



PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated:

Centre number: 6603

Centre name: Ardrossan and Districts Community
Kindergarten

1. General information

Preschool Director Christina Bilney

Postal address 26 West Terrace, Ardrossan, SA 5571

Location address 26 West Terrace, Ardrossan, SA 5571

DECD Partnership Southern Yorks

Geographical location – Ardrossan South Australia (approx 180km from GPO)

Telephone number (08) 88373 284 Mobile 0439 952 325

Fax number (08) 88374 007

Preschool website address: www.ardrossankgn.sa.edu.au

Preschool e-mail address dl.6603.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au

Enrolment/Attendance

Year	Enrolment by Term			
	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2018	9	9	9	8
2019	17	16	17	17
2020	11	N/A	11	17
2021	21	21	21	21

Co-located/stand-alone

We are a stand-alone Kindergarten within walking distance of the Local Area School, which is our main “feeder” school.

Programs operating at the preschool

Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children:

The Centre is part-time offering children full day sessions 8:45am -2:45am
Odd Weeks, Tuesday and Wednesday

Even Weeks, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

Occasional Care (*funded for 3 session*) Thursday

One session for 6mths -2 years Thursday morning only

Two sessions for 2-4 years Thursday morning and afternoon

Associated Programs - Pre-entry offered in Term 4, Early Entry dependant on needs basis.

Bilingual Support - As needed

Preschool Support – Department support services referrals, submitted in consultation with families. Connection to other local services, such as the Healthy Families Team, work together with onsite support and at home support. Early intervention support provided when needed.

2. Key Centre Policies

Centre Priorities/Statement of Purpose

At Ardrossan and Districts Community Kindergarten, we believe in building strong relationships with educators, children, families and the community to provide a play-based learning environment with an emphasis on natural outdoor learning spaces to foster equal and equitable opportunities for all students, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.

Our goal is for children to develop into life-long learners who are empowered to contribute to our reconciliation journey and are positively driven to influence our community in a local and global context.

3. Curriculum

Framework used: Early Years Learning Framework

Core Values

We respect the Nhrungga people and their culture both living and present.

Children are at the centre of what we do and influence the experiences provide in our indoor and outdoor environments

Through family and children's consultation, we develop learning plans for each child.

We encourage the dispositions of learning such as curiosity, creativity, collaboration, resilience, persistence, respect for diversity through provocations and learning experiences.

Specific curriculum approaches

We use a play based pedagogy approach to learning, using the Early Years Learning Framework, Literacy and Numeracy indicators to drive our curriculum, planning cycle, assessment and reporting.

Another part of our curriculum centres on Phonological awareness, using music as a tool.

Joint programmes/special curriculum projects

Preschool to School Transitions – Our program includes opportunities for children to experience transition experiences throughout the year at both Ardrossan Area School and the Kindy. Children regularly visit the Community library at the school to participate in borrowing books.

The preschool staff work with the Principal, Early Years leader, and reception teachers in a shared information and orientation program to cater for the needs of all children and families.

Beach Kindy runs in Term 1 & 4

Campfire experiences runs in Term 2 & 3

4. Centre Based Staff

Staff Profile

0.7 Director

0.6 Teacher (Contract)

0.1 ECW Special Support (Contract)

0.1 ECW Special Support & Beach Kindy support (Contract)

0.2 ECW2 Occasional Care Coordinator (Contract)

0.1 ECW Occasional Care under 2 session (Contract)

Performance Management Program

Consistent with DECD policies and regulations, staff use the Performance Development Plans to set goals. Throughout the year, time is set aside to have reflective meetings around performance management.

Professional learning is centred around supporting staff in our Preschool Quality Improvement Plan strategic goals. Our Centre supports staff in Professional Development to support upskilling in a professional capacity.

Access to special support staff Preschool support is applied for, as necessary, to DECD Disability Support Services. We work in a close relationship with other Professional Agencies and liaise with families to maximise the support for the child.

Other

Child and Youth Health – Child and Youth Health utilise the preschool for health checks for eligible children.

5. Centre Facilities

Buildings and grounds

The facilities and Kindergarten began in 1967 but has had a more recent enclosed pergola upgrade, which we use as another 'room'. We are inspired by the Reggio Emilia Philosophy, viewing the environment as the third teacher. We provide provocations within our learning spaces to inspire curiosity and creativity.

We have a large outdoor space, with a covered sandpit, water pump, circular swing, mud kitchen and cubby. We are continually developing the garden space with a future view towards growing bush tucker.

Capacity (per session)

25 children per session

Centre Ownership

DECD

Access for children and staff with disabilities

Disability access ramp upgraded late in 2021.

Washing machine and drier to be installed late 2022

6. Local Community (intended for country preschools)

General characteristics:

Ardrossan is a seaside town located in a farming district. There are some local mining and grain silos. We work with the local Area School to provide continuity of learning through the transition process. The school provides us with access to their community library

Parent and community involvement in the preschool

The centre has a Governing Council that meets twice per term to provide input and facilitate policy development, facilities maintenance, large purchase priorities and improvement priorities.

Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool

Ardrossan Area School, Maitland Lutheran, Central Yorks School

Other local care and educational facilities,

The local school has a large nature playground and the town has another playground near the beach. There is access to the Community Library, based at the local school and Gym Jams, also situated at the Ardrossan Area School.

The only childcare in close proximity is in the next township of Maitland, which offers limited spaces in their Rural Care. The other childcare options is 40 minutes away in the township of Kadina.

Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities

Within the township of Ardrossan, there are the usual array of retail shops, hardware stores, cafes and take-away shops..

Other local facilities

There is a Medical Centre, a Hospital, for Aged Care, Dentist, Police, CFS, Post Office, RSL and 2 caravan parks. .The town has an oval and facilitates Football, Netball, Hockey, Cricket, Bowls and Basketball clubs.

Availability of staff housing

Minimal rental accommodation; however, there are several nearby townships as well for rental possibilities. Caravan parks and Motel.

Accessibility

The road is a major road and well serviced. There is a regular bus service to Adelaide and a Peninsula bus service between towns.

Local Government

Yorke Peninsula Council T (08) 88 373 284 www.yorke.sa.gov.au

7. Further Comments

Partnership arrangements with other groups

Ardrossan and Districts Community Kindergarten is in the Southern Yorke Partnership. Leaders from Schools and Preschools meet twice a Term to reflect and engage in the Improvement Plan Work to lift our ratings scale on the world stage.