



Young Adventurers Early Childhood Services

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

Thank you for registering your interest in our Early Childhood programs.

We are a 40 Place Education and Care Centre, offering both child care and a Funded 4 year old Kindergarten Program. We are located at 24 Yana Street Swan Hill and first opened in July 2015.

Our Centre caters for children aged from 6 weeks to 6 years and is open Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm.

Comprising three separate rooms with individual bathrooms and adjoining large playgrounds children are grouped 6weeks to 3 years; 3 to 4 years and 4 years or older in our separate Kindergarten room.

We purposely chose our site because of the abundance of open natural play spaces and the homely feel that exists. Marg is a Degree qualified Early Childhood Teacher and has 20 years experience providing education and care programs to children in the Swan Hill area. Set on 2 acres of established lawns, trees and gardens and well back from the main road children will find themselves immersed in a multitude of indoor and outdoor experiences that support their natural curiosity of the world, learning through a play based curriculum under the support and guidance of qualified and experienced educators. Our playgrounds are specifically designed to promote physical activity and provide opportunities for rich learning experiences.

Educators at Young Adventurers have been carefully selected to ensure they have the skills and knowledge to facilitate education and care programs. Our educators are provided with regular training to ensure they are up-to-date with current practice and are able to meet the needs of the children and families using our service.

We also have a strong relationship with local training providers and at times may host early childhood students during the practical component part of their course. We see this as an important part of demonstrating our high quality programs and supporting students to achieve best practice therefore improving outcomes for young children across the sector. Students are interviewed prior to placement and are required to have a current working with children check if over 18 years of age.

Our centre cook provides nutritionally balanced meals from our fully equipped kitchen and can cater for a variety of children's dietary needs. Our menu plan is prepared two weeks in advance and parent suggestions of appropriate menu ideas are always welcome. It is important that you indicate on your enrolment form if your child has any specific dietary requirements including all allergies or intolerances. Supporting medical documentation is required for any allergies, asthma or other medical conditions.

To ensure your child is comfortable and dry whilst playing both indoors and outdoors please pack a clean change of clothes. It is a good idea to set aside some 'day care' clothes for your child as they may come home with paint, dirt, sand, water or mud on them. If you have an appointment or special occasion to attend you are welcome to arrive a few minutes early to dress your child in more appropriate clothes. Appropriate footwear is also important. Please refrain from sending your child in loose fitting shoes as these will limit your child's ability to participate in all of our experiences safely. In winter we welcome some wet weather shoes such as gum boots in the children's bags for outdoor fun.

To ensure a smooth transition into our service families are encouraged to meet their child's educator and tour our centre prior to starting.

As part of the Federal Government's Child Care Reforms it has been announced that the current ccb and ccr system will be replaced with one new Child Care Subsidy payment from the 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2018 taking affect across Australia. These changes will affect the amount of subsidy that families may receive towards the cost of child care or Kindergarten. Families will need to make contact with Centrelink to ascertain the amount of assistance they may receive then contact our centre to confirm any increase or decrease in their child care/kindergarten fees from 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2018.

Please complete the attached enrolment application documents and return them to our service by email or post. Unless we have contacted you to confirm a placement these forms are not confirmation of a placement they are a formal application. Due to overwhelming demand we currently have a waiting list for both child care and kindergarten in 2018 - see below for more information regarding allocation of placements.

The statement below is taken directly from the Department of Education & Training rules and guidelines as to how placements are allocated. A copy of all of our Centre Policies & Procedures Book including fee policies is available at reception. If you require more information please contact us on 03 50329729 or visit our website [www.youngadventurers.com.au](http://www.youngadventurers.com.au) we also have a public facebook group where we update information regularly however children's names and identities are not published on this group and we ask that parents respect the privacy of children and families if posting comments on the group.

Yours sincerely, Marg & Scott Hartshorn

*Sometimes, there may be a waiting list for child care services and to ensure the system is fair, the Australian Government has "Priority of Access Guidelines" for allocating places in these circumstances. The guidelines only apply to Child Care Benefit approved child care. They are used when there is a waiting list for a child care service or when a number of parents are applying for a limited number of vacant places.*

*Every Child Care Benefit approved child care service has to abide by the guidelines and tell you about them when you enrol your child into care.*

*Priorities: First Priority: a child at risk of serious abuse or neglect. Second Priority: a child of a single parent who satisfies, or of parents who both satisfy, the work/training/study test under Section 14 of the 'A New Tax System (Family Assistance) Act 1999'. Third Priority: any other child. Within these main categories priority should also be given to the following children:*

*children in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families; children in families which include a disabled person; children in families which include an individual whose adjusted taxable income does not exceed the lower income threshold of \$42,997 for 2014-2015, or who or whose partner are on income support; children in families from a non-English speaking background; children in socially isolated families; children of single parents.*

*A child care service may require a Priority 3 child to vacate a place to make room for a child with a higher priority. They can only do so if you are notified when your child first entered care that your service follows this policy or are given at least 14 days notice of the need for your child to vacate.*