



PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: May 2023

Centre number: 3640

Centre name: Happy Valley Kindergarten

1. General information

- Preschool Director
 - Maddie Merenda
- Postal address
 - 12B Regency Road, Happy Valley, S.A, 5159
- Location address
 - 12B Regency Road, Happy Valley, S.A, 5159
- DECD Partnership
 - South Valley Precinct
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km)
 - 25km
- Telephone number
 - 8381 3940
- Fax number
 - 8322 8763
- Preschool website address:
 - www.happyvkgn.sa.edu.au

- Preschool e-mail address
 - dl.3640.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au
- Enrolment/Attendance
 - 55
- Stand-alone
- Programs operating at the preschool
 - Sessional kindergarten for eligible children
 - Full Day Program
 - Bilingual Support
 - “Stay and Play” transition visits
 - Preschool Support

2. Key Centre Policies

‘Belonging to a learning community. Being who we are. Becoming anything we want to be.’

At Happy Valley Kindergarten, we believe that all children are capable and competent learners who are individual, unique, curious, and seek to belong, understand, and develop. We believe that respectful and reciprocal relationships underpin everything we do, and that they are fundamental to a child’s development. We believe children develop knowledge and understanding of their world through collaborative hands-on experiences. Parents and families are the child’s first teachers, so through clear and open communication, we work in partnership to ensure decision making is made in collaboration to achieve the best possible outcomes for children. We want our children to develop dispositions for learning such as resilience, independence, persistence, curiosity, problem-solving, risk-taking, and collaboration. Therefore, by using the environment as the third teacher, we provide our children with a high quality play based curriculum that reflects their interests, and provokes wonder, discovery, excitement, challenge, and fun.

3. Curriculum

- Framework used
 - Early Years Learning Framework
 - Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum
 - Preschool Indicators of Numeracy and Literacy
- Core Values
 - To provide an Early Childhood Program that acknowledges and builds upon prior learning in a safe, challenging and stimulating environment, and which enhances children’s dispositions for learning.
- Specific curriculum approaches
 - A high quality and developmentally appropriate preschool program, utilising a range of teaching strategies and styles, to suit the needs of a range of children by following their interests.
 - There is a strong focus on dispositions for learning such as persistence, resilience, independence, curiosity and noticing.
 - Incorporation of Nature Play in the outdoor learning environment to help children develop and build upon resilience, risk-taking, problem-solving skills, independence, collaboration, resourcefulness and respect for the environment.

4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff Profile

Director	1.0	
Teacher	1.0	
Teacher	0.5	
ECW	1.0	
Preschool Support Staff		Varies from term to term
- Performance Management Program
 - All staff have individual meetings twice per year to create and review Performance Development Plans.
- Access to special support staff
 - We have access to a DfE Special Educator, DfE Speech Pathologist, and DfE Psychologist. Programs recommended from these staff are implemented by our ECW preschool support worker.

5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
 - The kindergarten is located in the City Of Onkaparinga and next to the Happy Valley Community Child Care Centre. The kindergarten has been established for 41 years and is set in a pleasant natural environment, adjacent to Field Creek and a public reserve. The setting provides many learning opportunities for children to explore the natural environment.

- Capacity
 - Site capacity: 45 children per session
 - Enrolment capacity: 55 children
- Centre Ownership
 - Department for Education
- Access for children and staff with disabilities
 - Happy Valley Kindergarten has had extensive alterations to ensure its accessibility for wheelchairs and people with physical disabilities.
- Other
 - Adjacent to Happy Valley Community Children's Centre with adjoining gates and shared carpark facilities.

6. Further Comments

Happy Valley Kindergarten went through the National Quality Framework assessment and rating process in 2013 and achieved the overall rating of 'Exceeding the National Standard'.