



## **PRE-PREP AT SOMERSET COLLEGE**

*(In 2013 Pre-Prep became the major entry point into Somerset College.)*

Somerset College is an approved Pre-Prep provider, equivalent to 'Kindergarten' under the Queensland Department of Education and Training. However our funding differs from other centres in that the 'childcare rebate' possibly available to individual families is actually paid directly to the College in the form of a grant and we allow for this in calculating the fee levels for Pre-Prep each year.

In effect College Pre-Prep fees are pre-rebated and no more can be claimed unless the family qualifies for a Health Care Card.

Pre-Prep at Somerset College is the first year of the Primary Years Programme (PYP) of the International Baccalaureate. In the Pre-Prep class, learning is viewed as a journey that values the natural process of inquiry. Through the child's thoughts, ideas and observations many questions emerge. Connections are made between these ideas and the environment and teachers become facilitators who co-explore learning experiences with the children.

The PYP acknowledges that development is unique for each child and occurs at varying rates from child to child. Adjusting to new environments is supported by the development of safe and trusting relationships and the development of self-esteem and confidence. The Pre-Prep environment at Somerset College allows children to be active inquirers and life-long learners.

The Pre-Prep Programme will follow the Queensland Early Years Curriculum Guidelines and will provide a natural progression to Prep.

There is a Five Day a Week Programme and a Five Day a Fortnight Programme (Monday/Tuesday and Wednesdays according to calendar or Thursday/Friday and Wednesdays according to calendar).

**PRE-PREP HOURS** -The programme will operate from 8.40am to 3.20pm during normal term dates. Doors will open at 8.15am. AMAZE Active Somerset (after school care) will operate from 3.20pm to 6.00pm.

**AGES** - Children must turn four (4) by the end of June in the year they are to commence in Pre-Prep.

**CLASS SIZES** - Classes will have between 22 and 26 students.

**LOCATION** - Pre-Prep classes will operate in The Rowe Building.

**SIGN IN** - Parents will be required to sign the students in each morning.

**PARENT PARKING FOR DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP** - This will be available in the Early Learning Precinct parking area.

**ENROLMENT PROCESS** - Once a family receives an offer, families will be required to meet with the Head of Junior School as part of the acceptance process. Following acceptance of the position a further meeting will be held with the Director of Pre-Prep.

A full Orientation Programme will operate for all students commencing in Pre-Prep.

In Term Four of the year prior to entry there will be a family afternoon tea to enable families to meet others commencing next year.