

## ***WALDORF FOUNDATION GROUP INFORMATION***

Our aim is to create a peaceful haven for a child's development to naturally unfold. Guided by the indications of Rudolf Steiner, our experienced educators carry all children with some kind of reverence and protect the young child's sensitivity. It is the work of the educators to create this environment for the child, as we deliver a program suited to the Reception/Foundation year for Home Educating Families.

### **The 4-6 Aged Foundation Group Focus**

Young children from birth to age seven, learn primarily through imitation and purposeful play. In Hakea sessions, children work, play and learn in a sensory rich environment where our experienced educators strive to be worthy of imitation in all they do, nurturing the young child's sense of wonder for the world. The first seven years lay a strong foundation for all further learning, and therefore these sessions aim to be the most nourishing beginning chapter to your child's Home Education journey. We provide a warm, respectful and caring, Early Childhood environment where a sense of gratitude, love, reverence and a pervading mood of goodness in the world is cultivated. Educationally, we focus on deep oral language development, the opportunity for children to develop their auditory processing skills, and a rich experience of the spoken narrative.



The task of the educators is to create a learning space where children can fully engage in the present and enrich the possibilities of creative, imaginative, self-directed play. The Early Childhood environment educates and develops the senses of touch, wellbeing, movement and balance. Once confidence in their physical capacities has been established, children are ready to commence the more formal learning of the Class Years, a program provided by our Rosa Mundi educators.



### **A Picture of Early Childhood**

The last phase of the first 7 year cycle of development in the early years begins at around 4 and 2/3 years of age until around 7 years of age. This very important time we know as the Thinking Willing phase. We can observe in our children the planned play themes that arise: often scenarios are built, children are recruited into the play and then the play shifts and something completely different takes its place.

Imagination and creativity runs deeply in this period and it is most important to keep the child's mind free from any technologies that limit free-imagination. The child is most involved in their play when they can follow their own ideas and imaginations. During this time, the child's Limb system is also

developing and movement opportunities for children which revolve around long walks, uphill hikes, climbing, and anything to strengthen their growing limbs are important. There is also an awakening in the child's procreative senses: Questions arise about how babies are born, they become interested in their body parts and often "Doctors" becomes a common play theme. So now there arises a need to guide the child to understand safe relationship practices through play, modelling from families, and clear loving boundaries. The archetypes present in Fairy tales carry deep messages to the children at this age, and the morals taught through them also help guide the child through the use of their imagination to develop boundaries, respect, and healthy relationship practices.

## Parental Involvement

In all of our services, parental involvement in the understanding of the necessity of rhythm is required, to support the facilitators, teachers and our children to have a wonderful deep experience of the morning. While most parents may wish to leave their child to the experience of the morning, if you are needing to stay, you may assist by joining in with singing, clean up and all the little bits along the way.

Parent involvement behind the running of our services is essential to the children and to the flow of this vibrant picture we hold for everyone through our Fleurieu Waldorf Initiative. Parents make up the majority of committees, collaborate to run fundraising activities, cooperatively lead craft mornings and conduct seasonal festivals.



## Each Term

The program will run on **Mondays and Tuesdays**, from **9.00am -2.00pm**. Arrival can be between **9.00am-9.15am** with a prompt start at **9.15am**.

Please take note there is a 200m walk from the carpark to the garden entry. Allow yourself and your children enough time as to not rush this journey, take it at your child's pace, a chance to become present and settle into your morning.

There will be morning tea and lunch provided, and families will be required to bring some of the ingredients to be involved with the cooking.

No Mobile Phones are allowed in the space, if a phone call is needed we kindly ask that it is taken outside of the gardens so that we may preserve the essence of the morning.

## Each session, please bring:

- A hat
- Childs drink bottle
- Appropriate shoes for walking and play
- A pair of slippers for indoor play (OPTIONAL)
- Appropriate clothes with adequate protection from the weather on the day
- All weather rain suit or protection for being outside in rainy weather
- A back up change of clothes (there is possibility of mud play)
- A whole fruit (to be cut up and shared)
- A whole vegetable that would go well in Risotto (Monday) or Soup (Tuesday)

## TERM INVESTMENT

Foundational Group Ages 4-6 Monday and/or Tuesday Mornings from 9:00AM to 2:00PM	Child	Siblings			
		Sibling 1	Sibling 2	Sibling 3	Sibling 4
Mondays (10 Sessions)	\$600 \$60/Session	\$500 \$50/Session	\$450 \$45/Session	\$400 \$40/Session	\$350 \$35/Session
Tuesdays (10 Sessions)	\$600 \$60/Session	\$500 \$50/Session	\$450 \$45/Session	\$400 \$40/Session	\$350 \$35/Session
Both Days (20 Sessions)	\$550 \$55/Session	\$450 \$45/Session	\$400 \$40/Session	\$350 \$35/Session	\$300 \$30/Session

These fees are inclusive of AON Tutoring Insurance.

Please note that these are a placement fee, not an attendance fee. This holds your child's place for one or both mornings for the whole term, and helps us pay our tutors and all costs of running this beautiful service. Should you require a payment plan or direct debit schedule, this can be arranged upon enrolment.

## PLAYGROUP LOCATION

Google Maps Cameron Street, Port Elliot.

Our playgroup home is part of a property backing onto the Waterport Heritage Reserve Port Elliot. Drive to the end of Cameron Street and continue to the Port Elliot Dog Park. You may Park at the Dog Park and walk East over the reserve towards the back of housing lined with trees. This is around 150m walk, take your time. You will know you have arrived at the playgroup when you see Children's equipment in the yard. Please enter the wooden Gate with hessian flags leading into the playgroup garden. We look forward to welcoming you.



If you would like to be considered for a place in the Hakea program, please complete on the online registration form. <https://www.waldorf-fleurieu.com/playgroup>

If you have any further questions, please reach out to one of our founding members [waldorf.fleurieu@gmail.com](mailto:waldorf.fleurieu@gmail.com) or contact our registration team through Jayne on 0405399519.

We look forward to welcoming your child to Hakea. Thank you for being part of our blossoming community!

With Warmth,

The Fleurieu Waldorf Education Association

[www.waldorf-fleurieu.com](http://www.waldorf-fleurieu.com)

