



Tarremah  
Rudolf Steiner  
Early Childhood Centre  
Huntingfield, Hobart.

An age-appropriate Children's Sanctuary  
Giving Strength  
to body, soul and spirit  
during the vital years of growth.

Tarremah recognises the right of children to  
their childhood.

The first seven years in a child's life are vital for laying the foundation for the future growth of the whole child's physical, intellectual, social and emotional development. The early childhood programme encourages children to enter the world at a natural pace. In Tarremah's truly child-centred sanctuary, children will experience a caring and professional team of teachers who provide a wholesome and rich environment. The educational philosophy acknowledges the child's developmental stage in preparation for a meaningful transition to primary school.

The Kindergarten's environment is warm, aesthetically pleasing and safe. Here stories and fairy tales are told and acted out. The children live vividly in these pictures and the teacher ensures that stories have integrity both in their moral and intellectual content and that they are age appropriate. They also help to foster a sense of wonder and delight, bringing the



child into a  
positive and  
caring  
relationship  
with the  
natural  
world and  
each other.

Children experience nature and the changing seasons with all their senses on regular, invigorating walks in the neighbouring bush reserve and rural setting.

The practical tasks of daily life are carried out in the Kindergarten as an extension of home life. The work of the Kindergarten teachers and their assistants is meaningful and purpose-directed, providing role models for the children.

The needs of the children are taken care of so that they can become fully engaged in their own creativity through play. In this way, the child's whole being is acknowledged.

In the Kindergarten the children are given no particular formal academic instruction. Numeracy and pre-literacy skills are imparted in an artistic way, primarily through creative play, verse, singing, music, dancing, eurythmy, painting, drawing, cooking, modelling, gardening and caring for animals.

"Our birth is but a sleep and a forgetting;  
The soul that rises in us, our life's star  
Hath elsewhere its setting.  
And cometh from afar."

Wordsworth

At Tarremah we offer:

Playgroup

Parents and their up to four year old children gather weekly in the "Little Kindergarten" The children enjoy baking bread, playing indoors in a nurturing and beautiful environment, come together for morning-tea, venture out for a nature walk, and end the morning singing songs and listening to a told story.

The two hour morning or afternoon session gives children the opportunity to meet one another socially, parents can share experiences and gain an insight into this unique form of education through the playgroup leader



Playgroup is held on  
Fridays between 9.30am and 11.30am and 12.30 and 2.30pm.

Silvereye - or "Little Kindergarten"

Children who turn four during the course of the year and children turning five but new to Tarremah are invited to enrol for one or two sessions a week. This is a step towards the mixed Kindergarten. Here younger children can feel comfortable away from their parents and begin to socialise through play. Painting, baking or simple craft is offered each week for those wishing to participate. A healthy snack is shared at the table for morning tea; singing and circle games help to structure the day. Simple stories connect the child in an age appropriate manner to nature and basic human values. This Kindergarten will operate for a minimum of 2 days.

## Pipit and Fantail mixed Kinder – Prep classes

Children who turn 5 & 6 come together as one group to further develop and consolidate healthy social and emotional behaviours through creative play. Foundations of literacy and numeracy are laid through the rich language of story telling, verse, song and movement. The children are given time to wholeheartedly engage in the daily work of the Kindergarten. This strengthens their ability to concentrate, raises self-esteem and develops healthy bodies. Five year olds attend for a minimum of 10 hours a week. Six year olds are required to attend school five days a week 9 am to 3pm, but families can in consultation with their class teacher arrange an Independent Educational Plan which allows them to keep their child at home for 2 afternoons a week.



before school, and also before bed-time, as this has a negative influence on a child's sleep. We encourage you to switch-off during these vital years. You will find a supportive environment here to creatively substitute this habit. Many parents have discovered the joy and rewards of taking such a challenging step. The Kindergarten teachers would be happy to share ideas.



For more information about the effect of media on the developing child see our booklist and recommended reading.

## Media in the life of the young child

The adverse effect of television, videos and computers on a child's emotional and intellectual development is often seen in their inappropriate behaviour. Well documented research shows how hyperactivity, lack of attention span, the inability to complete tasks and delayed speech development can be



attributed to overexposure to television. Perhaps the greatest loss is the dimming effect it has on a child's imagination. Ready-made TV images of how the world could be, can limit the child's creativity and adaptability to the reality of later life. It is the age appropriate and inspiring imagination which provides the foundation for self-motivated learning, meaningful thinking and healthy growth in body and soul. Naturally, one has to recognise that television and computers are part of our society and in most homes. However, being informed about the adverse effects on cognitive development especially, during these vital years of childhood, gives parents the means to make responsible decisions regarding exposure. Our teachers ask that no television be watched in the morning

“Receive the child in  
reverence.  
Educate in love.  
Send forth in freedom.”

Rudolf Steiner

The Tarremah Early Childhood Centre is a member of the Australian Association for Rudolf Steiner Early Childhood Education and the Alliance for Childhood.

Please contact the School Office for an enrolment package or with any other enquires.

## Tarremah Steiner School

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