

EARLY YEARS 1 TEAM

Ms Narelle



Lead Teacher

&

Ms Vanessa



Teaching Assistant

Ms Narelle and Ms Vanessa have worked together for the past five years at ISU. We have established a strong and dynamic working relationship and are incredibly proud of what we have achieved in transforming the classroom and garden learning spaces. It is an engaging, creative environment prepared for little people to be curious explorers of the world. We continue to research best practice in international childhood education and adapt, adjust and apply to make EY1 at ISU its own unique hybrid. We seek ways to involve families in learning experiences as a shared partnership in learning develops a whole balanced child nurtured in respect and responsibility. We are each here to support you and your child as you begin the learning journey at ISU.

EY1 Transition Program

The first few days of transition are short, learning through play sessions. This is for pre-schoolers to observe their new classmates, to make some play choices and to allow teachers to observe how the child responds to the new structure and classroom. Children may learn a few names and will have a chance to successfully interact with their teachers and carers. The aim of the shorter day is to have success with aspects of the routine and leave feeling confident and eager to return.

LET'S CONSIDER THE CHILDS PERSPECTIVE

LOOKS LIKE

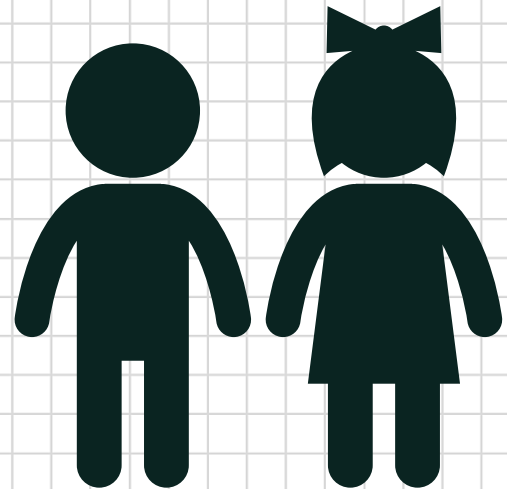
- Vast large space that perhaps they can become lost in
- Confusing and overwhelming
- Visual sensory information to process

SOUNDS LIKE

- Noisy
- Strange languages and unfamiliar cueing systems
- Bells, songs and stories that have not been heard before

FEELS LIKE

- Unsettled
- Anxious
- Curious, but not really sure what to do
- Excited
- Frustrated as communications needs may not be getting met



BUILDING STAMINA AND BUILDING COMMUNITY

Young children can more easily internalise the sequence of the day, if they approach it one step at a time. This is a brand new learning environment, with many inhabitants bigger than them. ISU is a K-12 school. Early Years is situated centrally and there is a high degree of cross student traffic children will be witnessing. There are new routines. Here's where my jacket and bag go. There are choices to be made. Where I sit for snack, where I choose to play.

An English speaking Inquiry learning environment requires great efforts of concentration, the children are acutely looking for visual cues to support their understanding in the first weeks and months. This takes a huge amount of energy. The purpose of transition is for children to develop these skills incrementally, to want to stay and play longer and to establish deep, trusting, secure relationships with the people and place. The pace is to ensure children are supported.

EYL CLASS OF 23-24

TRANSITION SCHEDULE

Monday August 21

Welcome Picnic 11:00-13:00

Tuesday August 22

Group Play 08:30-10:30

Arrival and support your child hanging bag and changing into house shoes.
Family Book Craft Making
Refer to sample page and instructions overleaf

Between 08:45-09:00 a bell will ring for circle time. Children and families inside the room come to the mat for a story and a chat as we sing our Good Morning Song together. After circle time we have choosing play in the classroom. This is when you can say a simple Goodbye, exit the classroom and wait in the Atrium where Ms Balsom and Mrs Henry will offer tea, coffee and snacks or exit the building. This is of course a theoretical model and in practice might be different. Ms Narelle and Ms Vanessa will guide and support.

At the scheduled pick up time we request families wait outside the double glass door entrance of the ISU building. We will bring your child to you.

Wednesday August 23

Group Play 08:30-10:30

Arrival and support your child hanging bag and changing into house shoes.
Into The Garden

The Garden requires some weeding, turning over garden beds and a reset for Planting. We would love your help for 45 minutes. Bring garden gloves, shovels and dig in. Between 08:45-09:00 a bell will ring for circle time, this is a cue to families to exit to Atrium or leave the building.

Monday August 21

Welcome Picnic
11:00-13:00

Tuesday August 22

08:30-10:30
Follow arrival routine.
Family Book Craft Making
Snack
Water bottle

Wednesday August 23

08:30-10:30
Follow arrival routine.
Into the Garden
Snack
Water bottle

Thursday August 24

08:30-11:30
Snack
Water Bottle
Lunch

Friday August 25

08:30-11:30
Snack
Water Bottle
Lunch

EY1 CLASS OF 23-24

TRANSITION SCHEDULE

Week Beginning August 28

Arrival and support your child hanging bag and changing into house shoes. Explore the room together and let your child lead where they choose to play. Stay nearby and observe. If you are confident and believe you can separate and say your Goodbyes please do so. The reception window is an excellent place for a final wave and blow kisses goodbye.

Between 08:45-09:00 we will have a Circle time and this is a daily event that is a focused story, song or name game. It is a perfect way to make a separation and we encourage you to give it a try. **Once again, every child experiences the world in their own unique way and we can adjust these times where necessary.**

Monday August 28

08:30-12:30

Tuesday August 29

08:30-13:30

Wednesday August 30

08:30-14:30

Thursday August 31

08:30-15:00

Friday September 1

08:30-13:45

Every Friday is a 13:45 finish

Week Beginning September 4

Early Years Morning Care from 08:00-08:30 begins this week. We request families take children to the **Atrium** where they can have a short PMP play and snack before entering the classroom at 08:30. Lower School classes at ISU begin at 08:30.

**Monday to Thursday
September 4-7**

08:00-15:00

Friday September 8

08:00-13:45

Friday Storytime September 15

We will be having weekly book borrowing and Storytime in the EY1 classroom. We invite parent and caregivers to join us from 08:45-09:30 There will be a book reading followed by an activity and borrowing from the mini mobile ISU library.

After School Care

ISU provides After School Care until 17:00 Monday to Friday. For families who have no other option of care, **we strongly advise accessing this service after Autumn Break.** For an EY1 child, who is still building stamina, the multi age setting can be confusing, and fatiguing. The teacher ratio is not the same as in the regular classroom and Teaching staff are not the carers who they have begun to establish a trusting relationship with. We recommend accessing this service lightly and gently remind families that After School Care is is not a play date.

FAMILY PAGE EXAMPLE



Class Book

Our first action together is to create a class family book. We need your help to assemble the pages. Please bring 3-5 photos to create your family page on August 22.



FAMILY PHOTO ALBUM

Summer Project

We have found that a small family photo album is an excellent comfort and resource to children when entering into a new environment. These small flip albums can be purchased from DM and Muller. Pictures of your family, favourite places, holidays and adventures shared that they can access during the day. They will be placed in a small basket in the Calm Down Corner of the room. At sleep/rest time they can be on mats or nearby to aid in nurturing a sense of security.

Notes

NAME

PARENTS NAMES

GRANDPARENTS NAMES

LANGUAGES

INTERESTS

WHEN UPSET WILL...

**AT HOME CALM
DOWN STRATEGIES**

TOILETING

Language your child uses to alert of their personal needs. Toileting independence is mandatory for attendance.

SLEEP NEEDS

EATING HABITS