

Dernancourt Kindergarten

Clothing and Footwear Guidelines

This document has been formulated in line with the National Quality Standards, specifically element 2.1.2 that stipulates that “Each child’s comfort is provided for”.

In addition, the Kindergarten statement of philosophy outlines the principles that underpin our practices.

Rationale:

The purpose of this Guideline is to:

- Encourage and support children to engage in and experience a wide range of activities whilst at kindergarten.
- Enable access and free range of creative arts materials without fear of or damaging clothing.
- Ensure freedom of movement without creating higher risk of falling or tripping and enabling children the full opportunity to develop gross motor skills without physical restriction.
- Inform parents/carers that we do engage in outdoor activities so consideration for the weather and conditions is important to allow children access.

Guidelines:

We recommend that:

- Children are dressed appropriately as they may come into contact with paint glue, clay and other creative art materials. Children express themselves using creative art materials and educators see this expression as vital to children’s development. Art smocks are provided to give added protection over their clothing.
- Children are dressed in appropriate clothing for the season. For example, during the wetter months children will continue to explore the outdoors. Families may wish to provide boots and a plastic raincoat for children to make mud pies or splash in the mud, free of concerns about being in trouble with mom or dad. When it is warm outside, children should also be dressed appropriately.
- Children are very active and shoes with hard surfaces or heels often cause children to fall. Thongs are not suitable as they are not safe for playing! Shoes with rubber soles and Velcro straps are recommended to foster children’s independence. For example, children can learn to put their own shoes on when they have finished sandpit play.

Children are here to explore all that we have to offer and that means a lot of fun including some very messy activities.

