



# PROSPECTUS

Local • Global • Connected



Tinkering  
Station

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# Welcome to Immanuel Gawler and Zion Preschool

In the pages of this prospectus you will discover a lot about our schools (and a visit to our website will tell you lots too!) But the very best way to learn more about us is to come and visit. By doing that you will discover that we are:

## LOCAL

we are passionate about our community.

## GLOBAL

we play on the world stage through things like the International Baccalaureate and our commitment to technology.

## CONNECTED

to each other, our community and to God!

Come and visit.

We'd love to show you what makes our schools so special.





Together we offer a seamless and holistic educational pathway

# LEARNING

## Who are we?

Zion Preschool caters for four year olds (who have turned 4 before the 30th April) and Immanuel Gawler caters for students from Foundation to Year 6.

Together we offer a seamless and holistic educational pathway and we aim to be schools of choice in our local community for those seeking an excellent Christian education for their children in a relationship focused environment.

### Connected to our **LOCAL** communities

- We are socially and culturally inclusive and highly value communication and interpersonal relationships
- We place strong emphasis on partnering with families in the education of the children within our care
- Located in the heart of Gawler we have a reputation for providing quality education since 1978 (Zion) and 1985 (Immanuel)

### Connected to **GLOBAL** communities

- Utilising the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (Immanuel) and modern pedagogical / collaborative practices, students explore their place in the world
- We are committed to a holistic and individualised approach to learning in a technology rich environment

### **CONNECTED** to our God

- We are a community in which people connect with each other and with God
- We are Christ centred, aiming to build good citizenship through service/action and being good stewards of God's creation

**Local - Global - Connected**

## What we believe?

We believe that powerful learning occurs when:

- Learning is inquiry based to explore big ideas and concepts and to activate the skills of creative and critical thinking
- Learning is collaborative and globally aware through connections with communities and practice beyond the classroom
- Learning is individualised, relevant and challenging to meet the needs and interests of the learner
- Learning is based in a supportive christian love through positive relationships and partnerships
- The learning environment nurtures the interests and needs (physical / social / emotional / spiritual) of learners as well as developing independence
- Learning is driven by quality and timely assessment and feedback practices



**local global connected**



**All year levels have developed a strong staff team approach**

# LEARNING

## Structures

At Zion Preschool we offer two groups (of approximately 33 students per group) in the following structure:

- Monday/Wednesday and alternate Fridays – Group 1 (Kookaburras)
- Tuesday/Thursday and alternate Fridays – Group 2 (Koalas)

In Foundation at Immanuel we limit our class size to just 18 as we believe this gives our students a fantastic start to school life setting them up for ongoing success in the coming years.

Our class structure is:

- 3 Foundation classes (capped at 18)
- 2 Year One Classes
- 2 Year Two Classes
- 2 Year Three Classes
- 2 Year Four Classes
- 2 Year Five Classes
- 2 Year Six Classes

All year levels have developed a strong staff team approach adopting the philosophy that 'it takes a village to raise a child' and each year level has a LSA (SSO) who works as a part of that team each day.

Our specialist curriculum areas at Immanuel are LOTE (Languages Other Than English), Music and Physical Education.

## Connections and Transitions

A large number of the students from Zion Preschool progress onto Immanuel and enjoy the consistent values and student centred approach. However Immanuel will (and does) enrol students who have not come through Zion Preschool, and likewise some students at Zion Preschool move onto other primary schools.

The working relationship between Immanuel and Zion, in terms of transition arrangements and the programmes that are conducted, offer a seamless transition from Pre-school to Primary school which is unique and beneficial.

## Curriculum

**Immanuel is an IB PYP school!**

IB stands for International Baccalaureate, offering highly respected programmes of an international standard. As a PYP (International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme) school, Immanuel is held to high standards in our educational programmes through regular training and external evaluation.

In the PYP students learn through an inquiry model, which guides students to take an active role in their learning, asking questions, researching and experimenting to develop their own understanding through conceptual learning. By developing these

skills in our students we prepare them for high school and life beyond school where they need to think and learn for themselves.

While the IB PYP gives us a framework for teaching and guidelines for how we teach at Immanuel, our students still learn skills, knowledge and content from the Australian Curriculum. This means you can be sure that your child is learning similar content to other students all around Australia.

## Our Commitment

It is our job then to support and guide your child to ensure they learn this knowledge and these skills as thoroughly and efficiently as possible so they have the best opportunities for success. Through effective differentiation, we cater for all students, ensuring they are learning at an appropriate level, and maximising their opportunities for progress across all learning areas.

We see the pillars for a balanced curriculum as:

- Knowledge – what we want students to know
- Skills – what we want students to be able to do
- Concepts – big ideas we want students to understand
- Attitude – the way students approach learning and life
- Action – what students choose to do with their learning

Above all, we engage an approach to learning that fosters problem solving, collaboration and creativity (but at the same time realise that there is place for 'explicit' teaching in these areas).



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**We encourage and support the individual's active involvement in exploring and interacting in their environment**



# LEARNING

## Zion Preschool

Our motto at Zion is...  
“Learners Growing Together in Christ.”

Learners- we acknowledge that we are life-long learners and there is much to learn from sharing each person’s history, culture and faith.

Growing- to develop, change and mature is an individual journey. This journey may be a faith journey, an academic journey; being able to pin-point a start and finish point for the creation and fulfilment of goals. This also encompasses each individual of the Zion Preschool community striving for excellence to always be learning, seeking, and finding.

Together- recognising that no one is alone on their growth journey. This may be through the assistance that is given to support individual needs, collaborative partnerships within and outside of the community for growth and development and coming together in the love of Christ Jesus.

In Christ- we acknowledge that we are here for purpose and that God has a plan. We recognise that there are no mistakes and that each person is created, accepted and a part of God’s family, by Grace alone.

We also are led by the principles and outcomes of the Early Years Learning Framework and the values of the Lutheran Education Document, Growing Deep.

## The Early Years Learning Framework

Staff at Zion plan a programme for the children weekly. The programme informs you of specific activities and what your child is developing through experiencing these activities. Programme information is gathered through observing children, listening to children, children’s interests, developmental needs, intentional teaching, etc. Zion Preschool follows the practices and principles outlined in The Early Years Learning Framework: Being, Belonging, Becoming [EYLF: BBB].

The aim of this document is to extend and enrich children’s learning from birth to five years and through the transition to school.

The five Early Years Learning Framework Outcomes are:

- Outcome 1: Children have a strong sense of identity
- Outcome 2: Children are connected with and contribute to their world
- Outcome 3: Children have a strong sense of wellbeing
- Outcome 4: Children are confident and involved learners
- Outcome 5: Children are effective communicators

In our Preschool, the staff support, encourage and nurture your child’s development through play.

We encourage and support the individual’s active involvement in exploring and interacting in their environment with a variety of materials, working collaboratively with family, teacher and child input. Your child will have many opportunities to work and play co-operatively with others, being encouraged to have consideration, concern and care in their play.

The Preschool staff teach the Protective Behaviours programme and it is implemented in our daily programme and interaction with the children. It is based on the themes:

- We all have the right to feel safe all the time.
- Nothing is so awful that you cannot tell someone you trust.
- We are teaching children lifelong skills to know what to do in unfavourable situations. It is to listen to what children tell us and to believe them.

## Playgroup

Playgroup provides wonderful opportunities for children and families to meet other families from our broader community in a friendly environment to chat, play and learn. This is a great time to bond too. It also offers an extended transition to preschool. Parents and Caregivers are required to stay with their child to supervise for the entire duration of Playgroup.

More information about prices and access can be found on our Website.



EXTINGUISHER



Technology is an essential part of our lives today and like all things we hold it in balance

# LEARNING

## At Immanuel

It's always a good idea to start with the end in mind and so one of our aims is to fulfil the International Baccalaureate mission statement which is...

The aim of all IB programmes is to develop internationally minded people who, recognising their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world.

So we also aim to develop the following attributes in our students - everything we do aims to support the development of students who are...

- Inquirers
- Knowledgeable
- Thinkers
- Communicators
- Principled
- Open Minded
- Caring
- Risk Takers
- Balanced
- Reflective

## Holistic, Balanced and a Focus on Well-Being

We have a very strong pastoral support focus with student well-being a cornerstone of all we do. Our staff take seriously the social and emotional health of our students and support this by an individualised approach as well as the programmes we run.

## ICT

### (Information & Communication Technology)

Technology is an essential part of our lives today and we must prepare our students for this reality. With that in mind, we are committed to providing an ICT rich learning environment.

The use of ICT is integrated across curriculum areas to compliment and enrich the learning programme. Utilising iPads and through Apple's focus in Education, we are able to provide:

- An engaging, relevant and balanced use of IT
- A safe and monitored use of IT

Through this approach we are preparing our students for the diversity of the real world with the skills, knowledge and attitudes they will need to succeed!

## Camps and Excursions

Students at Immanuel participate in outdoor education experiences every year according to the following structure. (Locations may be subject to change.)

<b>All year levels</b>	Excursions and incursions connected to curriculum studies
<b>Foundation</b>	Big Day Out excursion
<b>Year 1</b>	One night sleepover at school
<b>Year 2</b>	One night camp not too far from school
<b>Year 3</b>	One night camp at Monarto Zoo
<b>Year 4</b>	Two night camp with City experience
<b>Year 5</b>	Two night camp combining aquatics and an 'Elective' style camp giving students some choice.
<b>Year 6</b>	Canberra

In addition, all students engage in regular incursions and excursions connected to their learning. These vary from year to year and between classes but have previously included locations such as the Central Market, the Migration Museum, Adelaide Zoo, Gorge Wildlife Park and Parliament House to name a few, as well as numerous local opportunities.

All of these experiences are fantastic opportunities for students to understand that learning happens everywhere and to develop confidence, independence, social skills and friendships that will help them throughout their schooling and beyond.





**We are committed to encouraging our students to live healthy and active lives.**

# LEARNING

## Music and the Performing Arts

We highly value music and the performing arts and our students love it!

Lutheran schools have a strong tradition in these areas and we are no exception with plenty of opportunities to learn and perform throughout the year, both while at school and beyond the classroom.

Immanuel offers a strong and vibrant private instrumental programme available from a range of visiting music teachers.

## Sport and PE at Immanuel

We are committed to encouraging our students to live healthy and active lives.

Each week, all students at Immanuel have a specialist Physical Education lesson as well as designated physical activity lessons with their classroom teacher.

Students at Immanuel are also involved in a number of other sporting events and programmes throughout the year including Sports Day, Fun Runs, Water Safety Education Programme, Bike Ed Programme and occasional sporting incursions such as SACA cricket clinics.

Each year students from Foundation to Year 4 engage in a week of Swimming/Water Safety Education. Students also have opportunities to represent our school at a number of sporting events ranging from Mountain Bike Championships to Athletics meets.

Immanuel Gawler is highly respected within the Gawler District SAPSASA sporting community for the opportunities we provide our senior students to trial for district sporting teams and for the spirit in which our students compete.

We have a number of school teams competing in the STARplex Basketball competition. While we will offer various 'out of school' sporting opportunities from time to time, as locals of the Gawler area, we understand the important role local sports clubs play in our community and therefore encourage students to pursue opportunities at this club level. By being a part of Gawler's sports clubs our students grow in social skills, sporting knowledge and techniques, which is a great thing for our students and for Gawler itself.

## Support and Well-Being

We are committed to meeting children where they are at.

For some children that means extension and for some it means extra help.

We call this individualising the curriculum (or differentiation).

We have a strong support and wellbeing team who work with our skilled and trained teachers to provide learning programmes that meet our students' needs, both academic as well as social/emotional.

Indeed, the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme itself is a perfect accompaniment to these programmes, ensuring we offer a curriculum which is relevant, engaging, significant and challenging.

## Assessment, Reporting and Feedback

These are very important aspects of each child's learning journey.

We really value the partnership between home and school so we aim to maintain high levels of communication and feedback through formal processes such as Parent/Teacher conferences and written reports as well as giving opportunities to catch up informally as often as is needed.

We utilise an App called See Saw which allows families to engage in their children's learning in 'real time', as well as receive constant feedback.





**We have families from a wide range of spiritual traditions.**

# CONNECTED

## Communication

We are committed to strong communication practices. Frequent email updates, strong social media activity and lots of opportunity to speak in person ensure that the relationship between home and school is informed and strong.

Our staff uses social media as means of networking and connecting with educators across the globe for continued professional growth and development.

Families are encouraged to monitor our Facebook pages or Website - they are a great way of discovering more about our schools and seeing some of the exciting events that happen during the year.

## Extra Curricular Activities and Lunchtime Clubs

As well as classroom learning, at Immanuel we offer a range of lunchtime clubs each week run by staff. These clubs are a great way for students to meet new friends who have similar interests to them, as well as spending time doing something they love. These clubs vary throughout the year with some changing each term and others running all year. Some of the great clubs that

have been run in the past include: choir, band, drawing club, heroclix, card games, craft club, origami club, chess club, coding, minecraft education, ball games and many more.

Additionally, students can celebrate their love of science with like-minded school mates by participating alongside each other in the Oliphant Science Awards Competition.

## Secondary Pathways

The Gawler region is blessed to have a number of options for secondary school.

Being a Lutheran School, Immanuel aligns closely to Endeavour College at Mawson Lakes and Faith Lutheran College at Tanunda. Students graduating from Immanuel are not required to stay in the Lutheran system, but many choose to due to similarity of culture and values.

## Spirituality

While we are 'schools of the Lutheran Church of Australia', we are also community based schools open to anyone who is seeking a quality educational environment that is built upon Christian values and teachings.

We have families from a wide range of spiritual traditions.

The outward signs of our spirituality can be seen through the Christian Studies lessons, Worship and Praise Services each Friday and sharing a brief devotional time each day. (We also say grace before meals and have Christian artifacts in our school.)

However, the strongest signs of our spirituality can be seen in the values we live by: grace, love, compassion, forgiveness... These are all Christian values and ones we live by each and every day.

'Treat other people the way you like to be treated' is a timeless Christian teaching and one that underpins our commitment to interpersonal communication and behaviour.

We are blessed to be supported by the Gawler Lutheran Church. There are no stipulations or requirements regarding religious affiliation when enrolling at Immanuel Gawler or Zion Preschool. We are a community school seeking to support all those who seek a Christian based education for their children.



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Sustainability has long been a focus for us and is one that our students are closely involved in.



# CONNECTED

## Our Environment

Sustainability has long been a focus for us and is one that our students are closely involved in.

We believe that God has given us a beautiful world to live in and we have a responsibility, as global citizens, to nurture and care for it.

Our beautiful grounds and commitment to 'Nature Play' certainly support this belief, and so do programmes such as the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden programme.

In the SAKG students at Immanuel participate in weekly gardening sessions, where they plan, grow and collect different fruit, vegetables and herbs for use in the kitchen. They then also join in weekly kitchen sessions where teachers and parent volunteers help students to prepare, cook and present food before sharing in a formal meal. This fantastic experience teaches our students about producing their own food and develops life skills in gardening and cooking that will help them throughout the rest of their life.

Additionally, Immanuel has enough solar panels to meet the school's electricity needs and over 40 fruit trees! Our commitment to sustainability is evident to anyone who visits our site.

## Our students and their voice

At Immanuel we see the important role our students will have in the future and we are committed to doing our best to prepare them for it. Senior students are given a range of opportunities to develop their leadership skills and grow in confidence.

Each year four School Captains are appointed who take on a variety of leadership duties throughout the school. In addition, our Year 6 students participate in Student Parliament where each student undertakes a leadership role either representing a class or an area of the school.

## 'Out of School Hours Care' (iGOSH)

Immanuel offers before school care from 7:00am and after school care until 6:00pm and this is operated by our school – that is, it is not outsourced. We also offer Vacation Care for the holiday break periods.

Children from Zion Preschool (who are continuing their education journey at Immanuel) are able to utilise Vac Care and iGOSH (with a free bus shuttle) each morning and afternoon to/from the Preschool for these children.

OSHC and Vac Care are both CCS rebatable.

## Bus Service

We operate two bus services around our local area each morning and afternoon. Additionally our buses provide an excellent resource to support our programmes and access to opportunities for both Immanuel and Zion students.

## Our Community

We strongly believe that education is a partnership and parents/ caregivers are certainly key stakeholders. We provide (and welcome) family participation and offer lots of opportunities to do so.



# WHAT'S NEXT?

## The Enrolment Process

We welcome new enquiries about our schools whether you have young children about to commence schooling for the first time or you are looking for a position in a higher year level. We encourage you to make a time to visit us and see what makes our schools so special.

Enrolments are subject to adequate space and resources being available. It is important to share any information that may be relevant to your child's development and learning when you meet with either our School Principal or Preschool Director.

Families are welcome to come and visit us and then submit an enrolment form or vice versa. There are also lots of Open Day opportunities that happen throughout the year and you can find out about these by either giving us a call or looking at our Website.

Our encouragement is to make contact sooner rather than later. Places can fill up quickly!



## Contact Details

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