellbeing are at the forefront of the Kindergarten program and practice.

As educators, we critically reflect on our practice, and are committed to continuous improvement and support for each other through a process of self-evaluation to improve our professional practices. Teachers, educators and College leadership are skilled and knowledgeable and are dedicated to ensuring the best possible outcomes for all children.

TRANSITION INTO PREP

The students' daily interactions and connections with the Primary Campus ensure that the students are familiar and feel at ease when entering the Prep year.

Students who feel secure and confident in their environment are prepared to embrace learning and become confident learners. This is enhanced by students' attendance at specialist classes on the Primary Campus, Year 6 student buddies, visiting the Prep classes and getting to know the Prep teachers.

This highly effective transition to Prep helps families and students feel welcomed and confident entering the first formal year of schooling. The Tiny Tartan Kindergarten promotes exceptional care practices that improve the outcomes of students and their families.

COMMUNICATION

NEXUS

Nexus is the central point of communication for all members of the College community. Functionalities within

Nexus include:

- Classroom news including photos of daily activities
- General College news
- Important updates and reminders
- Viewing the College calendar

COLLEGE APP

The Springfield Anglican College App is available free to download from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store. Search 'The Springfield Anglican College' or 'TSAC'. The App is designed to allow content from Nexus to flow through to mobile devices. Individuals can log in with their Nexus credentials. This will provide a custom experience for parents, students and staff with personalised interfaces and information.

FACEBOOK

The College has a Facebook page that provides another communication channel for the College community. The TSAC Facebook page provides a great opportunity to connect and share information, as well as showcase our student's achievements through photos and videos.

Student Portfolio

A portfolio is used to document each child's growth and development. In addition to capturing curriculum offerings, it is a collection of observation, special events and visitors in addition to capturing curriculum offerings. This portfolio is a celebration of each child's abilities, achievements and progress throughout the year.

Parental input is sought at various times of the year. Sharing of valuable information relating to your child is essential in ensuring a connection between the Kindergarten and home.

AN EXAMPLE OF A KINDERGARTEN DAY

8:15am - 8:30am	Arrival activities and organising belongings
8:30am - 9:10am	Welcome / Sharing Session
9:10am - 10:40am	Snack and outdoor activities
10:40am - 11:10am	Morning Tea
11:10am - 11:30am	Group Time – Literacy and Numeracy
11:30am - 12:30pm	Indoor activities
12:30pm - 1:00pm	Lunch
1:00pm - 1:15pm	Pack up and set up for rest
1:15pm - 2:00pm	Rest/Relax
2:00pm - 2:30pm	Quiet Activities
2:30pm - 3:00pm	Group time and collection of children

AFTER AND BEFORE COLLEGE CARE (ABCC)

The College offers After and Before College Care (ABCC) on the Primary Campus for children from Kindergarten age to Year 12, and operates Monday to Friday 6:45am to start of school during Term Time, and from 6:45am to 6:00pm during Vacation Care. It is closed on public holidays and during College Christmas shutdown period.

The program structure at ABCC is an Approved Service with the new National Quality Framework for Childcare. Activities and programs are age – and skill-level appropriate, and are aimed at stimulating emotional, intellectual, lingual, physical, recreational and social aspects of each child. They include elements of music, dance, drama, art and craft performed either as individuals or in small groups.

Students are able to participate in activities provided through the Active After School Program ranging from soccer skills to Hip Hop dancing.



Teaching and Learning

The Tiny Tartan Kindergarten has been awarded 'Exceeding the National Quality Standards' rating.



At The Tiny Tartan Kindergarten, we set the foundation for a lifelong journey of education. The Tiny Tartan Kindergarten Program is designed to foster the development of the whole child by encompassing social, physical, emotional and cultural needs, in addition to academic growth and care.

Based on the Queensland Early Years Learning Framework, the learning program has been purposefully designed to extend and enrich children's learning. The Framework provides children with a wealth of opportunities to maximise their potential and develop a foundation for future success in learning.

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Fundamental to the Framework is a view of children's lives as characterised by belonging, being and becoming.

BELONGING

Experiencing belonging – knowing where and who you belong with – is an integral part of our lives. Children belong to their family, with their friends, school and the wider community. Belonging acknowledges children's interdependence with others, and is the basis of having relationships and establishing one's identity. In early childhood, and throughout life, relationships are crucial to a sense of belonging. Belonging is central to being and becoming. It shapes who children are and who they can become.

BEING

Childhood is a time to make meaning of the world – to be curious, to ask questions and to explore the world around them.

Being recognises the significance of the here and now in children's lives. It is about them knowing themselves, building and maintaining relationships with others, engaging with life's joys and complexities, and meeting challenges in everyday life. The early childhood years are not solely preparation for the future but also about enjoying and understanding life today.

BECOMING

Children's identities, knowledge, understandings, capacities, skills and relationships change during childhood. They are shaped by many different events and circumstances. Becoming reflects this process of rapid and significant change that occurs in the early years as young children learn and grow. It emphasises learning to participate fully and actively in society.

In the Kindergarten, students are encouraged to follow their interests, and investigate and experiment as they learn and develop new skills. The teachers work alongside the students to encourage and support them through the learning process.

Our beautiful Kindergarten space has been designed to motivate and cater for individual learning, and encourage individual, small group work and whole class collaboration. It is an environment that celebrates peer achievement and celebrates mutual respect and understanding.

The teachers work closely with the students, monitor their learning, and encourage their personal areas of interest and new learning experiences. The program aims to develop in each child an active curiosity about the world and an enthusiasm for learning based on their own needs, interests and investigations.

Five areas of learning:

- Children have a strong sense of identity
- Children are connected with and contribute to their world
- Children have a strong sense of wellbeing
- Children are confident and involved learners
- Children are effective communicators

THE IMPORTANCE OF PLAY

Play is a vital part of learning and development, and research has shown that play is essential to ensure children reach their full potential in life. Play helps children learn about the world in which they live. Play encourages self-esteem and allows children to investigate and discover, test their theories, understand spatial relationships, explore cause and effect, societal roles and learn family values.

Teaching and Learning: Specialist Lessons

THE ROSELLA RESOURCE CENTRE

The Rosella Resource Centre is a well-resourced and inviting environment where students are encouraged to develop a lifelong love of reading. During class lessons, Kindergarten students listen to a wide variety of fiction and non-fiction books. Students develop the skills to navigate to their favourite parts of the library, whether it be a particular author they enjoy or a topic they want to read more about, and select a book they wish to take home and share with loved ones. Kindergarten students foster relationships with other students through buddy reading with some of the older classes.

PERCEPTUAL MOTOR PROGRAM (PMP)

Perceptual Motor Program (PMP) lessons are an integral part of The Tiny Tartan Kindergarten program, where students learn and practice key fine and gross motor skills that will help them in all aspects of their growth and development.

All students participate in at least one PMP lesson per week, where they enjoy taking part in an extensive range of activities and challenges using different equipment and stimuli. Skills such as throwing, catching, running, jumping, skipping and kicking are practiced on a regular basis with age-appropriate equipment, enabling students to best improve these skills and gain a stronger understanding of outdoor activities.

PMP lessons are valuable stepping stone in a student's progression into Primary Schooling, and are among the most enjoyed lessons at the Tiny Tartan Kindergarten.



CHINESE

The Chinese program at The Tiny Tartan Kindergarten is designed specifically to prepare children in their early learning years for the P-10 course based on the Australian Curriculum: Languages Chinese Syllabus. It is a culturally rich program where children learn through stories, songs, rhymes and games. Topics include self-introduction, numbers, colours, opposites and animals. Children are given the opportunity to experience cultural diversity of the world and its people. The delivery of this program is multi-modal, providing a play-based and engaging learning environment. This Chinese program aims to cultivate a passion for language learning and encourage children to discover their connection with the world around them.

MUSIC

During Music lessons in Kindergarten, students experience music through singing, rhythm and clapping, movement and listening. They learn to sing well-known songs and nursery rhymes in tune, whilst marching around the room in time to the music. Students learn about fast and slow, loud and soft, and high and low sounds, whilst responding and moving. They learn to keep a beat using percussion instruments and listen carefully to various instruments such as piano, recorder and flute. Students learn to take turns, share instruments, develop their motor skills and improve literacy through singing and listening to song books. The skills they develop in Kindergarten music lessons will set them up for further success in Primary school and beyond, all whilst having musical fun.

The Tiny Tartan Kindergarten

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