



Primary School Teacher

Arlington Campus

Our location and the beautiful environment of Arlington

Preshil Primary School, Arlington, is located at 395 Barkers Road Kew.

Our unique heritage-listed buildings, designed by Kevin Borland, are set in the rambling gardens and cluster around the original homestead of Margaret Lyttle; the site of Australia's oldest progressive educational ideas. The homestead style classrooms, all with working kitchens, are delightful areas that continue to challenge standard notions of appropriate learning spaces; rooms that deliberately promote conversation, collaboration, comfort and imagination. Throughout all of our buildings, the deliberate use of wood and emphasis on natural light play together to enhance a sense of calm and connectedness. Whenever visitors come to Arlington they are struck by the large and rambling play grounds and the unique environment created for children – and children immediately respond to the possibilities. The Kindergarten is nestled at the heart of this environment. This special little environment has a real hill, an admittedly small rain-forest, a boat, vegetable gardens, a trickle-stream and plenty of sand and soil to mould into shapes and turn into mud. The gardens are not partitioned off into playing fields. There is no asphalt, tree trunks are not wrapped in protective padding and there is real dirt, as distinct from the evil matter banished in so many advertisements for cleaning products. The ground is undulating; there are hills and ditches, even holes and many big, old trees. There are bushes and grassy areas that cannot really be called lawn. For many of our children who now live in homes with small backyards and courtyards this is paradise. The school's distinctive physical environment is a setting in which children can further their independence and physical competence. The garden has uncultivated and dense shrubberies with ropes from which to swing, trees to climb and places to construct cubbies and the open workshop has real tools for the children to use.

A Ten Year Plan – To 2023

We have a responsibility to plan for our current cohort. The children who will graduate in 2023 are already our six and seven year olds, so our timeline is, in fact, anchored by the consideration of how our plans will impact on each stage of our students' education. The quality of our future staff, program development, resources and capital works all depend on what we do today. In 2023 the education offered by Preshil will continue to be inspired by the educational philosophy developed by Greta R Lyttle and her niece Margaret E Lyttle, resisting standardisation and regimentation, competitive assessments and the marginalisation of individuality.

Preshil will:

- be the leading progressive school in Australia
- continue to protect children's rights: their right to play, to choose and to express themselves
- continue to foster learning and intellectual effort, supporting every student to challenge themselves and take pride in their academic achievements
- continue to foster accountability, self-reliance and the independence to think critically, to question deeply and the courage to speak out
- continue to build awareness of the world and a commitment to socially responsible action; and
- actively support our staff of exceptional educators

Preshil Vision Statement

At our core remains an unshakeable commitment to encouraging all children to progress at their own pace towards their own goals and to be respected as individuals in their own right. It is a commitment to our children to be nurtured and challenged in an atmosphere that inspires creativity and independent thinking in all areas of life and does not, overtly or subtly, use competition or punishment to motivate through the fear of failure. As global citizens we encourage an awareness of world issues and encourage effort to make a positive difference. We believe that education should prepare students to be thoughtful, peace-loving and active citizens of the world. Preshil will remain a school that puts kindness, compassion and social relationships at the centre of its operations.

IB Mission Statement

The International Baccalaureate® aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. To this end the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment. These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

Student Voice at Preshil

The concept of 'student voice' has always been an integral part of Preshil culture. Student input has always been highly valued in the development of collaborative classroom inquiry, projects, essential agreements, traditions and new initiatives through our school from Kindergarten to Year Twelve. The framework of the IB Primary Years Program (IBPYP) provides many authentic opportunities to maintain our commitment to 'student voice' throughout our dynamic school. It challenges students to have a voice in articulating their own learning through Inquiry, the use of Thinking Routines and through the consultative process of developing a shared rubric of assessment within each Unit of Inquiry.

Teaching of thinking

Thinking Routines as part of our instructional model for inquiry that we apply at our Primary School. Thinking routines are contemporary tools that we use to support students in articulating what they know, what they think they know and what they want to know; enabling us to support students to think like engineers, designers, doctors, entrepreneurs or whatever position is relevant to the task. These routines engage students because they are using their creative and critical thinking skills to solve a problem or find deeper meaning. Not memorising facts for a test; they are applying what they have learned and then demonstrating their skills to create an end product.

Philosophy

Preshil has always concerned itself with developing awareness and understanding of the key issues of the times and responding to them in concerned, imaginative and critical ways. The Philosophy For Children (P4C), 'Community of Inquiry' approach that we have adopted aims to support children to develop their thinking skills and contribute to the shared understandings of their classmates.

Philosophical inquiry requires:

- Generating new ideas
- Seeing existing situations in new ways
- Identifying alternative explanations
- Seeing connections
- Finding new ways to apply existing ideas

At Arlington all of our Primary School teachers lead sessions on Philosophy for one hour per week.

Safeguarding Children and Young People

Our organisation takes child protection seriously, and as an employee or volunteer of Preshil The Margaret Lyttle Memorial School, you are required to meet the behaviour standards outlined in our Safeguarding Children in Schools Code of Conduct. Attached to this document is this Safeguarding Children in Schools Code of Conduct. You can also access a copy of these guidelines via the Preshil website <http://www.preshil.vic.edu.au/why-preshil/policies/>

Therefore as a part of your duties and responsibilities, you are also required to:

- Provide a welcoming and safe environment for children and young people
- Promote the safety and wellbeing of children and young people to whom we provide services
- Ensure that your interactions with children and young people are positive and safe
- Provide adequate care and supervision of children and young people in your charge
- Act as a positive role model for children and young people
- Report any suspicions, concerns, allegations or disclosures of alleged abuse to management
- Maintain valid 'working with children' documentation
- Undergo periodic 'national criminal history record' checks
- Report to management any criminal charges or convictions you receive during the course of your employment/volunteering that may indicate a possible risk to children and young people.

Conditions of Employment

The successful applicant will be subject to a Working With Children Check and Criminal History Records Check where applicable.

Our organisation undertakes several screening processes to ensure the appropriate protection of children in its care. This includes reference checks, identity check, qualification checks and professional registration checks.

Selection Criteria:

Selection Criterion 1

Teaching for inquiry is how we plan curriculum at our Primary School. As a candidate school for the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program (IBPYP), outline your experiences with teaching and learning through inquiry.

Selection Criterion 2

Teaching in partnerships is a strength of how we work in the Primary School. Define your outstanding classroom teaching skills and the capacity you have to collaborate with colleagues to continually improve your own teaching.

Selection Criterion 3

Through the use of both Formative and Summative assessments, demonstrate your ability to monitor and improve student learning.

Selection Criterion 4

Teaching at Preshil requires effective communication skills. Demonstrate your high level interpersonal skills including a capacity to develop constructive relationships with students, parents and other staff.

Selection Criterion 5

Effectively meeting the emotional and social needs of our students is of significant value at Preshil. Outline your experiences and skills in this area and, if possible, link to the use of Restorative Practice.