

WELCOME TO CARE FOR KINDIES

A SECOND HOME FOR YOUR CHILD'S EARLY LEARNING JOURNEY

CARE FOR KINDIES
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION



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@careforkindies_
CareForKindies



WELCOME TO CARE FOR KINDIES

Choosing the right Early Learning Centre is a big decision — and it's natural to feel a mix of emotions along the way. We're here to support you through every step.

Family owned and run since 1993, with educators who have been with us for decades, we understand that every family is unique. We take the time to listen, to adapt, and to create an environment where both you and your child feel at ease.

For your child, this is the beginning of a wonderful journey — making new friends, building confidence, exploring their independence, and developing the skills they'll carry into school and beyond.

Our goal is simple: to make Care for Kindies feel like a second home. A place where your child feels safe, happy, and inspired — and where you feel you truly belong.

OUR STORY



Care for Kindies began in 1993, when John and Carmen Cook opened our first centre on Margaret Street, Belfield. With a background in teaching, Carmen was determined to create something different — a place where children were at the very heart of everything.

From those early days, Care for Kindies has grown to three centres: Seymour Parade, Belfield (1996) and Camden Valley Way, Leppington (2007). We remain proudly family-owned and run, with John and Carmen's son, John Jr., now running the show. (You might still see John Snr. or Carmen popping in to say hello or deliver a meal. They live right next-door!)



Over the years, thousands of families have been part of our story — including the Cook family's own children and grandchildren. Our educators are at the core of who we are, with many having been with us for 10, 15, even 20+ years. Miss Jenni recently celebrated her 30th anniversary with us!

At Care for Kindies, we're a lot more than childcare. We're a family community, where children feel safe, supported, and inspired to learn every single day.





OUR PHILOSOPHY

At Care for Kindies, our values — shaped by the Early Years Learning Framework — guide everything we do to help children learn, grow, and thrive.

- **Child-safe environment** where health, safety, and wellbeing come first.
- **Play-based learning** in stimulating, engaging spaces that spark curiosity.
- **Warm, welcoming community** where families of all kinds feel at home.
- **Respect and dignity** for every child and family, every day.
- **Celebrating diversity**, embracing all cultures, and encouraging pride in what makes us unique.
- **Inclusive support** for children with additional needs, promoting acceptance and belonging.
- **Anti-bias practices** to ensure fairness and equality in everything we do.
- **Dedicated educators** are valued for their skills, knowledge, experience, and culture.
- **Child-led learning** that encourages choice, independence, and confident communication.
- **Tailored curriculum** based on each child's needs, interests, and developmental stage.
- **Smooth transitions** between rooms and into school, ensuring security and confidence.
- **Ongoing professional development** so our educators continue delivering the highest quality care.

WHAT PARENTS SAY ABOUT US

Recent Google Reviews

I have never experienced such a dedicated, educated and passionate group of people - lucky these people are supporting and nurturing my son at CFK. Their willingness to help find solutions in tricky situations, communicate in an honest and professional manner and create safety and fun is only the tip of what I've experienced in the last year. The growth my son has showed under the CFK care is incredible and I am sincerely grateful.

NATASHA FRAGASSI
NOVEMBER 2024

My son loves attending school. He talks enthusiastically about his friends and teachers at Care for Kindies. They make my son feel like he belongs, which I am grateful for. The teachers are always involving the children in various educational activities. We look forward to all the family events. I feel good knowing that he is in good hands and is able to enjoy all the healthy meals that are freshly prepared. Thank you to all the staff. Your work and care for the children is invaluable.

ROSE PILGRIM
NOVEMBER 2024



I can't say enough positive things about Care for Kindies! Over the past 10 years, my four sons have had the most wonderful experiences here, and I'm truly grateful for the incredible care they've received.
Care for Kindies is a truly special place.

FRANSCESCA DE BARI
NOVEMBER 2024

OUR APPROACH



Children learn best when they feel at home. That's why our centres are filled with natural materials, open-ended play spaces, and plenty of opportunities to explore the world around them. This back-to-basics feel is balanced with modern technology — from smart boards and touchpads to online learning tools — so children are equipped for the future while staying connected to nature.



Our educators are at the heart of everything we do. Many have been with us for years, bringing experience, stability, and genuine care to our community. They take time to understand each child's needs, interests, and abilities, building strong, lasting relationships with families. With a wide mix of cultural backgrounds and languages, our team reflects and celebrates the diversity of our community.



Our Early Education Program, designed by experienced early childhood professionals, provides the perfect mix of structured learning and free play. Babies, toddlers, and preschoolers all benefit from engaging experiences that support their development and prepare them for school — while nurturing their curiosity and confidence.

Most of all, we measure our success in the simplest way: the happy, smiling faces of the children in our care.

EARLY EDUCATION PROGRAM



Starting school is a big step. At Care for Kindies, we prepare children not only academically, but socially, emotionally, and physically, so they feel confident and ready for the journey ahead.

Our program is inspired by leading educational approaches — Reggio Emilia, Vygotsky, and Bronfenbrenner — with a strong focus on child-led learning, social connections, and the influence of community and environment.





Each centre feels like an extension of home: warm, creative spaces filled with natural materials, art, books, and open-ended resources that spark curiosity.

Our educators design projects and experiences around children's interests, extending their learning in meaningful ways. For example, if a child shows an interest in butterflies, an educator may extend that interest into a project about the lifecycle of a butterfly and then create a 'bug hotel' in the garden. By nurturing independence, imagination, and confidence, we help children build the life skills they need to thrive at school — and beyond.



A YEAR AT CARE FOR KINDIES

Throughout each term, experiences are carefully adapted to every age group and every child, recognising that independence, resilience, and learning look very different for a baby than for a preschooler. Projects throughout the year are inspired by the children's interests, so learning is always fun!

TERM 1

STRONG SENSE OF SELF

Children begin by developing independence, self-esteem, and awareness of who they are. Experiences are tailored to their stage of development — for babies, this might mean recognising their own belongings or routines, while preschoolers build confidence by sharing their likes, dislikes, and personal identity.

TERM 2

STRONG SOCIAL SENSE

This term focuses on belonging, relationships, and resilience. Babies and toddlers learn about trust, turn-taking, and simple routines, while older children explore social roles, responsibilities, and values, and begin early literacy and numeracy in playful ways.

TERM 3

PRE-LITERACY & PRE-NUMERACY

Across all ages, everyday play becomes a foundation for literacy and maths. For the youngest, this may look like stacking blocks, rhymes, or recognising patterns, while preschoolers engage in activities that build vocabulary, number concepts, and problem-solving.

TERM 4

APPLIED LITERACY & NUMERACY

Children consolidate their learning in age-appropriate ways. Babies and toddlers practise communication, movement, and recognition skills, while preschoolers focus more formally on letters, sounds, and numbers, alongside activities that prepare them for a smooth and confident transition to school.

THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING EXCITING HAPPENING!

It's not JUST about learning ... At Care for Kindies, we're all about the fun, and there's always something exciting going on. Here are just a few of the events you can expect throughout the year. We invite families to join us too!



ENCOUNTERS WITH INCREDIBLE CREATURES



HEALTHY HAROLD



CHRISTMAS IN JULY



MOTHERS DAY MORNING TEA



FIREFIGHTERS VISIT



CHICK AND DUCKLING HATCHINGS



WEEKLY SOCCAJOEYS LESSONS



EASTER BUNNY VISIT



COLOUR RUN

AND SO MUCH MORE ...



LEPPINGTON



Just off Camden Valley Way, our centre is smaller than most—something our families love because it means every child is truly known and celebrated. Our **enormous garden** is the heart of the centre, a place for big adventures and little discoveries. And behind it all is our **established team**, many of whom have worked together for over a decade, creating a calm, consistent, and caring environment where children can thrive. With **chef-prepared meals** made fresh onsite every day, it really does feel like a second home.

Our Leppington centre caters for up to 60 children per day. Age-specific rooms include:

- Explorers (6 weeks–2 years, max 12 children, 1:4 ratio)
- Adventurers (2–3 years, max 15 children, 1:5 ratio)
- Inventors 1 (3–4 years, max 16 children, 1:10 ratio)
- Inventors 2 (4–5 years, up to 20 children, 1:10 ratio).

Parents receive daily updates via Storypark.



Mon-Fri 7:00AM - 6:00PM

1412 Camden Valley Way, Leppington

Max: 60 children per day

leppington@careforkindies.com.au

02 9759 4394

MEET OUR CENTRE DIRECTORS

Lee Claxton & Teresa Khairy



Lee commenced her position as Centre Director in November 2015. She holds a Diploma of Children's Services and a Bachelor of Teaching (Early Childhood Education) and has been working in the Early Childhood sector since 2000.

Lee is a mother of two young boys. She is passionate about delivering a service high in quality, warm in delivery and professional in approach.

She loves networking with other early childhood professionals and industry bodies in order to stay current and informed on early childhood knowledge and practices.



Teresa commenced her position at Care for Kindies in 2018 and has been working in the Early Childhood Education sector since 2003. She holds a Diploma in Children's Services, a Certificate IV in Assessment and Training, and a Bachelor of Teaching (Early Childhood).

She is also a proud mum, and her experience as both an educator and a parent has shaped her commitment to creating meaningful connections with children and their families.

She is passionate about supporting children's learning in warm, safe, and inclusive environments where they feel confident, valued, and free to explore. She believes that genuine connections with families are essential in creating a supportive learning community, and she strives to work in partnership with parents and educators to ensure each child thrives.

For her, Early Childhood Education is about more than just teaching—it is about creating a space where every child feels seen, heard, and supported, and where families feel welcomed, respected, and involved in their child's learning journey.

MEET OUR EDUCATIONAL LEADER

Miss Sam



Samantha has dedicated her entire 18-year career to Care for Kindies, Leppington, where she has become an integral part of the centre's heart and soul. Encouraged early on to pursue a career in Early Childhood Education, she quickly discovered a lifelong passion and has loved every step of the journey since.

Sam delights in the everyday moments of her role — from the funny stories children share to watching them grow, learn, and thrive. She is especially passionate about creating programs that reflect children's interests and support their individual development.

As Educational Leader, Sam is approachable, supportive, and deeply committed to her team. She guides educators through monthly meetings, one-on-one training, program planning, and goal setting. She also leads curriculum development, prepares newsletters, and provides ongoing encouragement, ensuring every educator feels confident and supported.

For Sam, Care for Kindies truly is a second home — a place where her love for education, children, families, and her team shines through every day.



CARE FOR KINDIES
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

SPRING/SUMMER MENU

munch & move®

WEEK: 1

	Breakfast	Morning tea	Lunch	Veg lunch	Afternoon tea
Mon	Weet-Bix Oat Porridge	Vegetable platter Milk	Lamb rissoles wholegrain wrap with yoghurt sauce & salad	Falafel wholegrain wrap with Hummus & Salad	Wholemeal flat bread pizza Fruit platter & Milk
tue	Weet-Bix Baked beans on toast with cheese	Vegetable platter with wholemeal pita bread Milk	Chicken, spinach, capsicum, broccoli, cauliflower noodle stir fry	Tofu, spinach, capsicum, broccoli, cauliflower noodle stir fry	Sugar free Banana bread Fruit platter & Milk
Wed	Weet-Bix Porridge	Avocado and tomato on wholemeal toast Milk	Beef kofta with wholegrain wrap and hummus with lettuce, tomato and cucumber	Falafel wholegrain wrap with hummus with lettuce, tomato & cucumber	Veggie platter with cheese & wholemeal crackers Fruit platter & Milk
thur	Weet-Bix Crumpets	Wholemeal cheese toasties Milk	Wholemeal spaghetti bolognaise	Veggie wholemeal bolognaise (Lentils, beans and spinach)	Veggie platter with hummus & corn cakes Fruit platter & Milk
Fri	Weet-Bix Pikelets	Vegetable platter with hummus Milk	Fried rice with lentils, zucchini, carrot and peas served with brown rice	Vegetarian fried rice with lentils, zucchini, carrot and peas served with brown rice	Cheesy vegemite scrolls Fruit platter & Milk