

## **Kinder Program at Belford Oaks**

At Belford Oaks, we provide a funded 3-year-old and 4-year old Kinder program. The program is run by one Master trained teacher, one Bachelor trained teacher and one Diploma trained educator, five days a week with 15 children a day.

Our program begins at 9am and concludes at 3pm daily. Government requirements for children attending a funded Kinder program the year before commencing school are that children must be enrolled in our service for a minimum of 15 hours a week. As our program is run for 5 hours a day, children must have access to a minimum of 3 days a week.

From 2022, 3-year-olds across Victoria will have access to 5 hours in a kindergarten program led by a teacher. Therefore, the government will help the kindergarten service with the cost of your child attending one day at our centre,

To find out more about our Funded Kindergarten Program please see our below.

### **Belford Oaks Kindergarten Program**

At Belford Oaks Community Childcare Centre, the Kinder Program approach to education is a structured individualised and flexible program in a Long Day Care setting.

A variety of open-ended activities and intentional teaching experiences are offered to the children which aim to help them develop essential skills.

**Within the Kindergarten program some of our main focuses are on:**

- Social skills
- Self-help skills
- Fine and gross motor skills
- Early literacy and numeracy
- Regulating emotions and increasing self-esteem
- Inquiry-based learning
- School readiness
- Specialist programs such as, Music and Physical Education

At Belford Oaks, we believe children learn best through hands-on play in an inquiry-based model of learning. Therefore, as part of our Kinder program, the children undertake several inquiry projects throughout the year, where they are involved in carrying out investigations, proposing explanations and solutions, and communicating their understanding of concepts in a variety of ways.

**Indoor and Outdoor Program:**

In our program we run an indoor/outdoor program allowing children to make choices as to where they would like to play.

Some of our outdoor activities include sand pit play, mud patch, swings, climbing fort, cubby house, bikes, as well as art and craft experiences, puzzles and construction.

All activities offered indoors can also be offered outdoors- weather permitting.

**Staff-** Two Qualified Kindergarten Teachers (One with a Master's degree, One with a Bachelor degree) and One Diploma Qualified Educator.

**Children-** 15, 3-5 years of age

**Long Day Care:**

Long day kindergarten gives children the opportunity to attend kinder for a longer period of time, and includes a morning tea, a two-course lunch, as well as afternoon tea. Providing a Funded Kindergarten Program within a Long Day Care setting caters to families that need their children to attend care for full days.