

GOVERNING COUNCIL

*The kindergarten is managed by the Director of the kindergarten,
Supported by members of the “Governing council”.*

The Council meets with staff once a month for around 2 hours. During that meeting time we discuss many issues including –

- Maintenance
- Department of Education and ACEQA requirements
- Reports
- Finance management
- Our plans and targets
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Community information
- Fundraising

While most meetings are open meetings, some meetings or parts of meetings may be “closed” and have members only in attendance.

The Council is a great way to support your child’s education and keep in touch with what’s happening. It’s also a great way to meet new people. The importance of the council cannot be over emphasised. Feel free to approach any of the staff or Council members with your ideas, concerns and questions. Meetings will be advertised in the Newsletter, and currently happen on Wednesday evenings from 6.30 pm. The AGM is held in March each year and we will be looking forward to new members joining us then.



In partnership with the director and staff the Council works to achieve the following:

- Quality Improvement Plan for the Centre – which outlines to the community the centre's Core Business, Centre Directions and Improvement initiatives in line with the National Quality Framework
- Report on the centre's achievements through the Annual Report and Annual General Meeting.
- Develop Partnerships with Parents
- Keep and record minutes of meetings etc.
- Develop partnerships with nearby schools and Child Care Centres.
- Support Professional Development of staff
- Support centre, Partnership, Portfolio and State plans and initiatives
- Support Centre Director and Staff in managing any crisis or issue.
- Provide and maintain a safe and healthy environment for staff and children
- Maintain and improve grounds, building and equipment
- Run and attend working bees and clean up days

The Staff at Gawler East Preschool believe that parents are an integral part of a successful kindergarten and their involvement in our centre is highly valued. We are a Local Management kindergarten, and the success of this relies on strong and positive partnerships with parents.

Parents and carers are always welcome. We encourage you to stay and become involved, even if it is for only five minutes. As we are a very busy kindergarten, often planning to stay for a short period will enable you to catch up with teachers. Parents who wish to volunteer their help on a regular basis may require a DCSI check. Please speak to the Director.



You could also join us by:

- Membership on the Governing Council Meeting – see Sandra for further information
- Assisting children with activities
- Staying during sessions (or for part of the session).
- Asking questions.
- Sharing information - confidentiality is assured.
- Reading/looking at the information and children's work displayed.
- Coming on an excursion.
- Supporting fund-raising events by selling raffle tickets, pizzas, family portraits, etc
- Doing some "cooking" with the children.
- Reading a story.
- Cutting up collage materials
- Helping to clean up (at the end of the day)
- Weekly washing
- Playing the guitar, or another musical instrument.
- End of term clean up or working bees
- Joining a Committee/Governing Council - many hands make light work!

We always appreciate help at the end of the day to wash dishes, clean tables and generally help tidy up. Time staff spend doing these jobs can take away from planning, writing up observations and printing off photos...so your help will help your child.