

# PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 2021

Centre number: 2629

Centre name: Hamley Bridge Kindergarten

## 1. General information

- Centre name: Hamley Bridge Kindergarten
- Centre number: 2629
- Preschool Director: Karlie Naulty
- Postal address: 13 Florence Street, Hamley Bridge 5401
- Location address: 13 Florence Street, Hamley Bridge 5401
- Telephone number: 08 8528 2298
- Fax number: 08 8528 2360
- e-mail address: [dl.2629\\_leaders@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.2629_leaders@schools.sa.edu.au)
- DECD Portfolio / Partnership: Gawler / Lower Mid North
- Geographical location – i.e. road distance from GPO (km): 80 kms
- Enrolment/Attendance: 14 eligible kindergarten children, 13 children enrolled for the Occasional Care program
- Co-located/stand-alone: Co located with Hamley Bridge Primary School
- Programs operating
  - ❖ Pre Entry: in term 4 of each year depending on numbers already attending preschool -integrated into sessions- usually 2½ - 3 hours
  - ❖ Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children :5 full days per fortnight:  
Mondays 9am – 3pm  
Tuesday 9am – 3pm (alternate weeks)  
Wednesdays 9am – 3pm
  - ❖ Funded Occasional Care -4 Session per week, 3 sessions for children aged 2 and over  
1 session for under over 2's  
2 sessions available Wednesdays with ECW2 9am – 11.45am & 12:15pm -3pm  
1 session available Thursday with ECW2 9am-11:45am
  - ❖ Extended Care: Early entry is available on a needs basis depending on availability of spaces in preschool
  - ❖ Bilingual Support: if required
  - ❖ Preschool Support: allocated on a needs basis
- Local Management: The Centre is Locally Managed in conjunction with Governing Council

## 2. Key Centre Policies / Philosophy

We believe that responsive relationships with children and strong partnerships with families enable children to thrive, building a strong sense of belonging, trust, respect and confidence. Responsively planned learning environments and interactions best support children's learning through play allowing children to lead their own learning, develop their own identities and lifelong skills for learning.

We acknowledge and respect the Kaurua People as the traditional custodians of the land we play, learn and grown on.

At Hamley Bridge Kindergarten we believe:

- Children learn through play
- Children feeling safe and secure is essential for learning

Our curriculum planning reflects each child's unique strengths, culture and interests

- In developing trusting relationships with families and working together to support their child
- All children have a right to learn
- Children have a voice in their learning

### 3. Curriculum

- Framework used: :Early Years Learning Framework :National Curriculum
- Core Values : Play. Learn. Explore. Grow
- Specific curriculum approaches: Learning through play
- Site Priorities: Literacy – Creativity and Complexity : Phonological Awareness: Wellbeing

### 4. Centre Based Staff

- ❖ Staff Profile 0.7 Director – PSD1
- ❖ 0.6 Early Childhood Worker – ECW2
- ❖ Occasional Care workers (11:45hrs per week) – ECW2 and ECW 1
- ❖ Support workers appointed each term on a needs basis.
- **Performance Management Program:** The Director meets with the Education Director who monitors performance.
- The Director has the responsibility of monitoring the ECW's Performance Management plans.
- Access to special support staff : An additional ECW is employed to work with children with additional needs, and to support the program.

The Centre accesses DfE support staff, and specialist services from Lower North

Health and other areas as the need arises.

- Other: There are hubs/professional learning communities, which staff attend to network with sites in the local area.

## **5. Centre Facilities**

- Buildings and grounds: In 2014 the Kindergarten moved to a fully refurbished building and grounds on the school site. The site meets the standards of the Regulatory Board as prescribed by the National Quality Standards.
- Capacity (per session): 29 capped at 15 2021
- Centre Ownership: Owned by DfE
- Access for children and staff with disabilities: Access is available to all areas of the site

## **6. Local Community (intended for country preschools)**

- General characteristics: (eg. types of work available, languages usually spoken at home,

local developments): There are occasional property sales within the township and little change of ownership of the surrounding farms.

- Parent and community involvement in the preschool: Parents are involved at different levels - volunteer roles, Governing Council, fundraising activities etc..

Individuals from the community are involved from time to time and the centre has been

affiliated with local organisations eg Hamley bridge Community Association.

- Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool: The majority of children exiting the Kindergarten enrol at the Hamley Bridge Primary School. However, a few go to Owen, Wasleys and Tarlee Primary Schools. Occasionally children transition to private Schools in Two Wells or Balaklava.
- Other local care and educational facilities, eg child care, schools, OSHC: There are no child care facilities offered in the town, aside from the Occasional Care program offered at the Kindergarten. The closest Child Care facilities are at Riverton, Gawler or Balaklava.
- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities: Shopping facilities are restricted to a General Store/Post Office, Chemist, Op. Shop, Hairdresser, Takeaway Shop and Mechanical / Fuel / Car Sales businesses.
- Other local facilities, eg medical, sporting, social, cultural, recreational: There is an aged care facility and a Surgery with 2 Doctors in the town, Sport plays a big part in the town. Much of the recreational life of the residents appears to be centred in clubs i.e. sports (football, netball, tennis, bowls, swimming, etc)
- Availability of staff housing: No, but private rental is often available.
- Accessibility to Adelaide and relevant major centres, including public transport and its

availability, frequency and cost (especially by air), road quality: There is no access to public transport into / out of Hamley Bridge. Hamley Bridge is 30 minutes by car from Gawler.

- Local Government body, availability of publications describing the local area, characteristics, level of involvement: Hamley Bridge is in the Wakefield Regional Council district and the Council offices are in Balaklava (phone 08-88620800) : The Hamley Headlines is a town publication and is published monthly: News from Hamley Bridge also features in the Plains Producer (Balaklava) / The Bunyip (Gawler).

## **7. Further Comments**

Transition Programs: Due to the location of HBK, there are frequent interactions with HBPS. These school experiences assist with the continuity of learning for each child regardless of school they will attend.