

# Program Guide



**Term 1: 27<sup>th</sup> January to 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2026**

**at Merinda Park Learning  
and Community Centre**



 141 – 147 Endeavour Drive, Cranbourne North 3977  
 03 5996 9056

 [www.merindapark.com.au](http://www.merindapark.com.au)  
 [admin@merindapark.com.au](mailto:admin@merindapark.com.au)





# English Classes

**Learn English in small, friendly classes from our wonderful, qualified teachers. Enjoy English conversation, fun educational activities and outings.**

## Beginners English – PL1

Our beginner English classes offer a fun and interactive way to learn the basics of the language. Learn through enjoyable activities, games, and practical exercises. You'll build essential skills in speaking, listening, reading, writing, including introducing yourself, understanding letters and numbers, and everyday conversation.

**Mondays 1pm – 2:30pm, Tuesdays 9:30am – 11am**

## Intermediate English – L1

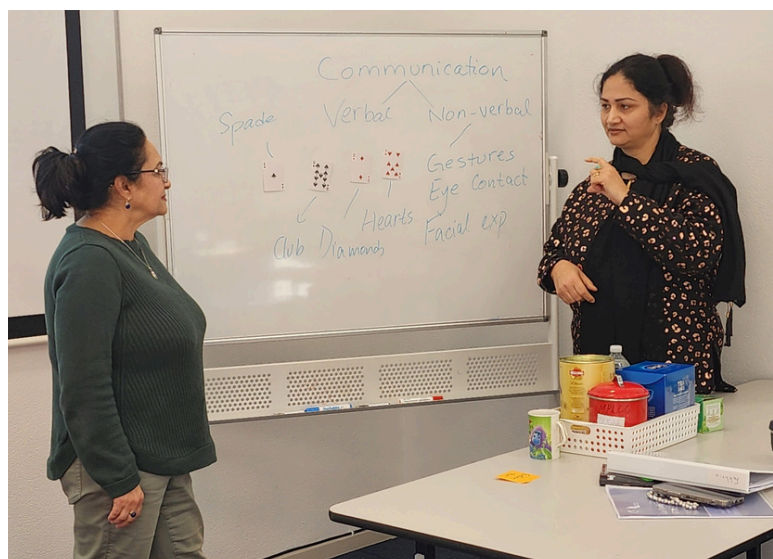
Our intermediate English classes are for learners who know the basics and want to build on and practice their English. Learn and apply your English skills in different ways, and become more confident with your computer skills.

**Mondays – Wednesdays 9:30am – 1:30pm**

## Advanced English – Gaining the Edge – L2

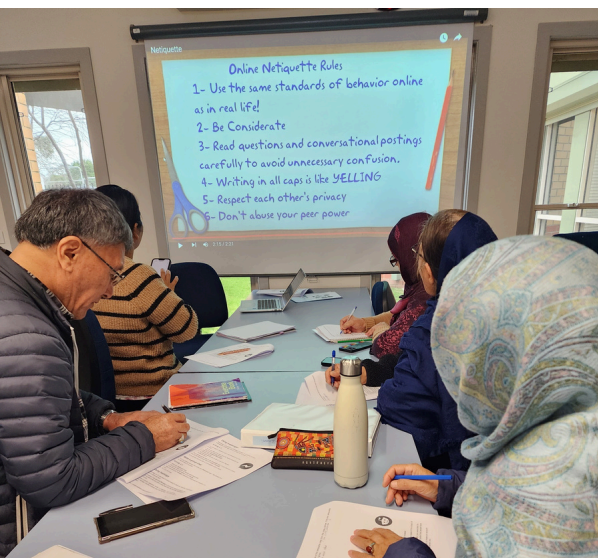
Become more confident with English and prepare for further study with this course on resilience. Understand your strengths, plan and set goals, learn better communication and self care while improving your reading, writing, speaking and listening skills.

**Tuesdays 9.30am – 11:30am**





# Digital Skills



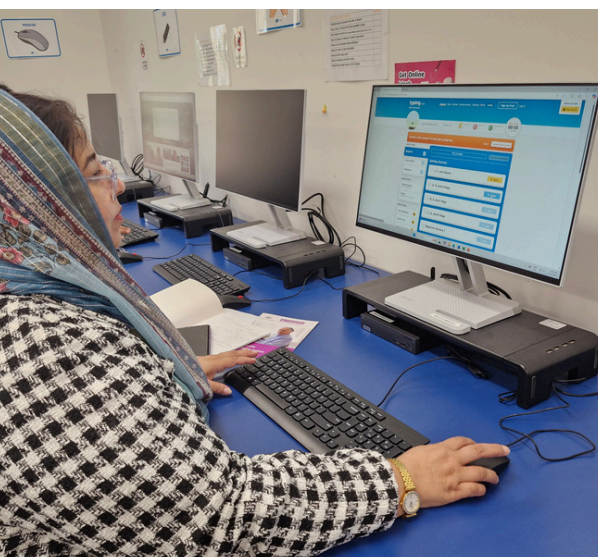
**Our computer classes are delivered by experienced teachers in our fully equipped computer lab with PCs installed with Windows 11.**

## Digital Essentials 1

Our digital devices class for beginners is designed to help you understand the basics of technology.

The class covers different digital devices such as smartphones and computers, email and social media, apps and software. Learn how to access services over the Internet and stay safe online.

**Mondays 9.30am - 12.30pm**



## Digital Essentials 2

This course is ideal if you have a basic knowledge of computers, but would like to gain more confidence and experience in building your email and internet skills, finding information and staying safe online, connecting to other devices and managing files. This course will also introduce you to Microsoft MS Word.

**Mondays and Tuesdays 1.30pm - 3pm**



## Introduction to MS Word & Excel

If you have some confidence with computers and are wanting to get started in learning workplace applications such as Microsoft Word Excel, this course is for you.

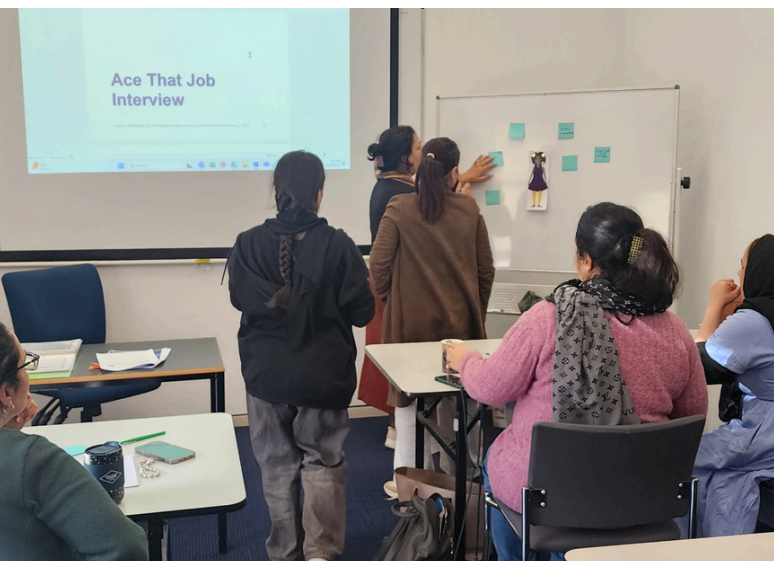
This course will teach you how to create a cover letter and resume in Word, create documents, schedules and tables, present information, make simple calculations and use formulae in Excel.

**Thursdays 9.30am - 11.30am**

"I wanted to start my own small business as an NDIS provider but had very little computer skills. I am learning a lot in the classes and now have my clients up on my home computer. Thank you" Louise



# Job Readiness



**Our job readiness classes will prepare to apply for jobs and volunteer roles and develop interview skills.**

## Job Readiness

Explore job options and job search platforms, learn to create a professional resume and compelling cover letter.

Build confidence for interviews, practice your communication skills and how to make a lasting first impression.

**Wednesdays 9:30am - 1:30pm**



## Employable Me

This course will enable you to identify your personal strengths and transferrable skills and relate them to your chosen career pathway.

Develop a personal action plan, prepare for job interviews, discover the benefits of volunteering in building networks and explore what studying at TAFE can offer for your future. This course is designed to lead into Moving On in Term 2

**Thursdays 12pm - 3pm**



## Moving on

Discover your strengths, learn how to navigate the job market and prepare for study at TAFE. Gain skills to write effective job applications, craft a professional resume and develop strong interview techniques.

**Term 2**



# Employability Skills

**Learn new skills to prepare you for work or further study in our industry tasters. Classes run during school terms.**

## Get Ready to Work in Health, Care & Support

Do you want to work in healthcare, aged care or disability support?

Our classes will help you learn the basics to work in health services, including:

- Respectful communication
- Safe work practices
- Person-centered care
- Understand how to care for others legally and ethically

This course can provide a pathway towards Certificate III in Individual Support, nursing or other health qualifications.

**Thursdays and Fridays – Times to be confirmed**

## Introduction to Early Childhood Education

This course will build your foundation skills and confidence to work in Early Childhood Education. Become familiar with workplace routines, communication, and staying safe at work. Discover how children learn and grow through play.

This is a great opportunity for anyone who is passionate about working with children. This is a pathway to Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care.

**Tuesdays 12pm–2pm**





# Short Courses

**Learn new skills and meet people in a relaxed environment with our short courses.**

## Canva Masterclasses

Learn to design and create your own flyers, social media posts and more with a Canva Masterclass led by a digital expert.

- Introduction to Canva and its uses
- Hands-on guidance to create simple projects
- Tips on using Canva for personal and community purposes

**Wednesdays 9.30am-11am**

4 sessions - 18<sup>th</sup> February-11<sup>th</sup> March

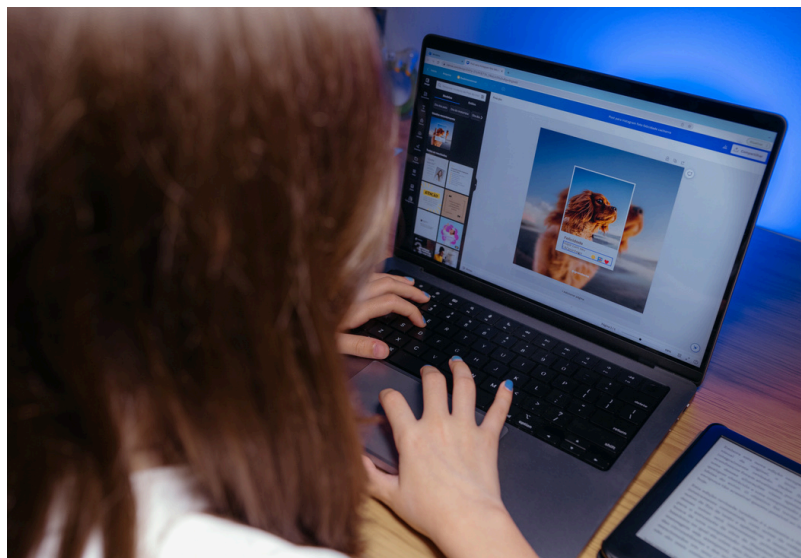
## Cooking Around the World

In his cooking course, taught by a qualified chef, you will learn to prepare mouth-watering dishes and dessert from around the world. Afterwards enjoy tasting your creations in good company with your classmates.

All food is Halal.

**Wednesdays 11:30am-1pm**

4 sessions - 25<sup>th</sup> February-18<sup>th</sup> March





# Our Community

## Our Pre-Accredited courses

**Our Pre-Accredited courses are a great way to gain skills and confidence, whether you are planning to go on to study at TAFE, find a job, or you just want to learn some skills and meet new people.**

We have learning packages available comprising multiple courses to meet your needs, enquire for details. Classes run during school terms.

Pre-Accredited courses are funded by the Adult, Community and Further Education Board, which is in the Victorian Government Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions. This allows us to keep our prices low for green Medicare card holders.

Please note: All programs and classes offered are dependent on enrolment numbers, and may be altered or rescheduled as needed. We do not offer refunds on courses or programs unless there are extenuating circumstances.



## Volunteering

Do you have a few hours to spare each week? Would you like to make a difference in your community? We have volunteering opportunities in our classes, admin, childcare, kitchen community garden

**Contact us on 5996 9056 or email [admin@merindapark.com.au](mailto:admin@merindapark.com.au) to find out more.**

*We ♥ our  
Volunteers*





# Our Community

## Career & Employment Counselling for Job Seekers

Career counsellors from Chisholm Skills & Jobs Centre are available to work with you on your resume, support you to apply for jobs or help you identify your next steps.

**Fortnightly by appointment – Free**

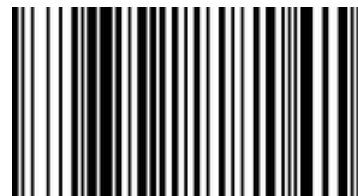
**To register call 03 9212 4909 and ask to book into Merinda Park Learning & Community Centre**



## Donate your empty containers

We've signed up as an approved donation partner with Victoria's Container Deposit Scheme (CDS Vic).

This means your empty containers can help us raise money and continue delivering quality services to our families and community.



**Scan the barcode on the CDS Vic East Return-It app**

### Where can you take your containers?

- Reverse vending machines (RVMs) are self-service return points
- Depots are staffed centres that sort and count bulk loads of beverage containers. Some offer a drive-thru service.
- Over-the-counter (OTC) refund points are located at businesses and organisations in your community.

Find your nearest return point at [cdsvic.org.au/locations](https://cdsvic.org.au/locations)

### Which containers are eligible?

Most aluminium, glass, plastic and liquid paperboard (carton) drink containers between 150mL and 3 litres are eligible. You can keep the lids on, CDS Vic recycle them too.



### How to return your containers and donate to Merinda Park Learning and Community Centre:

At reverse vending machines self-service return points:

1. Select '**Donation**' on the touchscreen.
2. Choose **Merinda Park Learning and Community Centre** from the 6 options displayed.
3. Take your receipt, and Merinda Park LCC will receive your donation electronically.





# Mind Cafe

**Mind Cafe is at Merinda Park Learning and Community Centre in January 2026 to support you.**

"Where healing starts with a cup of tea!"

Mind Cafe will be at Merinda Park Learning and Community Centre from 14th–30th January 2026, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM each day.



## What MindCafe Offers:

### Emotional First Aid

Immediate comfort when life feels overwhelming.

### Stress, Burnout & Mindfulness Support

Calm guidance for everyday emotional balance.

### Youth & Family Emotional Guidance

Support that strengthens homes and hearts.

### Non-Judgmental Listening

A warm, human space to talk and be heard.

### Senior Wellbeing Care

Gentle companionship and compassionate conversations.

### Reducing Loneliness & Isolation

Because no-one should feel alone in their struggles.

### Support Before Issues Escalate

Early care that brings clarity, comfort, and calm.

**Mind Cafe also provide a range of activities to support the community, including:**

- Happiness and wellbeing activities
- Healthy eating guidance
- Stress management
- Positive thinking exercises
- Balanced lifestyle tips
- Meditation
- Support with daily life tasks
- Mental wellbeing support



Just drop into Merinda Park Learning and Community Centre during the hours of 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM between 14th–30th January to find out more.

[www.mindcool.org](http://www.mindcool.org)



# Our Community

## Get help with the Power Saving Bonus

**Victorian concession card households can apply for the new \$100 bonus and Merinda Park can support you with your application.**

Kindly note that support can only be provided by appointment. Please ensure you have the eligible concession cards, Medicare card or driver's licence and the electricity bill.

**For more information, please refer to the link below:**

<https://compare.energy.vic.gov.au/psb-faq>

## Important Dates

**The Centre will be closed from the 18<sup>th</sup> of December 2025 to the 11<sup>th</sup> of January 2026. Recommencing on the 12<sup>th</sup> of January 2026 for School Holiday Care. Admin Office will reopen on the 19<sup>th</sup> of January 2026.**

### January 2026

**12<sup>th</sup> January** – First day of School Holiday Program and Daycare

**14<sup>th</sup> January** – Crochet recommences

**19<sup>th</sup> January** – Office reopens

**20<sup>th</sup> January** – Enrolment Day for 2026 Classes – 11am–1pm

**21<sup>st</sup> January** – Enrolment Day for 2026 Classes – 11am–1pm

**22<sup>nd</sup> January** – Enrolment Day for 2026 Classes – 11am–1pm

**23<sup>rd</sup> January** – Enrolment Day for 2026 Classes – 11am–1pm

**26<sup>th</sup> January** – Australia Day Public Holiday – Centre closed

**27<sup>th</sup> January** – Last day for School Holiday Program

**29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> January** – Kinder Orientations

**30<sup>th</sup> January** – Sewing Class recommences

### February 2026

**2<sup>nd</sup> February** – Kinder recommences. Classes recommence





# Arts and Crafts

**Meet new friends and bring out your crafty side.**

## Sewing Classes

Learn to sew or improve your sewing skills. Learn the basics of sewing, make bags and simple garments, and sew for charity. Use our machines or bring your own.

**Fridays, 9:30am - 11:30am**



## Free Crochet group

Meet new people who share your passion for crochet, creativity, and socialising.

Come in from 9:30am and stay for as long as you like. Enjoy a cup of tea or coffee in our drop - in lounge. Share your projects and ideas and be inspired in our casual, friendly group.

**Wednesdays 9:30am onwards**





# Children's Services



## FREE 3 & 4 year old Kinder

We provide funded kindergarten with a safe and stimulating environment and offer a healthy, balanced play diet.

Each child is valued and respected and is allowed to make choices and decisions to develop independence. Come and be a part of the journey where learning is an adventure, friendships flourish, and smiles light up the room.

**Monday to Friday 9:30am – 2:30pm.**



## Day Care

Children from 2 months to 5 years can attend from 1 day to 5 days a week.

You don't need to rush to work to use our Daycare. Take time for yourself, go shopping, do some study or care for an elderly parent. Our nurturing and fun Daycare prioritises the well-being and growth of every child.

**Monday to Friday 9am – 3pm.**



## Before & After School Care

Our supportive Before and After School Care caters to the busy schedules of working parents with children at St Therese's. We provide a supportive space where children can unwind, socialise, and participate in fun, enriching activities. Children are provided with a nutritious breakfast and afternoon tea and they will be safely taken to school and picked up by a walking bus.

**BSC – 6:30am – 8:30am, ASC – 3.30pm – 6pm Monday-Friday**





# Children's Services

## School Holiday Program

Our School Holiday program provides a fun-filled and safe environment for primary school children during school holidays. A wide range of activities keep children entertained and engaged. See website for current activities.

**Monday to Friday, 6:30am – 6pm.**



## Playgroup

Our playgroup is a great way to meet other parents and give your children the opportunity to have fun, learn and socialise with other children in a safe and supportive environment. Make new friends and enjoy great conversation while your children play. This playgroup is run by the Transformation Church.

**Thursdays 10:30am to 12:15pm during the school term**

**Email [office@t.church](mailto:office@t.church) to join.**





# Special Interest



## Casey Camera Club

The Casey Camera Club meets at Merinda Park Learning and Community Centre on 1st, 2nd and last Thursday of every month.

The Casey Camera Club Inc. is a group of photography enthusiasts who welcome new members to share their passion for photography.

### Contact

**[www.caseycameraclub.org.au/contact.html](http://www.caseycameraclub.org.au/contact.html)**



## Cranbourne Chamber of Commerce

Cranbourne Chamber of Commerce meets at Merinda Park Learning and Community Centre bi-monthly.

The Cranbourne Chamber of Commerce supports the development of a strong local community and a sense of civic pride.

### Contact

**[secretary@cranbournechamber.com.au](mailto:secretary@cranbournechamber.com.au)**



## Community Garden

Do you have a green thumb?

Would you like to start a gardening group or volunteer to help us maintain our community garden at Merinda Park Learning and Community Centre?

**Contact us on 5996 9056 or email**

**[admin@merindapark.com.au](mailto:admin@merindapark.com.au) to find out more.**

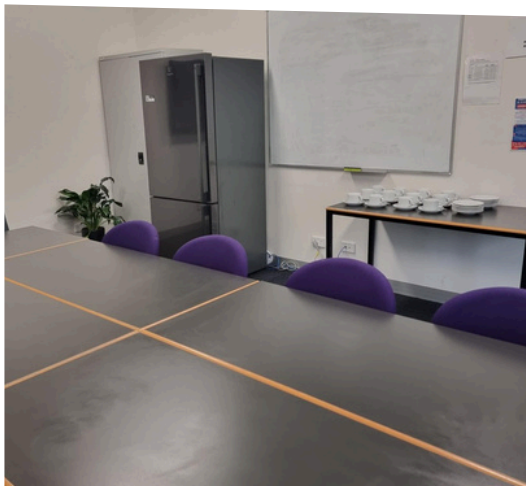
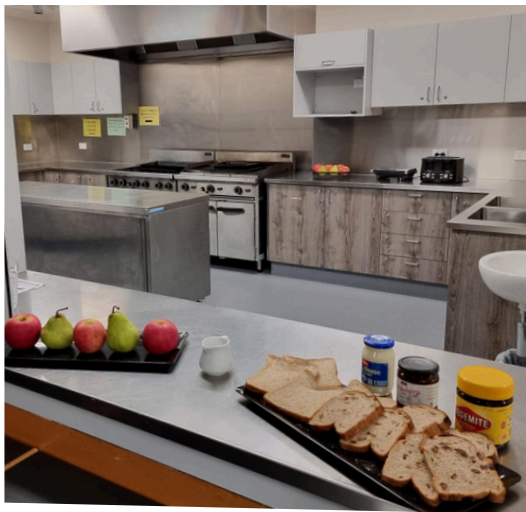




# Room & Hall Hire

## Offices and Classrooms

Our rooms are equipped with essential amenities to support your meeting, class, event or gathering. This includes audiovisual equipment, whiteboards, tables and chairs, Wi-Fi connectivity and access to power outlets.

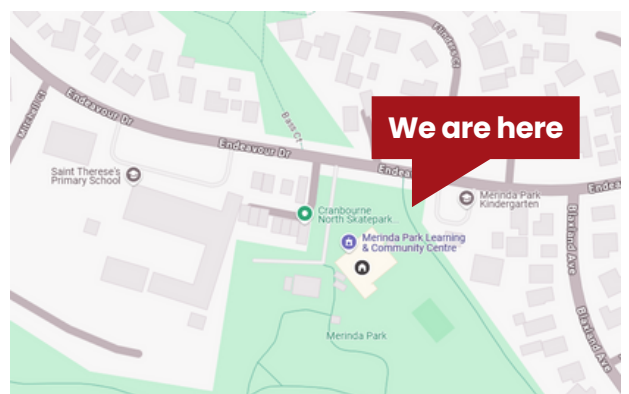


## Hall Hire

We have a large events room/hall for hire.

The events room can be hired with the option of a licensed commercial kitchen.

The room can seat comfortably up to 100 guests. Tables, chairs and a stage can be provided. The rear of the room has vinyl flooring, perfect for dancing or craft activities.



# Contact Us

 **Phone:**

**(03) 5996 9056**

 **E-Mail:**

**[admin@merindapark.com.au](mailto:admin@merindapark.com.au)**

 **Website:**

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 **Address:** **141 - 147 Endeavour Drive Cranbourne North 3977**



Skills for study  
work and life

