

Birra-Li

6 WKS - 2 YRS



We thank you for considering [Snowy Mountains Care & Early Learning Centre](#) for the enrolment of your child.

Please read the information on the following pages for a brief introduction to the Birra-Li learning environment. Once enrolled to the centre, you will receive an Enrolment Kit with a wealth of information to assist you before your first day with SMCELC.

THE EDUCATORS

Elliza and Amanda are your Lead Educators within the Birra-Li Learning Environment.

Elliza and Amanda are passionate Educators who hold their Certificate III in Early Education and Care.

The Lead Educators are supported by additional qualified Educators that assist with the care, learning and development of your child, they are:

- Harry Hastings (Diploma)
- Felicity Barry (Diploma)
- Anita Nimmo (Trainee – Certificate III)

EDUCATOR TO CHILD RATIO

As per the National Regulations for NSW Legislation every early care and learning centre's management and educators must adhere to a set educator to child ratio. This ratio is 1:4. For best practice we always try to always have an additional educator on hand.

At SMCELC we aim for consistency with our Educators to provide your child with a sense of security.

BIRRA-LI PROGRAM

The infant program is designed to provide a safe, nurturing environment that is warm and welcoming.

Your child will be supported every minute of every day, in everything they do. The Educators create close bonds with your child to ensure your child feels safe and secure to explore their emerging skills.

We foster language, cognitive, physical, social, and emotional skills. The environment and resources are scaffolded to provide a variety of learning experiences for you child. The program is designed for your child to learn through play that is based on their interests and developmental needs.

The Educators then extend on the meaningful moments that your child experiences. You will be able to view observations and summaries regarding your child's learning and development through our online applications. We are also able to record your child's routine events such as sleep and nappy changes in real time.

The Birra-Li Program for Infants extends into our Birra-Li Toddlers Program. The children gain developmental benefits from collaborative learning which also promotes their social and emotional skills.

TRANSITIONS

At SMCELC we invite you and your child into the centre for 2 settling sessions prior to their first attendance. This is to ensure a smooth transition and create familiarity for your child.

In ACECQA's 'Plan Effective Transitions for Children' it explains that a child's transition from their home environment to an education and care service is often described as a major transition in a child's life.

The transition from home to SMCELC is a milestone for both children and families. Families, like children, may experience some anxieties during this time. Families themselves may have concerns

about their child's ability to cope with the demands of their new environment—learning where things are, what is expected of them, asking for help when needed. Forming a strong partnership with your Educators helps to establish an understanding about expectations and attitudes, and provides a foundation for building on the knowledge of both parties (i.e., both parents and educators) (Australian Institute of Family Studies, 2012).

Source: <https://www.acecqa.gov.au/sites/default/files/2021-01/PlanEffectiveTransitionsForChildren.PDF>

SLEEP

SMCELC ensures the safety of your child during these times. Educators, by law, must physically check your baby during sleep every 10 minutes, this information is to be recorded along with the times your baby falls asleep and wakes up.

Your child's sleep routine is based on your advice and your child's cues.

Your child will have an allocated cot for their sleep periods, SMCELC happily provides sheet sets for your child.

Please be mindful we have strict procedures around safe sleeping practice in line with Red Nose Safe Sleep Recommendations. Please view our Sleep and Rest Policy (www.smcelc.com.au/policies)

NAPPY CHANGES

Nappy change routines are in place to ensure your child is attended to approximately every two hours. Please provide at least 6 nappies per day with your child's name on them. Each child has their own nappy basket.

Educators use this routine task to bond with your child, whether it be singing a song or taking part in a little fun game to bring smiles and giggles. Our hygiene and safety practices during this task is a high priority for our Educators.

To support your child's privacy, we ask that you do not enter this area if a child is being changed.

MEALTIMES

We promote age appropriate, healthy meals for our children. Please ensure that when packing items for your child to eat, there are no unhealthy treats. We are guided by 'Staying Healthy in Childcare' and 'Get Up & Grow' programs for children in their early years. Any items that are not in line with our Nutrition and Food Safety Policy will not be provided to the child and returned home.

www.health.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/2020/10/lunchbox-ideas-meals-for-early-childhood-settings-get-up-and-grow-lunchbox-ideas-meals-for-early-childhood-settings.pdf

SUNSCREEN

We promote sun safe practices for children at SMCELC. We provide SPF50+ for all children, unless notified of any allergies, etc. We are also happy to utilise sunscreen brought in specifically for your child. Children younger than 12 months are advised against sunscreen by SunSmart NSW.

TEETHING

Teething is an important part of an infant's development. Please understand that children do not suffer from fevers, cold like symptoms, etc. If your child attends the centre and is suffering from

teething, frozen teething rings are provided for comfort. If your child is unsettled and/or inconsolable due to teething, we will ask you to collect your child.

ARRIVAL ROUTINE FOR FAMILIES

- Please ensure your hands are clean on arrival
- Our team will greet you to bring your child to the play area
- Place your child's belongings in the allocated locker and nappy basket
- Babies' lunchboxes and milk bottles are to be placed on the top shelves of the fridge
- Water bottles are to be placed in the blue esky on the bench
- Advise Educators on routine information to assist with your child's needs for the day and write up any routine needs on the whiteboard for your child
- If medication is to be administered, please advise staff and they will assist you in filling out the Authorisation of Medication Form
- We ask that you please clearly label everything that your child brings to the centre including comforters and dummies
- All bottles need to be clearly labelled with lids and child's name and the date that it was made up

DEPARTURE ROUTINE FOR FAMILIES

- Please ensure your hands are clean on arrival
- Our team will greet you along with your child, any important messages will be passed on to you
- Please sign any required forms E.g. Incident Form
- Please gather your child's belongings (lunchbox, drink bottle, bottles) including any wet clothing (if notified)
- Please ensure you notify a staff member that you are collecting and removing your child from the service
- Say Goodbye

DAILY ROUTINE

The Birra-Li routine is flexible and each child has their own individual schedule. Parents are asked to write on the white board upon arrival to inform staff of any routine needs.

- 8 am Educator Greetings/Arrival of your child
 - Indoor Experiences & Play
- 9am Outdoor Experiences & Play or Sleep (Summer only)
- 9.30 Morning Tea
 - Outdoor Play
 - Veranda Play
- 10am Nappy Changes
- 11.30 Lunch
 - Nappy Changes
 - Quiet Indoor Activities, Rest or Sleep
- 2pm Nappy Changes
- 3pm Afternoon Tea
 - Outdoor Experiences & Play
- 4pm Nappy Changes
- 4.30 Indoor Experiences & Play
- 6pm Centre Closes/Say Goodbye

We are always excited to welcome new children and families into Birra-Li.

Please know that we bring a lot of love and passion to the education and care of our children at SMCELC. We view ourselves as professionals in our field and believe we have great knowledge to apply in our roles and offer our families. We welcome discussions concerning the needs, learning and development of your child. We also really appreciate consistent family input for your child. If you have any skills or hobbies that would be exciting for the child to participate in, please collaborate with your child's educators.

We thank you for considering Snowy Mountains Care & Early Learning

Your Birra-Li Educators