



Evelyn Scott School

Information for Preschool Families



ACT
Government



Welcome to preschool at Evelyn Scott School

Evelyn Scott School is a 'Future Focused' school, we learn through an inquiry-based approach that connects learners and their learning to their world. We lead our community to engage with the ACT's *Future of Education Strategy* and all of its possibilities. Contemporary learning means preparing for a shifting future that requires skills and knowledge, citizenship, connection to culture and the environment and the capacity to solve complex problems with creative approaches.

Evelyn Scott School prepares learners for the 21st Century. They will build their capacity to solve problems, be critical thinkers and self directed learners. Through collaboration and effective communication, they will be inspired to navigate their futures and become life long learners.



My first day at preschool

Day 1– Monday 29 January 2024 for **Kookaburra** and **Rosella** classes (attending preschool at the **start of the week**)

Day 1—Thursday 1 February 2024 for **Wedge Tail Eagle** and **Reed Warbler** classes (attending preschool at the **end of the week**)

Day 1 will begin at **9 am**. Follow the signs to the preschool building and meet your child's class teacher. Learners will receive a name tag and coloured hat to help them identify their group.

After your child has met their teacher and settled in, you are welcome to stay and play.

The school day finishes at **3 pm**. Children will leave the class once a parent or caregiver arrives to collect them. Please ensure you are on time.

Day 2 and beyond

Children in our preschool can be dropped off by a parent or caregiver from **9 am** where the teacher welcomes the children into the learning space. Families are welcome and encouraged to come into the preschool class, to play and learn together.

Preschool learners are not able to be left unaccompanied in the school grounds before this time.

The preschool day ends at **3 pm**. Kookaburra and Warbler families meet outside the main preschool entrance doors. Rosella and Eagle families will meet outside the gates to the left of the preschool door. Please ensure your child is collected on time.

Collection of children in preschool must involve a parent, carer or familiar adult who is listed on the child's enrolment form as an authorised nominee and emergency contact. Please contact the school via email to update or add to this list at: evelynscottschool.information@ed.act.edu.au or by calling us on 6142 3491.

What to bring

The essential things to pack in your child's school bag are:

- A full drink bottle of water
- A [waste free lunch](#) box for fruit/vegetable break, a snack and fruit/vegetable for Break 1 and [healthy lunch](#) for Break 2
- **Parents are asked to provide nut free food for their child's snack and lunch. Evelyn Scott School is an anaphylaxis aware school. This provides protection for children who have severe allergic reactions to certain foods and in particular nuts and nut products. This includes NO Nutella or peanut butter/nut butter sandwiches.**
- A complete set of spare clothes to accommodate changes in weather, active outdoor play and accidents of any kind.
- A warm coat and beanie in the cooler months.
- Preschool learners will receive a coloured hat corresponding to their class colour group. Hats are purchased by the school and remain in the classroom for the duration of the year.
- Please ensure all your child's belongings are **clearly labelled**.

Sharing Food

Due to ongoing COVID-19 practices in public schools as set out by the ACT Health Directorate, the sharing of food is strongly discouraged. We remind learners during meal and break times to eat their own food and not to share with their peers. Families are discouraged from sending in food to share.



Communication and staying connected

Staying connected to our families is our school's priority. We want you to be a part of your child's learning and encourage families to stay in touch.

Evelyn Scott School Front Office is open between 8:30am and 4:00pm Monday to Friday. Our contact number is **6142 3491** or you can email us at: evelynscottschool.information@ed.act.edu.au

We regularly communicate with families via email, Weekly Warbler (snapshot of events in the week ahead) and our monthly Newsletter which is made available on our school's website: evelynscottschool.act.edu.au

Feedback

At Evelyn Scott School we value feedback about our preschool. You may provide feedback on our preschool program in a number of ways:

- Verbal comments to teachers or add to the class communication log
- Email your child's teacher via: *firstname.surname@ed.act.edu.au*
- Join us for 'Stay and Play' in the morning or afternoon reflections and speak with the teacher directly

Classroom teachers are available for informal and scheduled appointments out of school hours. Please note teachers are not expected to respond to emails outside of normal working hours.

Voluntary Contributions

Every year we encourage all families to pay a one off voluntary contribution of \$150 for one child or \$250 for families with more than one child attending. There is also a tax deductible Library Trust Fund contribution that families are able to donate.

This voluntary payment contributes towards the running of the school and educational resources for the preschool. A note will be sent to all families at the commencement of Term 1, 2024.

Resources for learning

Families will receive emailed information regarding how to purchase resource/book packs. Your child's resource pack contains consumables used in the classroom throughout the year. Once purchased, the **entire** resource pack will be sent to the school in Week 1 of Term 1. Families will receive an email regarding how to order book packs prior to the start of the next school year. These items **do not** need to be labelled and books **do not** need to be covered prior to starting school.



Out of School Hours Care (OSHC)

[Woden Community Services](http://WodenCommunityServices.com.au) is the provider of Evelyn Scott School's Out of School Hours Care. They offer before and after school care during each term. Holiday programs will be offered during term breaks. Out of hours school care operates in the school gymnasium. For more information and enrolment please visit their website: wcs.org.au

The Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF)

[The Early Years Learning Framework \(EYLF\)](http://TheEarlyYearsLearningFramework(EYLF).com.au)

Evelyn Scott School uses the EYLF framework to guide experiences for our preschool students. The framework's vision is for all children to experience play-based learning that is engaging and builds success for life.

Belonging – to family, preschool, school, class and friendships.

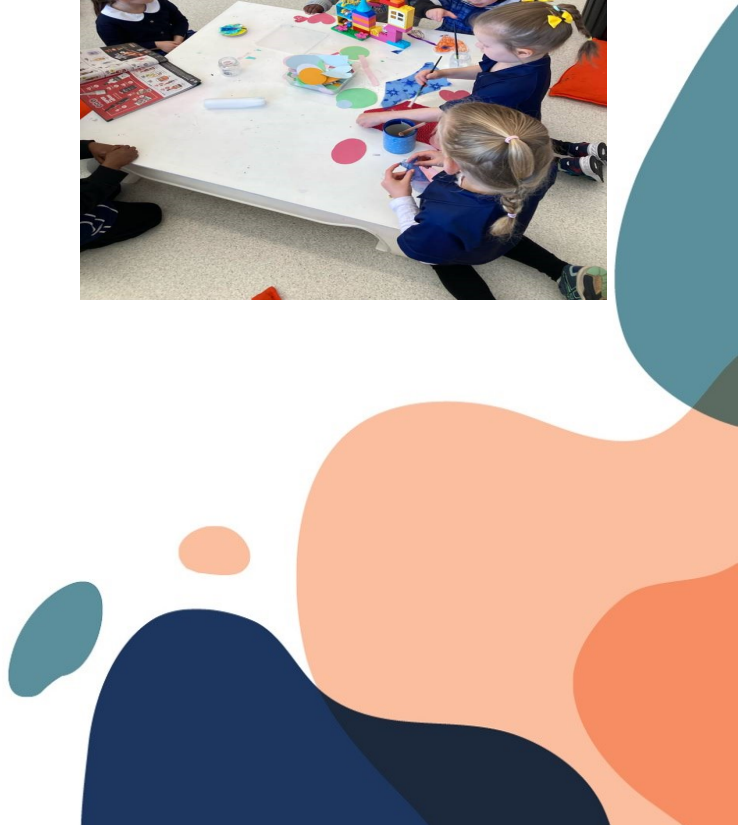
Children with a strong sense of belonging are more confident, and feel safe and supported in exploring their world.

Being – Celebrating and exploring the 'here and now'.

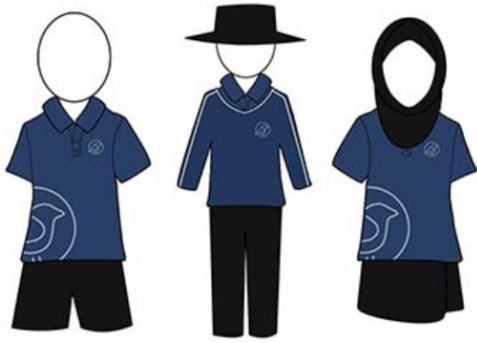
Children's interests, aptitudes and needs that shape their learning.

Becoming – Continuous and rapid changes in early childhood as they grow, learn, develop and experience

Children's cognitive, social, physical and emotional development; their personality; and their values are ever evolving



School Uniform



“Childhood is about doing. It is about process, action, adventure, motion, trial, error, exploration, discovery, searching, connecting and probing– we call this play”

At Evelyn Scott School we encourage children to be comfortable so they are able to play and learn. We offer a variety of uniform options that are comfortable hard wearing, sustainably sourced and easy to care for.

We encourage children to wear closed toed shoes to keep little toes safe and for ease of play.

The Evelyn Scott uniform showcases the school’s Reed–Warbler logo on a navy backdrop and is the core piece of the uniform. This is coordinated with black bottoms in the form of skorts, shorts, pants and skirts. A trans seasonal dress is also available for purchase. Please visit our school’s website to purchase school uniforms under the ‘[Enrolling Your Child](#)’ tab. Additional information regarding uniforms will be emailed to families prior to the start of the 2024 school year.

Our Community

Evelyn Scott School is a school in the heart of some of Canberra’s newest suburbs. We strive to create a connected community where all members of our community feel a sense of belonging and their voice is heard.

Together, as a community of staff, children and families we co-create a safe, collaborative, connected learning environment. We nurture independence, resilience and regulation through respectful relationships, encouraging every child to reach their full potential. We value a culture where high expectations, respectful and effective communication is developed through community partnerships.



Houses become Bunjis

'Bunji' is an Aboriginal term that means “a mate, a close friend a kinsman” (from Warlpiri and other languages of the Northern Territory and northern Queensland).

We acknowledge that the term 'house' is founded on conservative ideals from a bygone era and we wish to reflect the contemporary nature and philosophy of the school which we have co-created this year. We have sought permission from the EDU Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Team and we will utilise the term 'Bunji' in place of the term 'House'.

At the commencement of our school opening in 2021 we asked our community to vote for Bunji names and colours and the results were:

1. Norris - (Emerald) Named after Dame Ada Norris DBE, CMG was president of the National Council of Women of Victoria from 1951-54 and national president from 1967-70 where she contributed to shaping public opinion and influencing legislation about issues of women’s rights, status and opportunities.

2. Rigby - (Purple) Named after Norma Rigby MBE who helped to establish Canberra’s Koomarri school and spent much of her life working for the rights of people with a disability or mental illness

3. Golgerth - (Aqua/Light Blue) Named after Joyce Golgerth, anti-conscription activist

4. Felstead - (Burnt orange) Named after Minnie Felstead, union organiser and advocate for women’s rights

These Bunji names and colours were selected by the school community to reflect some of the street names in the suburb of Denman Prospect where our school has been built. These names also honour some of Australia’s most highly accomplished women advocates.

Learners are placed into Bunjis when they join Evelyn Scott School and will stay in their Bunjis from Preschool to Year 10.

School Board

Each government school in the ACT is administered by a School Board whose membership comprises of the school principal, elected staff members, elected members of the parent body and a nominee of the Education Directorate. Elected members normally serve for a two year period. The Board is the policy making body of the School. For more information on nominating for the school board and the roles and responsibility please email Jackie.Vaughan@ed.act.edu.au

We always encourage our parents to get involved and there are many opportunities for you to be a part of Evelyn Scott Preschool, such as:

- Sharing skills
- Volunteering your time to support children
- Nominating to serve on the School Board
- Assisting on excursions
- Participating in special projects during the year
- **Regular** volunteers are asked to comply with the [Code of Conduct for Volunteers](#) and complete a [Working with Vulnerable people Check \(WWVP\)](#)