Starting Preschool

Preschool is an important step on a child’s journey through education. At preschool, your child will be given new experiences to play, learn, grow and develop.

Soon, the time when children start preschool in Catholic Preschools in South Australia will change.

From 2013, children will start preschool only at the beginning of Term One each year.

This new policy is called Same First Day Start. It means that children will start preschool on the first day of Term One each year and that all children will spend the same amount of time in preschool, one full year.

Having the same first day means that there will be fewer changes to groups of children during the year.

### When can my child start preschool?

There is no change to what happens now until 2013.

From 2013, the start date will be the first day of Term One.

If your child turns four before May 1, they will start preschool on the first day of Term One in that year.

If your child turns four on or after May 1, they will start preschool on the first day of Term One the following year.

The minimum age for starting preschool will be three years and eight months from 2013.
Starting School

Starting school is one of life’s milestones and an exciting time for children and parents.

Soon, the time when children start school in Catholic Schools in South Australia will change.

From 2014, children will start school only at the beginning of Term One each year.

This new policy is called Same First Day Start. It means that children will start school on the first day of Term One each year and that all children will spend the same amount of time in Reception, one full year.

Having the same first day means that there will be fewer changes to class groups during the first year of school.

When can my child start school?

There is no change to what happens now until 2014.

From 2014 the start date will be the first day of Term One.

If your child turns five before May 1, they will start school on the first day of Term One in that year.

If your child turns five on or after May 1, they will start school on the first day of Term One the following year.

The minimum age for starting school will be four years and eight months from 2014.

Year of birth | Child’s birthday | Can start school
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2009 from 1 January to 30 April | Term 1 2014
from 1 May to 31 December | Term 1 2015
2010 from 1 January to 30 April | Term 1 2015
from 1 May to 31 December | Term 1 2016
2011 from 1 January to 30 April | Term 1 2016
from 1 May to 31 December | Term 1 2017

For more information

Contact or visit the website of a Catholic pre school or school or visit the Catholic Education SA website
www.cesa.catholic.edu.au

To find out more information about when your child can start preschool or school, visit www.earlyyears.sa.edu.au

To talk to someone, call the Catholic Education Office on 83016680.