



EARLY  
LEARNING

- › Compassion
- › Integrity
- › Inclusiveness
- › Dignity

**WALGA**

NATURE PRESCHOOL

@ SOUTHERN CROSS EARLY CHILDHOOD SCHOOL



## CONTENTS

**What is Walga ..... 04**

**Drop off / Pick up ..... 05**

**What to bring..... 07**

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the Aboriginal nations of this land; its many Custodians who continue to care for Country, and the way in which Country has cared for her people. We acknowledge the history of this land and the stories of resilience and survival which make up Indigenous Australia. We give thanks for Aboriginal Elders and knowledge keepers of each generation including the many Aboriginal communities which contribute to the life of our region. May we walk gently on this land and commit ourselves to Reconciliation.



### CHARITABLE STATUS

Anglicare NSW South, NSW West & ACT is a registered charity with the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission (ACNC). It is a Public Benevolent Institution and endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient.

### LEGAL NAME

Anglicare NSW South, NSW West & ACT  
 Street Address: 5/221 London Circuit, Canberra, ACT 2600  
 GPO Box 360, Canberra ACT  
 ABN: 69 198 255 076



## Walga runs from 9:00am to 3:00pm Monday - Friday

The program only runs during ACT school terms with before and after school care on offer for families who require additional care.

As the nature program does not run during school holidays, vacation care is available for families to enrol in if needed.

### Drop off / pick up

Upon arrival to our service you are required to sign your child in on the Xap app via our tablets. This is a legal requirement, connecting your attendance to Centrelink and your family's Child Care Subsidy (CCS). Only those authorised by the family on the child's enrolment form are able to sign your child in and out of the service.

If your child attends our Before Preschool Program you will drop off in the school hall after 7:30am and our educators will transition your child to the Walga Courtyard at 9:00am.

Between 9:00am and 9:30am you will be able to drop off your child into the Walga Courtyard

Collection of your child will be at the balance challenge between 2:30pm and 3:00pm, unless attending After Preschool Program.

If your child attends our After Preschool Program our educators will transition them from the Walga Courtyard to the school hall where you can collect your child prior to 6:00pm.

## What is WALGA

In 2020 we introduced a nature preschool program called Walga - Ngunnawal for hawk. The program is based primarily outdoors, utilising the large amount of school grounds that are available to us at different times of the day, with time spent exploring our land and local community. The children are invited to attend local excursions and incursions as the ever growing program is extended from the interests of the children, ensuring that the Early Years Learning Framework and the National Quality Standards guide our practice at all times.

The program is developed using research from educational theorists such as Froebel, Steiner, Vygotsky and Montessori; where the child is at the centre of their own learning.

Included in our curriculum is a dedicated nature program, meaning that regardless of the weather we will venture outdoors into Canberra's very own classroom. You can expect your child to jump in puddles, feel frost on the grass, run, skip and get dirty as they explore and create their own adventures!

Pictured: Our outdoor classroom



**Nature is a tool to get children to experience not just the wider world, but themselves.**

-Stephen Moss



### What to Bring

We believe in the importance of learning through play, and will aim to remain outdoors as long as the children are happy to do so.

Please bring:

- » Spare changes of clothes including socks, shoes, pants/shorts and singlets. Children are encouraged to explore the environment and to participate in activities such as waterplay and painting
- » A coat or jacket (during cool weather)
- » A medium to large sized water bottle (these will be refilled during the day)A sun safe hat
- » Any medication/other essential items your child might require throughout the day
- » Raincoat and gumboots for wet weather/mud play

Please label all your child's belongings

### Appropriate Clothing & Footwear

We follow the Cancer Council (UV) sun smart policy guidelines. Children must wear a broad brimmed sun hat and appropriate clothing while in our Walga playground. Children's tops must cover their shoulders. Thongs, crocs, slippers are not permitted. Gumboots are permitted for wet weather/mud play only.

The Centre provides 50+ broad spectrum sunscreen. Between August and May we ask that you please apply sunscreen to your child on arrival at the Centre. Educators will reapply sunscreen to your child every 4 hours when engaging in the outdoor environment.

**If you have any further questions please feel free to email:**

[southerncross@anglicare.com.au](mailto:southerncross@anglicare.com.au)

Please also read our **Family Handbook** for additional, essential information.



**WE CAN NOT WAIT  
TO START EXPLORING  
WITH YOU!**

**ENROL NOW!**



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