


THE NIDO KINDERGARTEN CURRICULUM FAMILY GUIDE



A photograph of a Nido Early School teacher, a woman with dark hair in a ponytail wearing a black polo shirt with the Nido logo, sitting at a table with a young girl. The girl is focused on playing with colorful wooden rings and blocks. On the table, there is a coconut bowl, a wooden tray with rings, and a card with the number '10' and the word 'beetles'. The background shows a bright, modern interior with large windows and indoor plants.

Our whole child approach means that we support all aspects of your child's development, including physical and mental wellbeing, learning and thinking, values and behaviour, and social and emotional skills. All of which create the perfect foundation for both school and life readiness.

What is the Nido Kindergarten Curriculum?

Nido Early School's Kindergarten Curriculum has been uniquely developed in conjunction with input from our families, sector experts and our remarkable teachers to develop our learning program. Combined with the incredible Nido nurturing environment, where your child is encouraged to explore, discover, and learn, Nido will deliver a strong foundation and a lifelong love of learning.

Why is kindergarten so important?

Attending kindergarten is a crucial milestone in your child's life, fostering their emotional, social, physical, and cognitive growth. Research shows that a high-quality kindergarten education sets the stage for improved health, wellbeing, and greater educational and career opportunities in the future.

The Nido Kindergarten Curriculum has been developed by early childhood professionals to provide your child with the best early learning experience.

Designed specifically for 3-6-year-olds, our kindergarten curriculum encompasses every aspect of a child's learning. The curriculum provides the foundation for your child to develop the necessary skills and knowledge to ensure a smooth pathway into primary school. A play-based approach supports your child's development, helping them to learn through both planned and spontaneous experiences.

Engaged children are open to learning and understanding, and our curriculum uses your child's interests, ideas and experiences to provide exciting opportunities to support their learning.

We understand that children embrace learning new things when they feel safe and secure in their environment, and with the people in it. This is why the Nido Kindergarten Curriculum focuses on relationships and the environment, and adopts a child's strength-based focus to ensure your child is included, happy, and confident in their classroom.

WHAT WILL MY CHILD LEARN?

The Nido Kindergarten Curriculum supports our teachers and educators in planning and implementing individualised learning – using your child's strengths and interests as the foundation. The curriculum incorporates experiences, routines, resources, environments, and relationships, offering a complete education which supports your child's success as a lifelong learner.

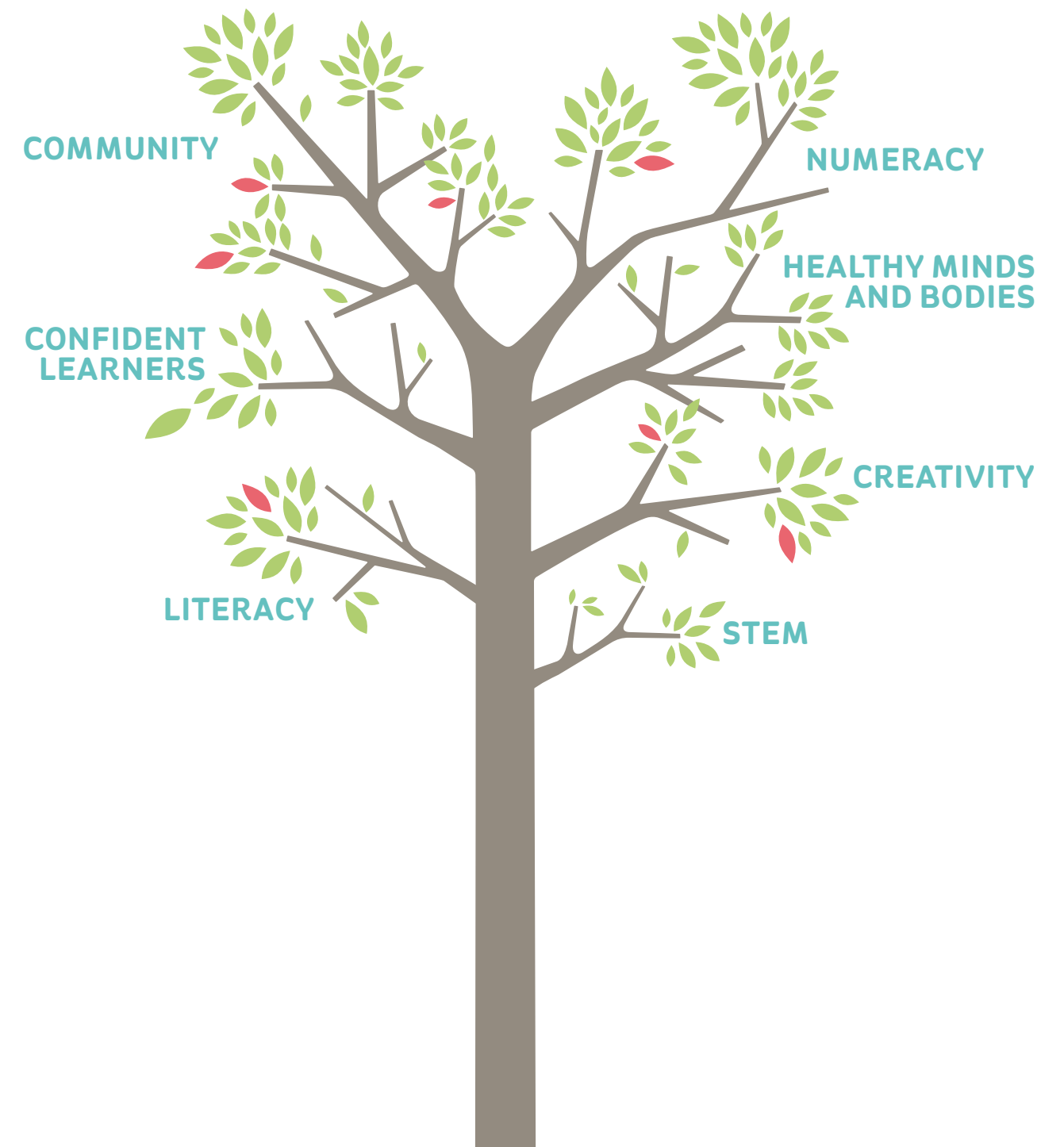
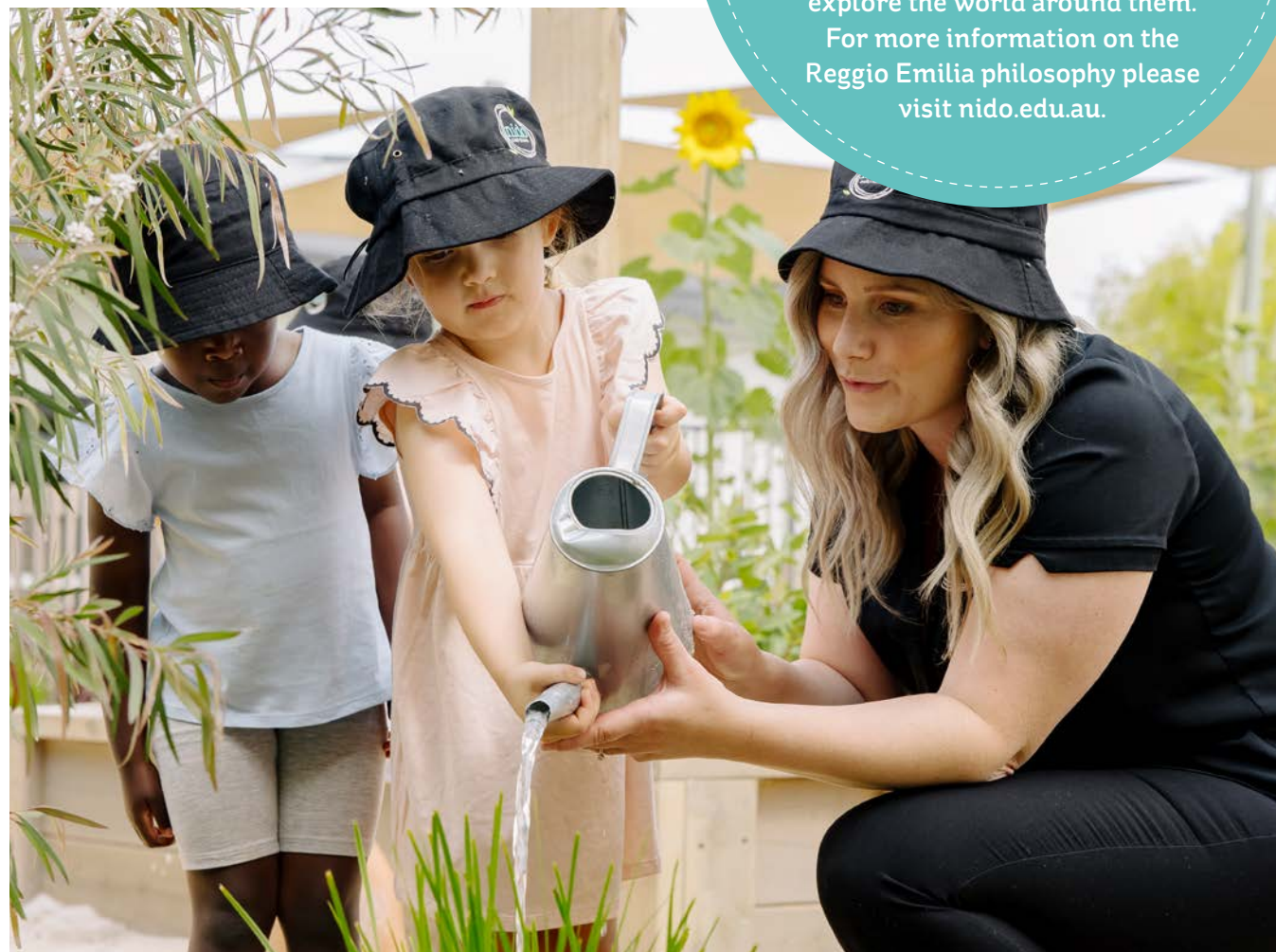
The curriculum has 7 learning branches that outline what your child will learn at your local Nido school. These learning branches have been carefully designed with evidence-based research, aligned to the Australian **Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF)** and **Reggio Emilia philosophy** to support your child's early education journey.

Early Years Learning Framework

The EYLF is a national framework that early childhood educators and teachers use to help your child learn in a fun, engaging and meaningful way. It encourages learning through play, exploration and hands on experiences.

Reggio Emilia Philosophy

The Reggio Emilia philosophy is named after its birthplace in Italy and is an approach that Nido has adopted to support children to be active, creative and confident learners. It focuses on each child's voice and natural ability to explore the world around them. For more information on the Reggio Emilia philosophy please visit nido.edu.au.



“Children are receptive to a wide range of experiences. What is included or excluded from the curriculum affects how children learn, develop and understand the world.”

(EYLF, V2.0)

THE 7 LEARNING BRANCHES

1

COMMUNITY

- Building diversity and respect.
- Working with others collaboratively.
- Participating in environmental sustainability.
- Supporting inclusion in their classroom.
- Learning about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture.
- Becoming global citizens, sharing their thoughts and ideas.

2

CONFIDENT LEARNERS

- Being a curious learner.
- Engaging in the curriculum and with others.
- Exploring what they know and how they learn.
- Problem-solving with creative and critical thinking.
- Transferring learning from one context to another.

3

LITERACY

- Storytelling.
- Recognising and using letters.
- Effectively communicating with others.
- Drawing to support emergent writing.
- Understanding the meaning of text and symbols.
- Using expression to communicate a message.

4

NUMERACY

- Identifying and exploring shapes to build learning of geometry.
- Recognising numbers and quantities.
- Exploring patterns.
- Classifying and comparing objects.
- Understanding measurement.

5

HEALTHY MINDS & BODIES

- Self-regulating their emotions.
- Exploring physical movement and play.
- Nutrition and healthy lifestyle.
- Embracing identity.
- Building secure and safe relationships.
- Being resilient to overcome challenges.
- Caring for personal hygiene.
- Building fine motor and gross motor skills.

6

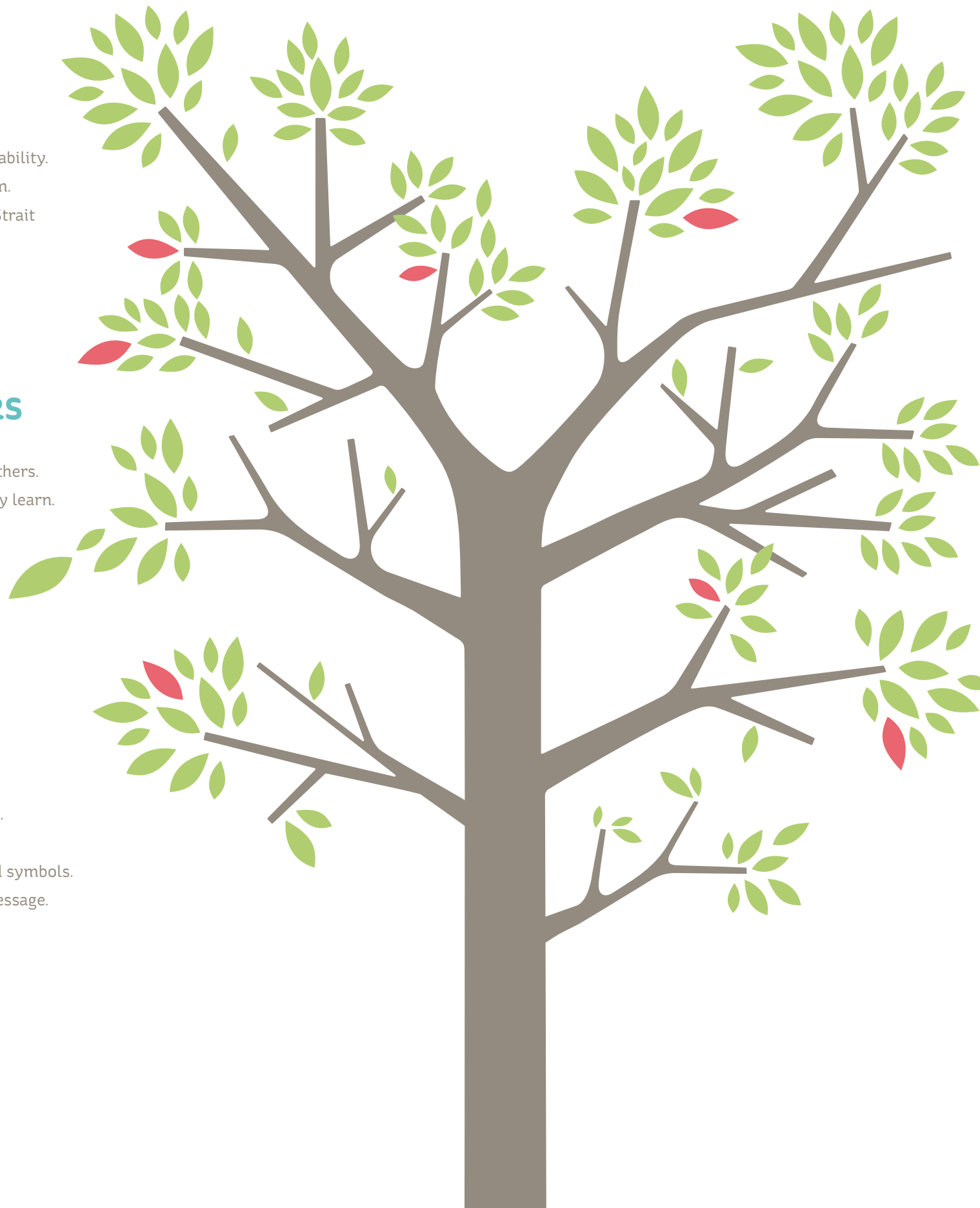
CREATIVITY

- Exploring the visual arts.
- Using music to enhance literacy and creativity.
- Exploring ideas and building confidence through drama and imaginative play.
- Embracing dance to support creativity and promote physical movement.

7

STEM

- Problem-solving.
- Exploring technology.
- Using inquiry to learn through questioning and exploring the world around them.
- Developing persistence and a positive attitude.
- Predicting what may happen in their learning.
- Learning by designing.



BENEFITS OF THE NIDO KINDERGARTEN CURRICULUM

The Nido Kindergarten Curriculum will benefit your child by:

- Offering literacy-promoting experiences.
- Exploring numeracy skills through planned and spontaneous activities.
- Building their problem-solving, creativity and critical thinking skills.
- Expanding their social and emotional wellbeing.
- Helping them to develop friendships and social skills.
- Supporting them in the transition to formal schooling, familiarising them with their learning environments, routines and classroom expectations.
- Learning through play which encourages them to explore, experiment, and make sense of their world.
- Forging connection with community, giving them the chance to learn about their role in society.



“Nido’s curriculum gives me peace of mind that my children are learning and developing skills or abilities that are age appropriate for them. They can participate in fun, engaging activities, whereby they are growing and building on prior knowledge in a safe and secure environment, becoming curious young learners.”

Nido Parent

SCHOOL READINESS

What is school readiness and why is it important?

School readiness is more than your child's ability to read and write. Research tells us that children need strong social and emotional wellbeing to succeed academically. In the early years, a play-based approach will support your child to develop social and emotional confidence and provide foundational skills to support their future success in formal schooling. We focus on developing the skills necessary for your child to be confident readers and writers and engage in future academic opportunities.

Enrolling your child in a specialised kindergarten program helps them get ready for the next stage of their educational journey. The Nido Kindergarten Curriculum offers experiences and environments to build their confidence, creativity, problem-solving, harness their voice, and build emergent literacy and numeracy skills to support future reading and writing skills.



Some of the areas that we focus on to help your child with the transition to formal schooling include:

- Confidently communicating their thoughts, ideas, and emotions with teachers and peers.
- Listening to follow instructions.
- Regulating their emotions.
- Looking after their belongings.
- Holding pens and pencils to develop pre-writing skills.
- Recognising their name.
- Encouraging your child to dress themselves, including putting on shoes and socks.
- Eating meals unassisted, including peeling fruit and unwrapping food.
- Confidently toileting and caring for their health and wellbeing.
- Demonstrating social skills including sharing, taking turns, and navigating conflict.

NIDO KINDERGARTEN SUMMARY OF LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Twice a year, your classroom teacher will provide you with a Nido Kindergarten Summary of Learning and Development report. This report communicates your child's progress towards the five learning outcomes of the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) and the Nido Kindergarten Curriculum. The EYLF learning outcomes are:

1: Children have a strong sense of identity

2: Children are connected with and contribute to their world

3: Children have a strong sense of wellbeing

4: Children are confident and involved learners

5: Children are effective communicators

The report is the ideal opportunity to collaborate with your child's teachers and educators to understand your child's learning and development at Nido. It explains how your child has been progressing towards their personalised learning goals; established at the beginning of the six month period.

Recognising parents as a child's first and most influential teacher, we encourage families to collaborate with educators and teachers to develop personalised learning goals to guide their learning. You will be invited to provide your feedback and work with your child's educators and teachers to create new learning goals for the next six month period.

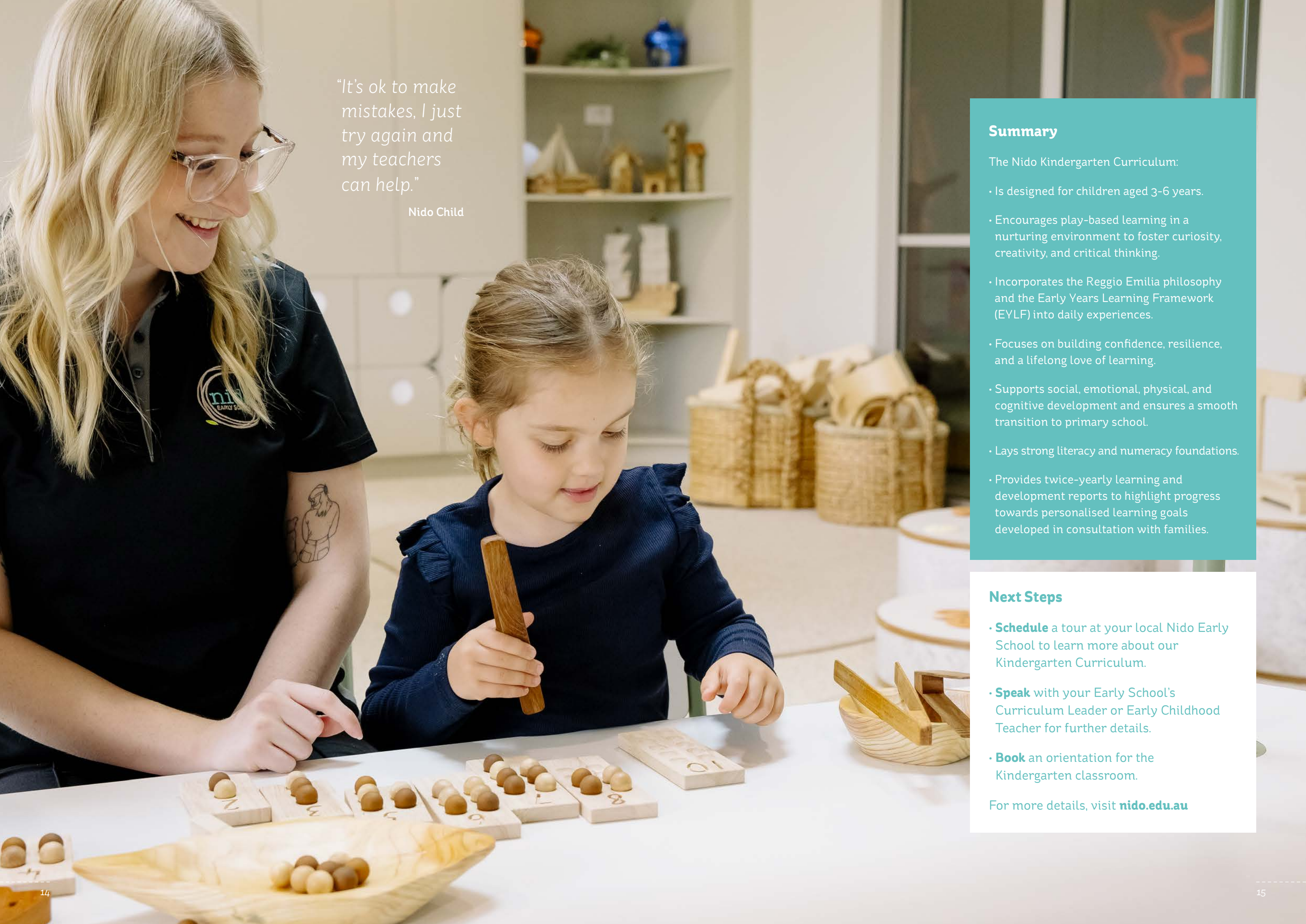
Educators and teachers design individual and group experiences to support your child's learning journey, providing Learning Journeys and Summary of Learnings to keep you updated on their progress.



We truly believe that it takes a village to raise a child, and we honour families as a child's first and most powerful teacher.

Together, as partners, we will create a nurturing path for your child, setting them up for a bright and successful future at Nido and beyond.





"It's ok to make mistakes, I just try again and my teachers can help."

Nido Child

Summary

The Nido Kindergarten Curriculum:

- Is designed for children aged 3-6 years.
- Encourages play-based learning in a nurturing environment to foster curiosity, creativity, and critical thinking.
- Incorporates the Reggio Emilia philosophy and the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) into daily experiences.
- Focuses on building confidence, resilience, and a lifelong love of learning.
- Supports social, emotional, physical, and cognitive development and ensures a smooth transition to primary school.
- Lays strong literacy and numeracy foundations.
- Provides twice-yearly learning and development reports to highlight progress towards personalised learning goals developed in consultation with families.

Next Steps

- **Schedule** a tour at your local Nido Early School to learn more about our Kindergarten Curriculum.
- **Speak** with your Early School's Curriculum Leader or Early Childhood Teacher for further details.
- **Book** an orientation for the Kindergarten classroom.

For more details, visit nido.edu.au

