



PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 12/09/23

Centre number: 2653

Centre name: Eudunda Community Preschool Centre

1. General information

- Preschool Director
Jodie Zerner
- Postal address
P O Box 171
Eudunda SA 5374
- Location address
19 Morgan Road
Eudunda
SA 5374
- Department for Education Partnership:
Goyder and Light
- Geographical location – i.e. road distance from GPO (km)
100 km from GPO
- Telephone number:
08 85811717
- Preschool website address:
<http://www.eudundapre.sa.edu.au>
- Preschool e-mail address:
dl.2653.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au
- Enrolment/Attendance
Enrolment and attendances are consistent. Over the past several years attendances have been on average 14. This year there are 13 children enrolled.

- Co-located/stand-alone:
Stand-alone Preschool Centre, liaise closely with Eudunda Area School
- Programs operating at the preschool:
 - ⌘ Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children
Eligible children are accepted for 'Full Time' entry, fifteen sessions per fortnight, (two sessions per day on Tuesdays and Thursdays 9.00am to 3.00pm, plus two sessions each alternate Wednesday) from the beginning of their eligible year. (Same First Day criteria applies please see DfE website for details)
 - ⌘ Occasional Care:
Two sessions of funded Occasional Care are run concurrently each Friday morning from 9.00am to 12 noon, for over 2 year olds.
 - ⌘ Associated Programs:
Pre Entry: Eligible children are offered Pre Entry sessions in the term prior to 'Full-time' entry, if staffing and capacity allows.
 - ⌘ Lunch/Full Day Program:
Preschool sessions are run on full days incorporating lunchtime care, run by staff.
 - ⌘ Extended Care:
Bus children receive extended care after preschool, care is provided by Centre staff.
 - ⌘ Preschool Support:
All children undergo a speech and language assessment in their first term of preschool and based on results, preschool support funding may be sought. Screens for other areas of need identify where support is required also, children with diagnosed needs are referred for support funding.
The Early Intervention Grant helps staff provide specific teaching to children needing 1:1 support or to small groups.
Preschool Support is provided by the Gawler Education Office Support Services. Assessments and support are also provided as required by Country Health Services.

2. Key Centre Policies

- Centre Priorities/Statement of Purpose:

The Centre's priorities are outlined in the Eudunda Community Preschool Quality Improvement Plan each year.

3. Curriculum

Framework used: Early Years Learning Framework – Belonging Being and Becoming

The National Early Years Learning Framework for Australia

Teaching and Learning programs and assessment practices are aligned to the new framework. The framework forms the foundation for ensuring that children in all early childhood education and care settings experience quality teaching and learning. It has specific emphasis on play-based learning and recognises the importance of communication and language (including early literacy and numeracy) and social and emotional development.

The Centre's inclusive curriculum takes into account gender, cultural and socioeconomic background, and special needs. Our program aims to encompass all families, valuing their experiences, cultural beliefs, skills, knowledge and circumstances.

- Core Values:

To provide a high quality education service, which is welcoming, caring, safe, stimulating and interactive, which meets the needs of children, families and the community and provides opportunities for learning through play.

4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff Profile:
Director 0.5 (plus 0.1 Universal Access and 0.1 Occasional Care)
Teacher/ECW (Depending on numbers) 0.5 (plus 0.1 Universal Access for Teacher)
Occasional Care ECW2 4.75 hrs per week & ECW1 3.75 hrs per week
Finance ECW2 4hrs per week (funded by site)

- Performance Management Program:

A performance management programme contains informal and formal processes, which continue a cycle of improvement and assessment of the staff team, identifying performance goals, developing plans to achieve these goals and reviewing performances against indicators of success.

- Access to special support staff:

Department for Education Support Services staff and Country Health, OT and Physiotherapist.

- Other:

Participation, involvement and contribution to Local Partnerships by leadership and staff is expected.

5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds:

Centre established in February 1994, extensions and yard size have increased since then. The original refabricated transportable building has been extended to include additional office space, children's toilets and a wet area. The building is well maintained and has a play area plus an office, withdrawal room and store room. Under cover veranda and an outdoor area are attached to the main building. Storage sheds and tool/garden sheds outside with a well shaded large natural landscape yard with a bike track, large sandpit, stage, gazebo, cubby house, playground equipment and lawn area.

- Capacity (per session):
30 children

- Centre Ownership:
Department for Education owned building on Goyder Council land

- Access for children and staff with disabilities:
Access ramp and disabled toilet
- Other:
Access to bus facilities: Children to access buses from the Eudunda Area School at the end of each Preschool day.

6. Local Community (intended for country preschools)

- General characteristics:

Traditionally a farming community, with increasing numbers of families moving to the town and surrounds with many commuting to the Barossa, Gawler, Adelaide or surrounding areas for work. Eudunda has a population of approximately 1370 (within a radius of 30 Kilometres).

The learners come from a range of geographical situations – rural, isolated and urban. There is a diversity of family structures, including two parent and single parent families. The centre caters for children from an extended rural area and with diverse range of backgrounds, with some families requiring access to school bus facilities. There is a variety of socio-economic situations and family occupations from farming to small business. We have noticed an increase in enrolments from outlying areas, ie Saddleworth and Kapunda who access our centre, as they have enrolled their children at St John's. We have strong ties with both Eudunda Area School and St John's Lutheran Primary School.

- Parent and community involvement in the preschool:

Good parent and community support of Centre, nature of support varies from year to year. Parental involvement includes contribution to fundraising, periodic cleaning and working bees, membership of Governing Council etc.

Parents support regular attendance and participate in and support special programs within the centre.

Parents, grandparents and extended families attend end of term celebrations, special occasions e.g. open day, graduation and award ceremonies, fundraising events etc.

The preschool has close links with community groups, businesses and organisations, who actively support the centre through participation in specific programs, e.g. SALA, through assisting with fundraising and through mutual events e.g. Remembrance Day Ceremony.

- Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool:
Eudunda Area School
St John Lutheran Primary School
Robertstown Primary School
- Other local care and educational facilities:
Eudunda Area School
St John Lutheran Primary School
Robertstown Primary School
- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities:
7 day supermarket, post office, bakery, butcher, newsagent, roadhouse, haberdashery store, chemist, gift store, engineering company, transport company
- Other local facilities:
Police station, medical centre, hospital, hotels, swimming pool, various sporting facilities and clubs, CFS, ambulance station, garage/tyre centre, rural agencies, real estate agency, churches
- Availability of staff housing:
Limited availability of private rentals.
- Accessibility:
100km from G.P.O.
No public transport
- Local Government:
Regional Council of Goyder, 1 Market Square, Burra.

7. Further Comments

- Partnership arrangements with other groups
Centre is part of the Goyder and Light Local Partnership.