

GUILDFORD GRAMMAR SCHOOL

# Little Explorers



Guildford Grammar School

FOUNDED 1896

Our Little Explorers experience joy and play every day. Surrounded by the beautiful natural landscape of Guildford.





## CONTENTS

From the Head of Preparatory School	4
Little Explorers Philosophy	6
The Daily Experience	8
Play Investigations	8
Communication with Families	10
Frequently Asked Questions	12
Join Our Community	14

Guildford Grammar School acknowledges the Whadjuk Noongar people as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which our School stands. We recognise their deep connection to this place—where the waters of the Derbarl Yerrigan (Swan River) have long been a source of life, knowledge, and cultural exchange.

We honour their Elders past, present, and emerging, and respect the wisdom they share. We remain committed to learning from the stories, traditions, and enduring legacy of the Whadjuk Noongar people, ensuring that our connection to Country is reflected in the spaces we create and the community we build.

GUILDFORD GRAMMAR SCHOOL

# From the Head of Preparatory School



# WELCOME TO GUILDFORD GRAMMAR

Early Learning at Guildford Grammar is an intentional, inquiry-led program where play sits at the heart of every learning experience. Children are invited to investigate ideas, solve problems, and think critically, supported by experienced educators who prioritise strong relationships and purposeful, meaningful learning.

It is a joy to watch children in our Little Explorers program learn through play and discovery. With time, encouragement, and the right environment, they grow in independence, resilience, and confidence through hands-on experiences that help them explore their interests across both indoor and outdoor learning.

Your child will be supported to engage in rich sensory exploration, practise kindness and compassion, and develop an understanding of the world around them through outdoor nature play. Surrounded by Guildford's beautiful natural landscape, we use our setting to nurture a deep connection to Country and to help children notice, wonder, and care for their environment.

Every child in Little Explorers experiences connection, joy, and wonder in a supportive and inspiring learning space. We nurture confident learners with a strong sense of agency – children who are willing to take risks, learn from mistakes, and make thoughtful choices that shape their own learning journey. In doing so, we empower all children to make a positive and meaningful contribution to their world.

I warmly encourage you to visit, see our children in action, and experience our School for yourself. I look forward to welcoming you to Guildford Grammar School.

**Mr Mark Douglas**  
Head of Preparatory School

GUILDFORD GRAMMAR SCHOOL

# Little Explorers Philosophy



## EXPERIENCE THE JOY OF PLAY

We recognise that every child brings their own strengths, abilities, interests, and needs, along with a natural desire to discover, explore, and learn. To nurture these qualities, we intentionally design a child responsive program that encourages curiosity, creativity, resilience, and independence. We value the diverse cultural, social, and personal experiences each child brings, embracing an inclusive approach that fosters identity, self confidence, and critical thinking. In doing so, we ensure every child feels respected, supported, and empowered in their learning journey.

Play is at the heart of learning in Little Explorers. Grounded in child development research and a strong belief in student agency, our program draws on well established educational theories to create a safe and stimulating environment where children can explore, experiment, and grow. Through purposeful play, essential literacy foundations are nurtured, helping children build understanding, confidence, and a lifelong love of learning.

Your child is central to their own learning. Our educators observe deeply, listen attentively, and respond thoughtfully. They support children to follow their interests, revisit ideas, and develop understanding at their own pace. Learning is not rushed but enriched over time.

Our Early Learning team is made up of experienced Early Childhood Specialist Teachers and qualified Education Assistants. Their dedication, expertise, and collaborative spirit are the strength of our program. Together, they share knowledge, refine practice, and stay connected with the broader educational community. You will see their professionalism, warmth, and genuine joy in the way they engage with children and build trusting relationships that foster a strong sense of belonging.

Language development, social connection, and emotional wellbeing are core priorities within the Little Explorers program. Your child is encouraged to communicate, build friendships, and develop kindness, curiosity, and awe as they interact with the world around them.

You are your child's first and most influential educator, and we deeply value the role families play in each child's learning journey. We nurture strong partnerships through open, two way communication and meaningful opportunities for families to be involved in school life. Trust, respect, and collaboration form the foundation of these relationships, connecting families, the school, and the wider community.



### EXPLORE BUSH PLAYGROUP

Experience Guildford Grammar through Bush Playgroup. Held each term on campus for children 0-3 and their caregivers.

LITTLE EXPLORERS

# The Daily Experience



# A DAY IN THE LIFE

Our Little Explorers program allows flexibility within the daily timetable, enabling educators to respond to your child, their interests and the events taking place within the classroom and the wider school community.

## Mornings

Mornings begin with a supported transition into the day. Your child is welcomed by educators and settles into a range of indoor and outdoor play experiences that encourage curiosity, independence and connection with others.

Learning moves fluidly between indoor and outdoor spaces across the morning. Through play, movement and hands-on exploration, children investigate ideas, build skills and extend their thinking, guided by educators who observe closely and respond to their interests.

## Afternoons

After lunch, the day's pace slows. Children are supported to rest and recharge, with opportunities to relax, read or listen quietly.

Afternoons remain flexible, offering a balance of gentle activity, creative play and reflection, determined by each child's energy and needs.

Every day looks a little different, influenced by the children themselves. We invite you to visit and learn more about what a day in Little Explorers may look like for your child.

# PLAY INVESTIGATIONS

Play investigations form an important part of learning in Little Explorers. Through both indoor and outdoor experiences, your child is encouraged to explore ideas, experiment with materials and develop their thinking through purposeful play.

## Indoor Play Investigations

Our light-filled learning spaces offer open-ended provocations that reflect children's interests. Your child may explore creative materials in the art atelier, engage in dramatic play, storytelling and small world play, or investigate ideas through reading, puzzles, mark-making and construction using natural and recycled materials.

## Outdoor Play Investigations

Time outdoors is a valued part of each day. Your child is supported to explore the natural environment through active play that builds oral language, physical capability, confidence and resilience. Experiences may include climbing, riding, building, digging and navigating obstacle courses, with opportunities for supported risk-taking.

GUILDFORD GRAMMAR SCHOOL

# Communication with Families



## SHARING INFORMATION

Clear, consistent communication is an important part of the Little Explorers experience. We understand this is often your child's first time attending school, and we aim to ensure you feel informed, supported, and connected at every step.

You will be able to follow your child's learning journey through SeeSaw, our digital learning platform. SeeSaw offers a window into your child's experiences, development and progress, and complements regular opportunities to connect with your child's teacher.

The Guildford Grammar School App is the primary communication tool for families. Through the App, you will receive regular updates and notifications relevant to Little Explorers, as well as access to the Parent Hub. The Parent Hub provides helpful information such as uniform requirements, term dates, maps and key School information, all in one place.

We appreciate communication from families, as it helps us provide the best possible care for your child.



**ENQUIRY**

Scan here to enquire  
about enrolment

LITTLE EXPLORERS

# Frequently Asked Questions



# COMMON CONSIDERATIONS

Below are some of the common questions families ask when considering Little Explorers. Our Admissions team is always happy to provide further details.

## **How old does my child need to be to attend Little Explorers?**

Children must turn three by 30 June in the year they enter Little Explorers. Children may commence in the program once they have had their third birthday.

## **How does Guildford Grammar School support my child's transition to Little Explorers?**

In the year prior to commencement, families are invited to attend a Play Date, providing an opportunity to meet educators, explore the learning environments and begin building connections. A Transition Week is held at the start of the school year. Children who have turned three attend on allocated days from 9.00am to 12.30pm in small groups, supporting a gradual and positive transition.

## **Can my child have an afternoon sleep in Little Explorers?**

Each day includes a quiet rest period, allowing children time to relax, read or listen to music. While opportunities to rest are provided, extended daytime sleeps are generally best supported after the conclusion of the school day.

## **What happens if my child is sick during the day?**

If your child becomes unwell, Little Explorers staff or the School Nurse will contact you and request that your child be collected as soon as possible. If you cannot be reached, the emergency contacts listed on your enrolment will be contacted.

## **What happens when my child concludes their year in Little Explorers?**

At the conclusion of Little Explorers, children progress to Kindergarten at Guildford Grammar School, continuing their learning journey through the Preparatory School and Senior School.

## **What days does Little Explorers operate and can I choose specific days?**

Little Explorers is offered on fixed attendance patterns to support consistency and continuity for children. Families can choose from the following options:

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

Days are not interchangeable and cannot be mixed across the week.

## **Is Little Explorers eligible for the Child Care Subsidy (CCS)?**

As a school-based early learning program, it is not eligible for the Australian Government Child Care Subsidy (CCS).

GUILDFORD GRAMMAR SCHOOL

# Join Our Community

*"To Go Forward is to embrace opportunity, overcome struggle, pursue wisdom and respect others. It is to appreciate the past and hope for the future."*

Izaak Lim (School House, 1994 – 2006)



## GO FORWARD WITH US

We hope this prospectus has given you a clear sense of what Little Explorers at Guildford Grammar School could mean for your child and your family. Beginning school is an important milestone, and we are here to support you as you consider the next steps for your child's early learning journey.

### Connect with us

The best place to start is a conversation. Our Admissions team is available to answer your questions about Little Explorers, enrolment pathways and availability, and to guide you through the process.

Phone: (08) 9377 9222

Email: [registrar@ggs.wa.edu.au](mailto:registrar@ggs.wa.edu.au)

Website: <https://www.ggs.wa.edu.au>

### Visit the School

We encourage families to visit the School wherever possible. A visit provides the opportunity to see Little Explorers in action, explore the learning environments and gain a sense of our community.

Tours take place during the school day, allowing you to experience daily life at Guildford Grammar School. Private tours can be arranged where possible.



### Apply for Enrolment

When you are ready, you can lodge an application for Little Explorers through our enrolments page.

Following your application, your family will be invited to meet with our Admissions team to discuss your child and their transition into Little Explorers.

We look forward to getting to know your family and welcoming your child as they begin their learning journey at Guildford Grammar School.



### Register for Bush Playgroup

Bush Playgroup is a simple way to experience Guildford Grammar before your child is old enough to join. Held each term on campus, it offers young children and their families a chance to explore, play and connect in nature while getting to know our School community.





Guildford Grammar School

FOUNDED 1896

[www.ggs.wa.edu.au](http://www.ggs.wa.edu.au)