

What will happen when my child reaches year 3?

Children who complete year 2 in an Early Childhood School will be well equipped for the transition to the next stage of their schooling. Children from Early Childhood Schools will be able to access the public school for the Priority Enrolment Area (PEA) in which the family lives. They will also have access to an out-of-area school in a suburb near the Early Childhood School if the school has vacancies. You will need to contact the school of your choice for enrolment details and to discuss the availability of placement with the school principal.

When will the childcare service be available?

The childcare component is expected to become available in the first half of the year. However, interim programs will be in place from the start of the 2009 school year. Please contact the school later in 2008 to confirm the expected start date of childcare services.

What is happening with the renovations?

Refurbishments are necessary to ensure the school facility is more suitable for its exciting new role. They will be completed by early 2009. Special arrangements are in place to ensure continuity of programs for children currently enrolled at the school. Any works will have minimal impact on children and their learning.

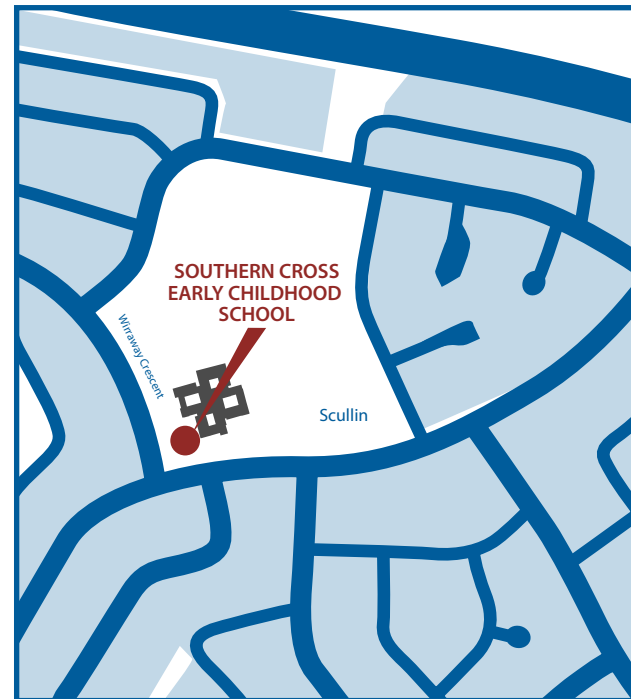
How do I enrol my child?

Please contact the school to enrol your child for preschool, kindergarten, year 1 and year 2 for 2009.

The school is also taking names and contact details of people who are interested in the child care program. These names will be passed on to the provider of the service once they are known.



Map showing location of school



Contact details

Southern Cross Early Childhood School
Wirraway Crescent
Scullin ACT 2614

Enquiries

Telephone: (02) 6205 8177



Education and Training

Southern Cross Early Childhood School



ACT Public Schools *So much more to offer*

From the Ministers

The ACT Government is committed to giving Canberra's children the best start in life.

With increasing recognition throughout the world of the important role education plays in children's early years, our new early childhood schools are an important part of this commitment. These new schools, as hubs within their communities, will provide services to better support local families. The high quality early learning programs they will deliver will be backed by a range of new family and child services, and links to existing services, to better meet the needs of children and their families.

The schools and associated family services, opening next year, will provide high quality early education to Canberra students. We encourage you to make contact with your nearest school and have a look at what is on offer for your family.

These schools are an exciting addition to public education provision in the ACT and an innovative approach to supporting families with young children.

Katy Gallagher
Deputy Chief Minister
Minister for Health
Minister for Disability and Community Services

Andrew Barr
Minister for Education and Training

Early childhood schools

From 2009 five early childhood schools will be available to Canberra families. The new early childhood schools located in Lyons, Isabella Plains, Southern Cross (Scullin) and Narrabundah will operate as early learning and development centres providing integrated services for children (birth to 8 years) and their families.

O'Connor Cooperative school will continue to operate as a Preschool to Year 2 school.

This is a nation-leading approach to the early years of learning that will give children a great start to their education. It will also provide a range of services, including healthcare, family support and counselling to help parents and carers.



Southern Cross Early Childhood School

Schools are ideal centres for the delivery of integrated support services for children and their families.

Schools with these services are better able to meet the needs of all children and all families with a focus on preparing children for their effective participation in school life.

Southern Cross Primary School is being transformed to one of Canberra's four exciting new early childhood schools.

From the beginning of the 2009 school year Southern Cross Early Childhood School will offer child care and preschool programs.

By mid-year 2009, the new school will be fully functional and will provide a high quality and innovative early childhood education program for children in preschool, kindergarten, year 1 and year 2.

In addition, on site services will include childcare for children birth to eight years of age, and a range of family support programs, health services, and specialist support programs.

Early Childhood Schools Framework

The *Early Childhood Schools Framework* provides the background and rationale for this exciting new approach to early childhood schools. In particular the Framework outlines the key goals and elements guiding the development of early childhood schools.

The Framework is available from Southern Cross Primary School or from the Publications section of the ACT Department of Education and Training website: www.det.act.gov.au/



Frequently asked questions

Will Southern Cross still be a school offering teaching and learning programs?

The early childhood school will continue to operate as a school with a principal, qualified teachers and support staff.

The education component (preschool to Year 2) is consistent with the early childhood band of the ACT curriculum framework. All students will also benefit from the additional learning and development programs and support services available at the early childhood schools.

What other services will be available at Southern Cross early childhood school?

Over the first 12 months of development of the school a range of services will become available. These include: child care; before and after school child care for preschool to year 2 students; parenting programs and support groups; targeted playgroups; health programs such as maternal and child health clinics; immunisation; physiotherapy; and speech therapy services.