



PRESHIL

THE MARGARET LYTTLE MEMORIAL SCHOOL

THE PRIMARY YEARS
PREP TO YEAR 6
ARLINGTON

COURAGE TO QUESTION

WELCOME TO ARLINGTON | PRIMARY SCHOOL

Preshil Primary School, Arlington, is in Barkers Road Kew. The heritage-listed buildings, designed by Kevin Borland and set in the rambling gardens, cluster around the original homestead of Margaret Lyttle and the site of Australia's oldest progressive educational ideas. The homestead style classrooms, hall and library were designed by Kevin Borland, working closely with the children themselves to create delightful areas that continue to challenge standard notions of appropriate learning spaces; rooms that deliberately promote experimentation and imagination. Preshil's progressive approach unapologetically takes from Montessori and Froebel, from Steiner and Reggio Emilia, each one offering generative and ambitious elements to build on. But Preshil is not locked into a static, dogmatic approach shaped for a different pace and time. We also draw on the work of Sir Kenneth Robinson and John Hattie.

Our approach has much in common with the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program (PYP), being based on a strong commitment to conceptual and holistic learning and an enquiry approach. More than half of our teachers have undertaken PYP training. It was this alignment with the values and pedagogy of the International Baccalaureate and a desire to build on it that first motivated the School's adoption of the MYP at the Secondary School. At Arlington we embrace exciting new technologies, but discriminately, and our exceptional teachers collect and use many styles of data to plan their teaching and refine their understanding of the learning progress. As a team, we read, discuss, plan and collaborate to focus on the individual progress of each child.

"We can be ourselves here and we don't have to be perfect. We are allowed to have our own opinions." Primary Student

5s | PREP

The 5s space is a carefully considered, unique space at Preshil. The program allows the children and teacher to engage in the building blocks of Literacy and Numeracy as well as other aspects of the Curriculum. At the core of our approach is flexibility and relationships, for the purpose of personalising and intentionally planning the space and experiences, allowing for the specific needs of the children. Play, choosing, making and creating a caring environment where children feel at home continues to be an important part of children's learning in the Fives in order for them to be confident thinkers of the future. As part of our transition program, the 4s visit the 5s several times a week for a collaborative project. Using story, teachers engage in shared imaginary role-play, and explicit teaching, to deepen the children's learning around concepts, both social/emotional and scientific.



6s to 11s | YEARS 1 to 6

From the moment they start Primary School, our children are guided through activities that nourish their personal development as well as their literacy and numeracy. In addition to the specialist programs in Philosophy, French, Art, Library, Music and Creative Dance, the children have time for uninterrupted play. With curiosity and determination they build cubby houses, engage in play making, create projects and explore their world with others. In these composite classes the day begins with a welcoming morning meeting, which frames the day's learning and provides opportunities for the children to express their point of view, listen to others and develop social and emotional capacities. At Preshil we take a holistic view of the learning process in relation to the formulation of curriculum. Integrating academic disciplines within meaningful and authentic contexts, working from the children's interests and fostering an ongoing love of learning are paramount. We also have a thriving instrumental music program and run orchestral and vocal groups.



THE ARLINGTON ENVIRONMENT

The school's distinctive physical environment is a setting in which children can find spaces to play imaginatively. The garden has uncultivated and dense shrubberies with rope swings, trees to climb and places to construct cubbies. There are many animals our children care for, and our workshop has real tools for the children to use. The classrooms are welcoming spaces, each with a kitchen, comfortable couches and materials for creative expression. The children are able to access these rooms right across the day.

TRANSITION TO YEAR 7

Our Year 6 students make weekly visits to the Secondary Campus throughout the year and look forward to rejoining their former classmates in the Years 7 and 8 cohort. Our Transition program sees students compile a folio for their future teachers, which celebrates their journey so far and imagines their future pathway. By the time our students finish primary school, they are well on their way to developing their own voice. Their intellectual and physical abilities are highly developed and they can enter the next stage of their schooling with confidence. Preshil students are equipped to make thoughtful and judicious choices regarding their own education and development. The spirit of creativity and discovery founded in the junior years continues to shape the curriculum into Year 7 and beyond to the completion of their secondary schooling.



AFTER SCHOOL CARE

The After School Care program at Preshil aims to provide children with quality out of school hours care which is complementary to the educational philosophy at Preshil. The Preshil Aftercare Program recently achieved an overall 'exceeding the national quality standard' rating. The program offers extended care from 3:15 to 6:00pm. Children can attend on a casual or regular basis.

PRESHIL VISION

At our core remains an unshakeable commitment to encouraging all children to progress at their own pace towards their own goals and to be respected as individuals in their own right. This means a commitment to our children to be nurtured and challenged in an atmosphere that inspires creativity and independent thinking in all areas of life and does not, overtly or subtly, use competition or punishment to motivate through the fear of failure. As global citizens we encourage an awareness of world issues and encourage effort to make a positive difference. We believe that education should prepare students to be thoughtful, peace-loving and active citizens of the world. Preshil will remain a school that puts kindness, compassion and social relationships at the centre of its operations.

MORE INFORMATION

If you would like to learn more about the Junior School or Aftercare at Preshil, please join us for a school tour. These are held at Arlington, the Junior Campus, at 395 Barkers Road, Kew. Please register your intention to attend by contacting the school Registrar, Cressida Batterham-Wilson.

KINDERGARTEN | PRIMARY 395 Barkers Road, Kew VIC 3101

SECONDARY 12-26 Sackville Street, Kew VIC 3101

T 03 9816 7901

F 03 9816 9466

E registrar@preshil.vic.edu.au

W www.preshil.vic.edu.au