

# Bush Auslan Pre-School

## DATES & Times

**Term 1:** Our sessions are on Mondays

We have a 2-week trial available if you'd like to try our program before Term 2

It's ok to attend just one of the weeks, but it's a 2-week trial so the price is the same

We encourage you to attend both days to check out all the activity types

Trial Dates: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March & Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April.

Trial times: Arrive anytime from 9am for a **9.15am start. Finish 10.30am** both days

**Term 2:** Mon 1st May - Mon 19th June

Our sessions are on Mondays.

Times for Term 2: 9.30am – 11.30am

## Cost

TERM 1 Two-week TRIAL Cost: **\$45 per child +gst.** This covers both weeks.

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TERM 2 Programs;

The cost works out to ~\$25 per week for your weekly, 2hr program. We don't do a 'per week' arrangement though sorry. Our program is invoiced as a term fee based on the number of weeks in a term. **Term 2 will have 7-weeks, this would be \$175 +gst for your Bush Auslan Pre-school Program.**

There are no refunds for missed sessions. Payment is required prior to your first session.

There are no discounts (sorry!) – we're just getting started and are running this on basic costs as it is.

\*Our normal language programs run at \$20 per hour.

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Modified 20-30min session (held at the start) for younger/less independent children

- Child attends with parent/carer
- Child can be aged 2-5yrs
- We will run this modified session at the start of every week for younger/less independent children before we say goodbye to all the adults/parents

**Cost is \$105 for the 7-week program +gst**

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## **What is Bush Auslan Pre-school?**

A weekly, 2hr immersion Auslan program in the Mandurang South bush designed especially for pre-schoolers. We will have access to the toilet block at the Mandurang South Hall. We will also have access to the Mandurang South Hall if we need it.

For their Auslan, we will have a language Educator that will teach the children basic Auslan.

Our pre-schooler lesson plans and resources have been curated by Deaf Educators to make sure that your child is receiving a genuine learning experience. We will have explicit teaching every week as well as more organic teaching that stems from the children's activity.

Where possible we will always provide a Deaf Educator for our programs, however in regional areas, this is often not possible. If we cannot provide a Deaf teacher, we use Auslan-trained Educators that are experienced in working with young children, passionate about teaching languages and fluent to an appropriate level for pre-schoolers in bush play. They will have their Auslan competency verified by our Deaf teaching team. This is an important part of our teaching process. We have a large Deaf teaching team around Australia to ensure that we always provide a fantastic learning experience for your child. The Deaf culture sessions will always be provided by a member of the Deaf community/one of our Deaf teachers – if not one of our local Bendigo community or Bendigo teachers, then one of our other Deaf Educators via connection! Because learning about this element of language is important to us even at the pre-schooler level. We will have loads of play-based, immersion fun as we explore each of the Auslan topics.

We will be 'voice off' for most of our Auslan learning. This may be confronting/overwhelming for the children at first, but most usually get used to it quite quickly and are comfortable within a couple of weeks.

In addition to the explicit Auslan teaching, we will also have child-led learning and Auslan discovery wonderings, as the Auslan Educator wanders in amongst the children as they experience their bush play. Supporting them with signs for their questions, conversation, words and phrases. We cannot wait to see what the children find in their nature play and support this with Auslan learning.

- Conversation and Greetings
- HOLME
- Fingerspelling
- Handshapes
- Deaf Culture
- Auslan Grammar (basic)
- Lots of vocab and phrases across 8 x Language Tree Modules of learning

## **Our Bush Auslan Adventuring Session Goals**

- All primary communications will be given in Auslan. Communication/conversation will get easier and easier for the children as the weeks go on because of the play-based, immersion methodology.
- Play outdoors in all weather
- Be adventurous; let children assess risks and gain independence

- Provide an understanding of patterns and life cycles
- Provide an understanding of weather and seasons
- Enable a place and spaces of relaxation and beauty
- Provide somewhere for the children to experiment with creativity, imagination and problem solving.
- Help make the children feel more comfortable in the world around them
- Support the children to be more comfortable with outdoor sensory experiences such as dirt and mud
- We welcome all;
  - Children 2-5 can attend WITH a parent/carer for the first 20-30mins for a more structured Auslan learning session
  - The program is designed for children aged 3-6yrs to attend independently (similar to 3 or 4yro Kinder – but not in place of) for the full 2hrs.
  - This program is not designed to replace a child's usual kinder program, it's done in support of/in addition to.
- Love and care for the environment; look after our site and foster connections to nature
- Gather locally; discover nearby natural play spaces and meet and make new friends
- Advocate for and support each other in achieving these aims and enabling each child to learn Auslan and enjoy the bush play.
- The Language Tree Australia will deliver a weekly, 2hr language program in the bush using a play-based methodology including games, paint, play, drama, role-play, conversation, craft, songs, nursery-rhymes and other fun activities, in/around the Mandurang South Hall facilities.
- Your Auslan Educator will be moving amongst the children as they participate in fun games & activities, communicating and teaching Auslan relating to what they're doing. Learning language naturally through play and conversation.
- Children bring their own fresh fruit snack to eat each week for morning tea. Morning tea is a learning opportunity as we discuss fruits, colors, eating and drinking words, questions and phrases in Auslan.
- **Children need to be toilet-trained/able to use a toilet independently to do the full 2hr program.** How is your child with outdoor toilets? The toilet at the Mandurang South Hall is an outside rustic toilet complete with dirt and cobwebs. We'll make sure that there is always clean toilet paper and soap and towels, but families need to note that this is a bush pre-school program, not an indoor kinder program. Don't worry – we'll always be there, and will always go with them, but they need to be confident with their individual toileting. Sal will usually do this while the teacher continues to 'teach'...
- Parent's don't stay unless the child is doing the modified 20/30min program at the start (could be 20min or 30min, will vary from week to week depending on lesson). If you don't think your child can stay independently, then the bush kinder is not going to be for you 😊 Don't worry – why not try the earlier, starter session for younger/less independent kids! We'd love to have you involved please!

The Kinder skills that your child will learn while they are adventuring include;

- Counting, looking at patterns and problem-solving
- Enquiring, experimenting and investigating

- Creating, initiating and constructing
- Discovering. Learning about plant and animal concepts.
- Respecting one another and the earth
- Developing strength, balance and coordination
- Assessing and learning to safely manage risk (at an age appropriate level)
- Learning to speak with confidence, genuinely listen and building self-esteem
- Developing patience 😊 standing in lines, waiting for & taking turns
- Having a 'try' even if they are not confident and even if it has not worked before
- Expressing frustration and anger constructively
- Respecting each other's personal space
- Respecting each other's attempts
- Being gracious
- Sharing materials
- Writing/drawing, cutting and pasting
- Asking for things when they want them and politely accepting and thanking their peers
- Sharing information at morning tea time, asking questions, listening and learning conversation.
- Group listening.
- Manners

### **What will your child need to bring to Bush Auslan Pre-school?**

- A small bag or backpack that they know what is inside/they can access/use easily
- A change of clothes (including undies for little accidents)
- A water bottle
- A raincoat
- A sunhat
- Sunscreen
- Mozzie repellent if you would like your child to use (we don't share)
- A good-sized, fresh fruit snack (please don't bring other snacks – we won't eat them and it just upsets the child when they can't eat them) We use the 'fruit' as a learning opportunity in our immersion language kinders – colors / counting pieces / learning fruit signs etc etc Plus it's healthy, fresh and gives them energy for the 2hr sesh!