



MACKAY CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

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Early Learning Centre Fact Sheet

Mackay Christian College Early Learning Centre is a Registered Child Care Provider with an Approved Kindergarten Program. We are licensed as a Kindergarten and as a Long Day Care Centre. As such, we operate two separate programs; Long Day Care and Part-time Kindy. The Kindergarten learning program hours for *both* options is between 8:20am and 2:50pm during the school term. The Long Day Care is open 7:30am to 5:30pm (min 3 days per week) including school holidays.

Birth Date	Your child can start KINDY in:	Your child can start PREP in:
1 July 18 – 30 June 19	2023	2024
1 July 19 – 30 June 20	2024	2025
1 July 20 – 30 June 21	2025	2026



What days would my child attend the Early Learning Centre?

The MCC Early Learning Centre offers parents the option of having their child attend the Long Day Care program (min 3 days a week) and will be able to attend during school holidays **OR** Part-time Kindy program 5 days a fortnight. Children enrolled in the Part-time 5 day fortnight program will attend classes three days one week and two days the next week (Mondays, Tuesdays and alternate Wednesdays OR Thursdays, Fridays and alternate Wednesdays). You will be notified which days are allocated to your child.

What are the hours of operation for the Early Learning Centre?

Long Day Care is open from 7:30am to 5:30pm including school holidays. Sessional hours in the Part-time Kindy will run from 8.20am to 2.50pm school terms only. Kindergarten learning program hours for both options is between 8:30am and 2:50pm.

Is there a deposit for the Early Learning Centre?

Yes. A deposit of \$150 is required at the time of application to secure a possible place for your child and will be used as your registration fee. This is to be paid before applications can be processed. If your application is unsuccessful, the full deposit of \$150 will be refunded to you. However, if you choose to withdraw your application, this deposit is non-refundable.

What are the enrolment procedures for the Early Learning Centre?

An Early Learning Centre Enrolment Application form should be completed and submitted to the College Office along with your \$150 deposit. Please include proof of age (birth certificate or passport) and proof of immunisation. Once your application has been processed, you will be required to attend an interview with the Head of Early Learning. If places are full, your enrolment application will be placed on a waiting list and an interview with the Head of Early Learning will be arranged when a space becomes available. If your child's enrolment is successful, an offer of placement will be made by the Enrolment Officer a short time afterwards.

Please note: Submission of the Enrolment Application and \$150 deposit does not guarantee placement in the Early Learning Centre.

Is there a compulsory uniform for the Early Learning Centre?

Yes. Children will be required to wear the Junior School Sports Uniform each day. Uniforms are available from the School Locker at the Senior Campus, located at 9 Quarry Street, North Mackay.

- MCC Junior School sports shorts and the Junior School sports polo shirt (both with MCC logo)
- MCC Legionnaires hat
- Closed in shoes or joggers (Velcro straps instead of shoe laces) **NO THONGS or SANDALS ALLOWED**
- MCC Sports socks preferred or short white socks visible above shoes

What does my child need to bring to the Early Learning Centre?

- ✓ Backpack or MCC Bag (named with identifiable tag)
- ✓ Healthy morning tea and lunch in a lunch box (named) that your child can open by themselves if appropriate (no cooler bags)
- ✓ Water bottle with a lid over the mouthpiece (named)
- ✓ Spare change of clothes and underwear (named)
- ✓ Raincoat with a hood and a pair of named gumboots
- ✓ Small cushion for resting (named)
- ✓ 2 cot size sheets both flat not fitted (named)
- ✓ Small bag to hold both cushion and sheets (named)
- ✓ Small light blanket for winter (named)
- ✓ USB memory stick minimum 4 GB for collection of child's photos at Kindy

Do I need to supply proof of my child's Immunisations?

Yes. Parents must supply a record of their child's immunisation with their Enrolment Application. Children must be fully immunised to attend the Early Learning Centre. Children who are not immunised can be enrolled by the Centre but must be withdrawn for the exclusion period if a vaccine-preventable disease is confirmed within the Centre.

What will the fees be for the Early Learning Centre?

The Part-time Kindy program is billed at \$35 per day. Fees are charged for school terms only as per the Mackay Christian College school calendar (public holidays are included). Long Day Care is billed at \$85 per day, minimum 3 days a week and you may choose to have your child attend during school holidays.

Full fees are payable for absences due to family holidays, illness or days when the Early Learning Centre is closed for statutory holidays. Fees are expected to rise between 1.5% and 3%.

How can I make payments for the Early Learning Centre and how often?

The Early Learning Centre payments can be made by Direct Debit either weekly, fortnightly, monthly or per term. You may collect a Confirmation of Direct Debit form from the College Office or download it from the college website to allow the college to deduct fees from your bank account or credit card. You may also pay by Cash, Credit Card or EFTPOS at either the Junior or Senior Reception.

Will I be eligible for a Child Care Subsidy (CCS)? (only applies to Long Day Care)

MCC Early Learning Centre is a Registered Child Care Provider with an Approved Kindergarten Program. We are licensed as a Long Day Care Centre and as a Kindergarten. If you enrol your child into our Long Day Care program you may apply to receive a Centrelink Child Care Subsidy (CCS) via your myGov account.

Cheaper Kindy for Families in 2023

The Queensland Government is introducing new funding from January 2023 which will mean cheaper kindy for many families. Whether your child attends Part-time Kindy or Long Day Care Kindy it may be free, or cheaper, if you are eligible for Kindy Plus or you receive Family Tax Benefit (FTB). In addition, if you attend a sessional kindy and experience temporary financial hardship you may be eligible for the Kindy plus subsidy. Visit the *Kindy savings webpage* <https://earlychildhood.qld.gov.au/early-years/kindergarten/what-does-kindy-cost/kindy-savings> to find out what savings you may be eligible for.

What curriculum is followed in the Early Learning Centre?

The Early Learning Centre curriculum is constantly evolving and is aimed at engaging children in activities that are relevant to their experiences. It has been carefully developed to align with the Queensland Kindergarten Learning Guidelines and so encompasses a skilful balance of spontaneous and intentional learning opportunities.

What if my child is not ready for Prep after a year in the Early Learning Centre Kindy?

The teachers in the Early Learning Kindy classes will communicate with parents if they feel their child is not ready to move to Prep. We also invite parents to speak to their child's teacher if they feel that their child may not be ready; although most children are ready for Prep at the end of Kindy. If however, parents and teachers agree a child is not ready, the teacher will discuss options available with parents.

Will my child automatically be enrolled to commence at MCC?

Placement at MCC Early Learning Centre **does not guarantee enrolment** in Mackay Christian College. Families wishing to enrol their child into Mackay Christian College in Prep - Year 12 should make a separate application for enrolment. Enrolment policies and procedures are outlined in the college Enrolment Pack available from the Junior or Senior Reception or on the college website www.mcc.qld.edu.au.