



PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 8/2017

Centre number: 6520

Centre name: Kingston Early Learning Centre

1. General information

- Preschool Director:
Linda Troeth
- Postal address:
32 Cameron St, Kingston SE SA 5275
- Location address
32 Cameron St, Kingston SE SA 5275
- DECD Partnership
South East Coast and Vines (SECAV)
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km)
297KM
- Telephone number
87672368
- Fax number
87673005
- Preschool website address:
- Preschool e-mail address:
Linda.Troeth10@schools.sa.edu.au

- Enrolment/Attendance
 - 2020: 24 eligible pre-schoolers
 - 2019: 23 eligible pre-schoolers
 - 2018: 24 eligible pre-schoolers
 - 2017: 29 eligible pre-schoolers

- Co-located/stand-alone
 - Stand alone Preschool with a Rural Care Childcare Program

- Programs operating at the preschool
 - ❖ **Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children:** this operates Tuesday and Thursdays full days and every alternate Friday mornings (session at the local school as part of our year long transition to school program)
 - ❖ **Early Entry Programs:** Offered to 3 year old Aboriginal children and children under the Guardianship of the Minister. 6 hours are offered to children who have English as an Alternative Language the term before they start preschool.
 - ❖ **Rural Care Program:** A long day care programme offered to children 6 weeks to 5 years, as well as After School Hours Care and Vacation Program. Program runs Monday – Friday 8.00 am – 6.00 pm for 50 weeks per year. This is a fully accredited program.
 - ❖ **Pre Entry Program:** we offer a 6 week program (2 hours a week) in term 4 for children starting kindy the following year. This is before our official transition week and is run in conjunction with the current preschool program.
 - ❖ **Pre Entry Transition Program:** we have visits for the children coming in the following year. We coincide this with our transition to school program.
 - ❖ **Lunch/Full Day Program:** All children in our Kindy program stay all day
 - ❖ **Playgroup:** this service operates Friday Mornings and is run by parents in conjunction with the Rural Care Service.
 - ❖ **Preschool Support:** Is offered to children who attend with additional needs that have been identified
 - ❖ **Community Health Support:** we have a close relationship with our local Community Health Nurse. We work together to identify and support the children and families in our Rural Care Program (these children are not under the DECD support program)
 - ❖ **Transition to School:** We work closely all year with our local school. We currently run our half day session on alternate Fridays at the school for the whole year. During this session we run a preschool program, have a library session (children can borrow books) and often interact with students at the school through shared reading experiences and planned activities. In term 4, week 7 the preschool children have two visits (without

kindy teachers) to the school to engage with the reception teacher and school program.

- ❖ **Rural Bus Access:** children are able to access the school bus if spaces are available.

2. Key Centre Policies

- Centre priorities for 2020
 - Numeracy
 - Literacy – in particular oral language
 - Wellbeing – building positive relationships with children and families

3. Curriculum

- Framework used: Early Years Learning Framework

The Centre uses the EYLF framework in relation to informing parents of the integrated nature of Learning Areas and Outcomes. We are guided by the Numeracy and Literacy indicators when assessing children's work and development. We promote the Learning Dispositions as essential criteria for all children to develop and to encourage life long powerful learners.
- Core Values

We are committed to working in partnership with our children, families, community and staff to provide a high quality, relevant and responsive education and care programme to all children. The preschool will develop skills:

 - that will equip children for life long learning and develop a positive self concept
 - promote the understanding tolerance and acceptance of others through the provision of an accessible, inclusive play based programme.
 - developing confident and independent learners in a safe, caring and positive environment
- Specific curriculum approaches

Our program is based on the individual needs, strengths and interests of each child. Outcomes are monitored and recorded for reporting to families, the local school and community. There is a strong emphasis on the development of literacy, numeracy, social skills and well being.

Improved access and participation for Aboriginal children and children under the Guardianship of the Minister by attending the Centre from the age of 3. Children who have English as an Additional Language are able to attend 2 terms before they are due to start their 4 year old program.

Antibias curriculum to ensure tolerance, acceptance and celebration of diversity and the right to be respected irrespective of gender, culture or ability.

Early Intervention Program supports children at risk with Literacy and Numeracy learning by providing additional staff at the centre to be able to undertake early identification and small group support.

- Joint programmes/special curriculum projects

4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff Profile

Director	0.8
Teacher	0.6
Early Childhood Worker - preschool	0.6
ECW Support Worker	5 hours
Rural Care:	
2 Early Childhood Workers Level 2	27.50 hours
2 Early Childhood Workers Level 2	11.00 hours
2 Early Childhood Workers Level 1	27.50 hours
2 Early Childhood Workers Level 1	11.00 hours
1 Early Childhood Worker Level 2	3.00hours

- Performance Management Program

Induction process implemented for all staff

Performance Development Plans are completed in term 1 and takes into account Partnership, Centre and personal directions. Critical reflections and review processes happen throughout the year, to meet the needs of individual staff. Staff are encouraged to further develop their skills through professional development.

- Access to special support staff
Department support services are accessed as required
Work closely with Community Health and the children access the Child Development Unit, Occupational Therapy and Speech Therapy.
- Other
Kindergarten is a Category 2

5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
The Centre is situated on Cameron Street in Kingston South East. This building was opened in 1971 and was funded by the local community. The Centre had a major upgrade during 2006/07 so the Centre could provide a Rural Care Program. The building consists of one large main room, an office, kitchen, art sink, storeroom, withdrawal/sleep area, bathroom with change facilities and 3 childrens toilets, a disabled adult toilet and shower facility. The main outside play area leads off the main verandah. There is also a garden area out the back that is accessible through a gate and a back door from inside. In 2020 we enclosed our verandah to make a small play space for Kindy children only – this is a space to provide 4 year old inquiry activities without the interruption from the younger children.

Capacity

The Centre has the capacity for 45 children. (this includes Kindy and Rural Care)

- Centre Ownership
DECD owned
- Access for children and staff with disabilities
We have a wheel chair access via a ramp and diabled toilet facilities
- Other – Access to bus transport: school bus delivers rural Kindy aged children to the centre

6. Local Community (intended for country preschools)

- General characteristics:
Kingston is geographically isolated from major centres. The town would have approximately 2200 people and grows seasonally with work such as: grape vines and fishing. The main areas of employment are: farming, fishing, tourism, viticulture, retail and government structure

- Parent and community involvement in the preschool
Parents are encouraged to be involved at the Centre in a range of ways that enables access and participation in a variety of levels. We have a strong parental involvement in the Governing Council, with membership being for 12 months and they meet twice a term.

- Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool
Kingston Community School
- Other local care and educational facilities,
Child and Youth Health Centre
Kingston Community School (R-12)

- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
Adequate food shopping facilities
Small clothing outlets
Small industrial complex
Motels/Hotels
Caravan Park

- No major shopping facilities such as Target, Kmart etc.

- Other local facilities
Hospital
Community Health
Dentist
18 hole golf course
Tennis
Netball
Football
Hockey
Basketball (for school students)
Bowls
Table Tennis
Fantastic safe beaches
Jetty – for fishing and swimming
Swimming Pool – local school and is available to public for lap swimming during summer periods.

- Availability of staff housing

Some DECD housing in the local town as well as private rental

Accessibility

Daily public Transport to Adelaide and Mount Gambier

- Local Government
District Council of Kingston 87672033

7. Further Comments

- Partnership arrangements with other groups
The Director participates in regular meetings with the South East Coast and Vines (SECAV) partnership group. Staff have opportunities to be involved in cluster meetings with other staff from partnership schools and preschools.