



Rockingham Montessori School Incorporated  
ABN: 68 115 270 695

**POLICY TITLE:** Extended Day Procedure

**BOARD APPROVAL DATE:** May 2017

**SIGNED BY CHAIR:**

**BOARD REVIEW DATE:** May 2019

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### **OVERVIEW:**

Staying for long days and the afternoon session builds the child's developing independence along with building social skills by adding social experience.

### **PROCEDURES**

Three year old children attend school five (half day) sessions a week. Around the time of the child's fourth birthday, parents meet with their child's teacher to discuss their child's readiness for extended days. After the child's fourth birthday, three additional sessions will be offered over two to three terms. These sessions are usually on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. The additional sessions are dependent on;

- A child new to Montessori who is four may not be a candidate for the full day programme.
- A child with individual needs affecting their development for whom the extended day may present stress, for themselves and/or their classmates.
- A child's sleep patterns.
- Stress which may be coming from the family or outside of school circumstances that is affecting the child's readiness.

At the teacher's discretion the transition to extended days is a continuing process beginning with the offer of one extended day and working up to a maximum of three. This constitutes eight sessions a week (three long days which are consecutive plus two half day sessions). Children who turn 5 by 30 June in an academic year must attend five full days – this is the law, according to The School Education Act 1999. Children with special needs will follow an attendance plan as identified through their Individual Education Plan.

It is the teacher's responsibility to balance the group's developmental needs socially, emotionally and academically. The teacher in consultation with the Principal and parent will develop the most suitable transition process for the child.

The child's teacher will inform the parent when the child is ready to take on more sessions.

It is the teacher's responsibility to make this decision for the benefit of the child and others.