

PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Centre number: 4604

Centre name: Banksia Park Kindergarten

We would like to acknowledge that the land that we meet upon is the traditional lands for the Kaurna people and we respect their spiritual relationship with their country and that their cultural and heritage beliefs are still important to them today.

1. General information

Preschool Director: Meg Green

Postal address: 11 Spring Crescent Banksia Park 5091

Location address: 11 Spring Crescent Banksia Park 5091

Geographical location: Banksia Park Kindergarten is located in the North East Suburbs and in the Tea Tree Gully Council area 20km from GPO

Telephone number: 08 8263 0487

Mobile number: 0448 677 204

E-mail address: dl.4604.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au

Website: <https://www.preschools.sa.gov.au/banksia-park-kindergarten>

Enrolment/Attendance:

We are a part time site with a maximum capacity of 33 children. Attendance has been consistently in the 90% range.

We are a stand-alone preschool, located adjacent to Banksia Park School R-6. We have been rated as Exceeding by The National Quality Standards Board

Programs operating

- Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children operating Tuesday and Wednesday 9am to 3pm and Thursday 9am to 12pm.
- Bush Kindy program held at Anstey Hill Recreation Park approximately 3 times each term. We are Members of friends of Anstey.

- Playgroup is held on Friday Mornings 9am to 11am. The playgroup is run by a qualified Early Childhood Educator funded by the kindergarten and assisted by the parents.
- Preschool Support and Early Entry for children with additional needs, bi lingual or Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander is available (depending on staffing and need).
- The Centre has a Reconciliation Plan formulated using the Narragunnawali platform (Reconciliation Australia).
- We have a Site Environmental Management Plan (SEMP) that has been formulated with assistance from NRM (Natural Resources Management).
- The kindergarten has developed strong relationships with Banksia Park School R-6. We visit the school regularly and have a buddy class as well as interacting with the junior primary students.

2. Philosophy

Respect: Caring for ourselves, caring for others and caring for property. Valuing other opinions and differences and promoting appreciation for diversity, tolerance, responsibility, inclusion and fairness.

Engagement: Developing high quality play based, creative, child centred curriculum. Children, Educators and Families are offered opportunities to maximise learning opportunities and are active participants in their learning.

Wellbeing: Promoting compassion, joy, trust, confidence, patience, resilience, self-regulation and kindness in a safe and challenging environment that empowers and develops self-worth.

Relationships: Establishing positive relations between peers, educators and families. Together we are developing understanding, friendship and connections with the communities that we belong to.

Sustainability: Caring for the world around us, managing resources as a shared responsibility and minimising our global footprints. Through active participation of sustainable experiences the community develops an awareness of the interdependence of people and the environment. Making connections and a difference in communities and becoming positive global citizens.

3. Curriculum

Framework used: Early Years Learning Framework, Preschool Indicators of Literacy and Numeracy, Child Protection Curriculum and Respect, Reflect, Relate.

The staff team plans and reviews children's learning and program on an ongoing basis. Regular observations are taken and educators collect work samples, photos, videos and jottings to use in the cycle of planning and for reporting on children's progress to their families. We have an inquiry that we share with our families as well as newsletters, emails and parent communication apps. We offer interviews in Term 2 and Statements of Learning in Term 4.

The Kindergarten is part of the Tea Tree Gully partnership. The Educators are committed to site improvement and work closely with other preschools in the Tea Tree Gully partnership.

4. Staffing

Staff Profile

Director 0.5 FTE

Teacher 0.5 FTE

Early Childhood Worker 0.5 FTE

5. Centre Facilities

The building (built 1978) is spacious, light and well maintained. We have air-conditioning and heating and have endeavoured to set up a welcoming, calm and natural environment to foster and encourage inquiry, play based learning. The outside area is large and includes a sensory garden and over 24 mature trees. The sandpit has a large shade structure and we have room for climbing, swings, water features (with safety factors) a mud kitchen and a boat to explore and be involved in dramatic play. We have a vegetable garden, numerous mature fruit trees and a chicken pen.

Access for children and staff with disabilities and inclusivity is considered when planning our environment.

6. Local Community

Parent and community involvement in the preschool occurs in many ways. Parents can be involved through the governing council, volunteering in our Bush Kindy Program, assisting keeping the facilities well maintained, gardening, working bees and sharing their knowledge and skills. We have a highly supportive and involved parent community:

The main feeder school is Banksia Park School R-6. Children transition to other schools including Saint David's Parish School and King's Baptist Grammar School.

Children are able to access the Banksia Park R-6 OSHC program before and after preschool session times. Access is based on availability and is organised through OSHC.

The major retail centres for the area are St Agnes, Tea Tree Plaza and Golden Grove. Other local facilities, eg medical, sporting, social, cultural, recreational:

A Community Centre offering parent groups and funded occasional care is fairly close at Surrey Downs and there is a large local kindergarten gym at the Youth Club in Banksia Park. Tea Tree Plaza is approximately 5 minutes away. There are a variety of sporting clubs in close proximity to the kindergarten including tennis, football, cricket and athletics.

Local Government body: We are situated in the local government body area of Tea Tree Gully council. The telephone number is 8397 7444.

7. Further Comments

Working together with our community to provide a stimulating and caring learning environment is highly valued by staff and families.