

The Auburn Parent's Guide to Choosing the Right Childcare (2026 Edition)

17 Essential Questions Every Parent Should Ask Before Enrolling Their Child



Little Genius Early Learning Centre

www.littlegeniuselc.com.au

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A Message From Little Genius Early Learning Centre

Choosing a childcare centre is one of the most important decisions you will make for your child.

You are not just choosing a building. You are choosing:

- Who will care for your child
- Who will shape their early learning
- Who will influence their confidence and development

At Little Genius Early Learning Centre Auburn, we believe parents deserve clarity, honesty and confidence before enrolling.

This guide was created to help you ask the right questions — whether you choose us or another centre.

Because informed parents make confident decisions.



1. Are there vacancies? How long is the waitlist?

Why this matters: Popular centres fill quickly, especially for toddlers.

What to look for:

- Clear communication about availability
- Honest waitlist timelines

At Little Genius Auburn: We encourage families to join early. Some age groups fill months in advance. We keep families informed and transparent about openings.

2. How much will I pay after CCS?

Why this matters: Understanding your out-of-pocket cost avoids financial stress later.

What to look for:

- Clear explanation of Child Care Subsidy
- No hidden charges

At Little Genius Auburn: We help families understand their CCS estimate and provide simple breakdowns so there are no surprises.

3. How do I interpret quality ratings?

Why this matters: A rating should always be discussed openly.

What to look for:

- Working Towards
- Meeting
- Exceeding
- Excellent

At Little Genius Auburn: We are committed to continuous improvement and aligning with national quality standards.

4. Is the educator team stable?

Why this matters: Children build emotional security through familiar faces.

What to look for:

- Long-term staff
- Warm interactions

- Calm environment

At Little Genius, we respect our staff and ensure they feel valued and supported. For this reason, educators often stay with us long term. Happy staff means happy children.

5. Ratios & supervision – is my child safe?

Why this matters: Safety and supervision are essential.

What to look for:

- Daily safety checks
- Secure premises
- Incident reporting
- Immediate parent communication

At Little Genius Auburn: We always go above the minimum required staff-to-child ratios because we understand that every care environment is unique. Some children require more support and care needs.

6. Opening hours & commute practicality

Why this matters: Your centre should fit your real-life schedule.

What to look for:

- Extended hours
- Easy drop-off flow
- Supportive communication and friendly educators and team members

At Little Genius Auburn: We are open Monday to Friday, 7:30am to 5:30pm, 50 weeks a year.

7. What is included in fees?

Why this matters: Transparency builds trust.

What to look for:

- Meals
- Nappies
- Sunscreen
- Bedding
- Educational resources

At Little Genius Auburn: At Little Genius the following is generally provided. Transparency = trust. As well as the day to day necessities we also provide the following at no extra cost to the families:

- Fitness programs with qualified instructors
- Language other than English (LOTE) programs
- Excursions
- Incursions
- Graduation ceremonies/end of year parties
- Community Celebrations/events

8. Room structure & environment

Why this matters: The environment shapes learning.

What to look for:

- Age/stage -based grouping
- Outdoor play spaces that incorporate natural elements and materials
- Developmentally appropriate spaces and resources
- Calm and structured routines

At Little Genius Auburn: Our rooms are designed to support each stage of development in a calm and engaging environment.

9. Educational philosophy & school readiness

Why this matters: What does school readiness look like?

What to look for:

- Confidence
- Early literacy
- Numeracy foundations
- Emotional regulation
- Independence and autonomy building skills

At Little Genius Auburn: At Little Genius School Readiness means building these foundations. Learning is play-based, guided and purposeful. At Little Genius our school Readiness program has a strong and consistent record of helping children successfully prepare for school.

10. As a parent what are some red flags to watch for?

Why this matters: Trust your instincts.

What to look for:

- High staff turnover
- Poor communication
- Unsafe environments
- No clear daily program
- Disengaged educators

At Little Genius Auburn: At Little Genius we encourage all parents to trust their instincts.

11. How does the centre support behaviour?

Why this matters: Positive guidance builds confidence.

What to look for:

- Positive guidance, not punishment
- Teaching children how to manage emotions respectfully

At Little Genius Auburn: At Little Genius we look for positive guidance, not punishment. We focus on giving children the tools they need to manage emotions respectfully and self-regulate

12. How are families kept informed?

Why this matters: Communication builds confidence.

What to look for:

- Daily updates
- Open communication
- Learning documentation

At Little Genius Auburn: Parents should never feel in the dark about their child's day.

13. How are new children supported to settle?

Why this matters: Settling should feel supported.

What to look for:

- Gradual orientation
- Comfort strategies
- Close educator bonding

At Little Genius Auburn: We work closely with families to ensure a smooth transition.

14. How are allergies and medical needs managed?

Why this matters: Safety plans are essential.

What to look for:

- Individual medical plans
- Trained staff
- Clear emergency procedures

At Little Genius Auburn: We follow strict processes to ensure every child's health needs are managed carefully.

15. How does the centre prepare children for school?

Why this matters: Confidence matters more than worksheets.

What to look for:

- Recognising letters
- Early numbers
- Listening skills
- Social/Emotional growth

At Little Genius Auburn: We build strong foundations through engaging learning experiences.

16. What makes this centre different?

Why this matters: Every centre has its own culture.

What to look for:

- Calm, structured environments

- Strong educator relationships
- Individualised learning
- Community connection
- Smooth transition to primary school

At Little Genius Auburn: We focus on building confident learners in a nurturing setting.

17. How do I know this is the right choice?

Why this matters: Peace of mind is powerful.

What to look for:

- Did I feel welcomed?
- Were educators warm?
- Did children look settled?
- Was the space clean and organised?

At Little Genius Auburn: After your tour, trust how you feel.

Ready to See It in Person?

We invite you to visit Little Genius Early Learning Centre Auburn.

Limited places available for 2026.

Book your tour today:

www.littlegeniuselc.com.au

Phone: 02 8330 9880

Because choosing the right childcare should feel clear — not overwhelming.