



•Milkwood•
Steiner School

2024 Playgroup Handbook



*Thank you dear Earth, for the ground that I stand on,
Thank you dear Sun, for your warmth and your light,
Thank you dear Wind, for your precious cool breezes,
Thank you dear rain, for the cool of the night,
Blessings on Larrakia Land.*

Milkwood Steiner School (Djandjag)

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About Milkwood

Milkwood Steiner School is situated on Larrakia land (Darwin), in the tropical north of Australia delivering a Steiner Curriculum to 150 students from Kindergarten to Class 8. Our school has unique large tropical style buildings with classrooms that open out on to broad verandas, with a playground that extends to a beautiful native bushland. We are a thriving, growing school, with a welcoming community and children from diverse cultural backgrounds.

At Milkwood, we believe that childhood is sacred. Our community believes in the rights of all to dignity, growth, and community care. In an increasingly materialistic world, we value imagination, creativity and spirit. Our community was founded with courage, hope and a sense of responsibility. We seek to embody these in all we do.

Program

Milkwood's beginnings were as a Playgroup and they continue to nourish our families. Playgroups are the best way to become familiar with Steiner Education, build a community with like minded families and provide an example to your children of how to work in community.

Milkwood Playgroups are held in a home-like environment which nurtures the senses. Our program is play-based with rhythmical qualities incorporating songs, stories, rhymes, and seasonal festivals. Our aim is to create a peaceful haven for a child's development to naturally unfold and where both parent and child can experience the joy of meaningful connections.

Milkwood Steiner School offers Playgroups for children 0-4 years of age with their parent/caregiver, running throughout the week.

Playgroup is located on the school grounds and operates from 9-11am during the school term.



During Playgroup time, we bake our own delicious fresh bread rolls. Families bring a piece of fruit which is shared for morning tea along with our bread.

We have time for indoor and outdoor play each morning.

Staff



Playgroup Leader: *Lucy Neville*

Lucy's professional experience includes a range of teaching work in schools, as a music specialist, in areas of inclusion and disability, and as a residential carer.

Lucy explains however that it has been her time as a mother that has truly strengthened her commitment to working with children and families as her purpose; she values the opportunity to walk alongside and listen to parents as they navigate the early years of parenthood, with imagination and creativity. Lucy describes her Steiner playgroups as a space in which the child has safe and secure time to immerse themselves in play and the gentle rhythms of the morning, as well as giving the parents a warm and inclusive space to be with their children and other families as they question, learn and grow. Lucy has worked at Yandell Steiner Kindergarten, while furthering her formal learning in Steiner Early Childhood development. As a residential carer at Wesley Mission and in Integration Support roles in schools, Lucy describes the honour of working with children living with Trauma and Neurodiversity.

Policies and Code of Conduct

Playgroup participants adhere to Milkwood Steiner School Association's policies and code of conduct. The safety and wellbeing of all who attend is paramount.

Enrolment and Fee Schedule

The cost is \$210/family per Term. Families pay the fee in advance to secure their place.

For more information, or to enrol your family in Playgroup, contact
admin@milkwood.nt.edu.au / 8947 0608