What can I do as a parent?

- Keep informed of coming events/visits etc. by reading Kindergarten Newsletters
- Talk with and discuss your child’s progress with staff at the Kindy or read your child’s Portfolio with your child and discuss it with them.
- Discuss queries, concerns, etc. with staff to allay fears, help your child. **Kindergarten is a partnership with you the Parents who know your child best of all and us, the Kindergarten educators.**
- If possible join the Kindergarten Governing Council. New members are always welcome.
- Support the Kindergarten events like fundraisers, working bees and other essential projects.
- Talk to your child about his/her day at Kindy
- Take time to look at activities with your child
- Support Kindy programs by bringing items of interest from home, e.g. pets, photos, etc. Notify staff of local happening/events that could be of interest to our children.
- Read and share stories often
- Help your children to be responsible for his/her belongings
- Help your child to recognise his/her name
- Explain/show the importance of good hygiene-e.g. toilet procedures, hand washing, tissues, etc.
- Encourage your child to pack up toys
- Bring your child to Kindy REGULARLY
- Create a POSITIVE PICTURE of Kindy/School
- Give practice in games, puzzles etc. to help your child’s concentration span.
- Allow you child to experiment with painting, cooking, sandplay, playdough, woodwork, etc.
- Limit and supervise the type of Television programs that your child views.
- Help your child to BE ACTIVE each day
- Foster friendship, cooperation, sharing and language.
- Draw, write and provide equipment for your child to draw and write and praise their efforts, whatever they are.
- **Most of all... HAVE FUN WITH YOUR CHILD**
General Information
Lameroo Kindergarten is administered by DECD (Department for Education and Child Development). Our regional offices are located in Berri (Phone number is 85952323) and Murray Bridge (Phone number is 85320700).

Centre Hours
Monday: No sessions (Office is open)
Tuesday: 9:00am to 3:00pm (Kindy)
Wednesday: No sessions
Thursday: 9:00am to 3:00pm (Kindy)
Friday: (Even Weeks only): 9:00am to 3:00pm (Kindy)
Friday: (Odd Weeks — PLAYGROUP: 10:00am to 12:00pm)

Programs offered at Lameroo Kindergarten
Pre-entry: one session per week for a term prior to the child turning four years of age. This is currently held on Thursdays from 9:00am to 12:00 noon.
Sessional Kindy: Four terms of 5 sessions per week prior to the commencement of school i.e. 15 Hours of Preschool Access over a fortnight.
Occasional Care: Available all day Tuesday catering for children from 2 to 4 years of age. Please contact Ali Steer or June Sparks for more information on 85763 379.
Special needs: Children with a ‘special’ need e.g. Speech and Language, Co-ordination, Behaviour, etc. may be eligible for additional support from other professionals and early and extended entry to kindergarten.
Playgroup: Every Odd Friday: 10am to 12 noon. Excellent opportunity for younger children to use the centre.

Starting Kindergarten
Enrolment: All children must be enrolled prior to starting Kindergarten. Please phone to arrange a suitable time for the Director to enrol your child.

At Lameroo Kindergarten we:
• strive to provide a ‘high quality service’ in everything we do.
• We strive to provide an inclusive, collaborative, play based, quality teaching and learning environment for every Preschool and Occasional Care child. We demonstrate respect and acknowledge the diversity within the wider Lameroo Kindergarten community.
• Encourage parent/community involvement in our kindy program
• Believe that children learn through PLAY. Consequently we provide a program rich in QUALITY PLAY EXPERIENCES that develop skills such as discovery, curiosity, experimentation, prediction, speech/language, problem solving, cognitive processes e.g maths, science, technology.
• Are FACILITATORS and staff assist children to become independent learners able to confidently commence school
• Acknowledge that all children are INDIVIDUALS. We observe and program for each child accordingly.
• Value PARENT PARTICIPATION and the ongoing support given to our program by the Management Committee.
• Foster SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT as children interact in small/large group situations and learn to cooperate, take turns, share ideas and equipment.
• Assist PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT by providing many opportunities to climb, dig, paint, hammer, draw, cut and paste, thread, etc.
• Extend language/literacy skills by sharing stories, rhymes, songs, etc. often. Children are encouraged to participate in small and large groups thus giving them self confidence.
• Stimulate INTELLECTUAL GROWTH e.g. Maths-colour, shape, counting, etc. Science, Technology (lego), as well as general knowledge and environmental issues.
Governing Council

Each year in February a **Governing Council** is elected to manage the centre. Positions on the Council include; Chairperson, secretary, treasurer, playgroup rep, publicity officer and general members. If you can assist by joining this body, your help will be appreciated. The council meets about twice a term, usually on a Tuesday night. The responsibilities of the committee include;

- Collection of fees/finances of the centre
- Maintenance of the Kindy. This includes the toys, puzzles and other equipment as well as the building and grounds.
- Fundraising-this is necessary to supplement the fees and government subsidies to ensure all accounts are paid.
- Supporting and liaising with staff regarding the centre and program needs.

Please remember that the Lameroo Kindergarten can not run without a Governing Council.

New members are always welcome throughout the year.

**Fees**: Kindergarten fees are set by the Management Committee. This is used to provide paint, paper, equipment and other consumables etc. used within the centre. Fees are collected in envelopes provided by the Treasurer. If you have any difficulties regarding fee payment, please speak to the Director who will make confidential/alternative arrangements.

**Sickness/Absence**: If your child is sick or going away, e.g. holidays, please let the staff know. Children **Must be kept home** if they are suffering from **infectious diseases** e.g. Flu, Chicken pox, Measles, Head lice, Gastro, etc. If in doubt, please phone the Director.

**Arrival/Departure**: Please be **Punctual** when delivering and collecting your child. Staff and children are **not covered by insurance before and after sessions**.

**Kindy clothing**: Kindy jumpers and polos are available in assorted colours. Prices are as follows; **Jumpers $37.95**  **Hats $10**  **Polo $26.95**

Please see Kindy staff if you would like to purchase any clothing.

**Lost property**: A lost property basket is situated in the adult toilets. Please check the basket regularly for lost items.

**Spare clothing**: The Kindergarten has a small supply of clothing, which is used if a child has an accident and wets their pants or if they get really wet from playing with water. If your child does borrow some clothing, please wash it and return it to Kindy as soon as possible.

**Literacy Kits**: Each child has the opportunity to borrow a Literacy Kit each week. This is a kit that contains a book and some activities relating to that book. Please check the contents of the bag before your child plays with it and again when you return it. Please report any missing or damaged items to Kindy staff.
Our Curriculum is based on the Early Years Learning Framework (The Framework is called ‘Belonging, Being Becoming’). Each child has a folder into which evidence of some of the children’s experiences and work samples from the term is placed. When each child leaves Kindy they receive their folder and also a Summative Report, which with parents permission, is passed onto the child’s school.

What your child will need at Kindergarten
1. Comfortable PLAY CLOTHES. Art smocks are provided for painting, etc. but children can still get clothes dirty.
2. Kindy bag or back pack for belongings. Make sure that it isn’t too small as sometimes the children have a lot of things to bring home.
3. A lunch box with enough healthy food including fruit for both a snack and midday lunch.
4. Please supply a named water bottle.
5. A named Library bag is needed on Tuesday. We visit the library for a story and borrow a book.
6. Please send either a Legionnaire style or Broad brimmed hat with your child as they are expected to be worn when outside during Terms 1 and 3. (During Terms 2 and 4 please continue to send your child’s hat in their bag as a precaution.)

Centre Policies and Procedures
The centre has a range of policies and procedures which can be accessed via the Director or the ‘Lameroo Kindergarten’ WEBSITE.

Basic steps of the Grievance Procedure
1. Arrange to talk to the person who knows about the situation. Either the Director, Early Childhood Worker or a Governing Council Member. It will always help the situation if you are calm and honest in your approach. You should not approach children directly.
2. Your concerns deserve time in order to be resolved. Let the person know about your concern with a note or telephone call. This means they will be prepared and have all of the necessary information. A time can then be set up which suits you both.
3. If at the end of this meeting the problem still is not able to be resolved you may contact the Regional Office (Berri or Murray Bridge). The Regional Officers will need to be sure that attempts have been made to sort out the issues, using the process described above.

There will be times when you feel, for a variety of reasons that you are unable to speak to the person described as the first point of call. If this is the case, let the Director know. Where possible it is best if you speak directly to the person concerned.

PLEASE ENSURE THAT ALL OF THE ABOVE ARE CLEARLY NAMED

Other services available

Bus service: Kindergarten children are able to access the Lameroo Regional Community School buses if vacancies exist. An enrolment form needs to be completed and given to the school before the bus can be used. Please speak to the Director if you wish to access the buses.

Speech specialist teachers: Please share any concerns about your child’s development with the Director who will refer and seek additional help.

Child, Youth and Family Health: A general clinic is given by the sister at the clinic. Dates and times for this important check are organised via the Kindy when your child is approx. 4.5 years of age.