



CHILTERN EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES

I am very pleased to let you know that the early childhood services in Chiltern will be moving under the umbrella of North East Regional Pre School Association (NERPSA) very shortly. To enable this to occur effectively and in order to complete the required approval processes, NERPSA will be commencing services as the approved provider in January 2021. We will continue to run programs as determined by community need and to assist with this, we would ask that any family considering using the early childhood services, complete the attached registration form and return as soon as possible.

As a short introduction, NERPSA is a not-for-profit Early Years Manager which has been operating in north east Victoria since 2004. It is governed by a Board, consisting of up to 12 elected volunteer representatives from parents of children attending our services as well as the broader community. We currently provide services for 12 Kindergartens, including in several rural areas similar to Chiltern. We are very much looking forward to working with staff, children, families and the community over the coming months to ensure the high quality services can continue to be provided. We will be looking at providing continuity of service as much as possible, although there may be some small differences which are unavoidable due to circumstances. One of these is that unfortunately at the outset, we will be unable to provide meals at the services. We understand this will be a change but will be able to consider possible local options to reintroduce this facility once an effective transition has occurred. To offset this change, we will be looking at a decrease in fees which will be notified closer to service commencement.

2021 will also see the roll-out of funded three-year-old kindergarten across Indigo Shire. For Chiltern, this will mean that children accessing the 15 hour sessional three-year-old kindergarten program who meet the criteria for fee subsidy will be able to access the program for free (as currently occurs with the four-year-old program). Children will need to have turned three before the end of April 2021 in order to access the three-year-old kindergarten program. Evidence shows that two years are better than one when it comes to early learning and taking part in a quality

kindergarten program at an earlier age leads to positive effects on child development.

We understand this period of transition time may pose challenges and will endeavour to ensure families are updated as opportunities arise. Please do not hesitate to contact me on 5721 2755 however, if there are any questions or concerns in the meantime.

Kind regards and stay safe,

Leigh Chadban
NERPSA Manager

CHILTERN – 2021 Registration Form

1. CHILD DETAILS:

First Name: _____ Surname: _____

Date of Birth: ____ / ____ / ____

2. PARENT/GUARDIAN DETAILS:

First Name: _____ Surname: _____

Address (for postal purposes): _____

Phone Number: _____

E-mail: _____

3. Please tick the services you are considering for your child:

3 year old Kindergarten – sessional (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9am – 2pm only)

3 year old Kindergarten – integrated (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday long days)

4 year old Kindergarten – sessional (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9am – 2pm only)

4 year old Kindergarten – integrated (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday long days)

And/or:

Long day care:

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

4. Comments:

Thank you for your information. Please return completed form to:

Email: manager@nerpsa.com.au or

In person/Mail: NERPSA, 1 Handley Street, Wangaratta, Vic 3677