

PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 1/09/20

Centre number: 05625

Centre name: Kangaroo Island Children's Services

1. General information

- **Preschool Director**
Hayley Perry
- **Location address**
50 Buller Street, Kingscote, Kangaroo Island, SA
- **DfE Partnership**
Kangaroo Island Education Partnership
- **Geographical location**
Kangaroo Island is situated approximately 180kms south of Adelaide. It is separated from the mainland by 18kms of water. Kangaroo Island Children's Services is an integrated service. Our main site is in Kingscote and we have two outreach sites, one based at Penneshaw Kindergarten and one at Kingscote campus. Additionally we have a program called Parenting KI based on the Kingscote site, which is funded through Department of Social Services to provide early intervention and support for families.
- **Telephone number** – 08 8553 2436
- **Fax number** – 08 8553 2483
- **KICS website address**- www.kangaroocsc.sa.edu.au

- KICS e-mail address – kics.info3@schools.sa.edu.au
- Enrolments:
Preschool enrolments over the past five years range from an intake of 30-40 children.
- Co-located
Kangaroo Island Children's Services - Kingscote is an integrated service providing child care, OSHC and preschool.
- Programs operating at the preschool
 - ❖ Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children. Early Entry is accommodate wherever possible.
 - ❖ Associated Programs- Parenting KI Playgroups
 - ❖ Full Day Program
 - ❖ Preschool Support
 - ❖ Childcare

2. Key Centre Policies

- Our committed staff are involved in regular training to ensure they can provide an active and engaging learning environment that support children to learn through play and play to learn. This culture of learning encompasses the needs and support of all children, staff and families, with a focus on reflection, continuous improvement and intentional teaching. We are guided by Department for Education policies and procedures, with staff and governing council developing specific policy and procedures relating to Kangaroo Island Children's Services.

3. Curriculum

- Framework
Early Years Learning Framework is the national early years Framework that we are guided by. We offer a play based curriculum, building on children's interests and strengths. All Educators are involved in developing and

implementing a Quality Improvement Plan based on the seven national quality areas.

- Core Values

Our aim is to provide the highest quality education and care for all children, which involves developing relationships with others based on trust, understanding, respect, integrity, within a safe, inclusive and nurturing environment. Parents are recognised as the children's first educators; therefore we strive to have strong, respectful and positive partnerships between families and staff that recognise and respect everyone's diverse backgrounds, skills and knowledge. These partnerships encourage all participants to be involved in decision making, including Governing Council and to learn from each other.

- Specific curriculum approaches

Educators are inspired by principles of the Reggio Emilia philosophy. The Reggio Emilia approach is an innovative and inspiring approach to Early Childhood Education which values the child as strong, capable and resilient; rich with wonder and knowledge. Every child brings with them deep curiosity and potential and this innate curiosity drives their interest to understand their world and their place within it. Through a play based curriculum we support children in developing their learning dispositions of imagination, curiosity, confidence, persistence, resilience and concentration. We recognise the benefits of nature play and how closely it links to the Reggio Emilia approach. Together both these approaches encourage children to develop problem solving, self-regulation, resourcefulness, collaboration and the ability to self-assess risk.

4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff Profile

Preschool

Director 1.0; Preschool teacher 0.9, Preschool teacher 0.8, ECW 0.6, Preschool Support 0.2(as a term 3).

Childcare

Full time Assistant Director; 17 contracted Educators; 11 casual Educators

Parenting KI

Parttime on site coordinator; 1 Educator to run playgroups across the Island.

Administrative staff

Full time Business Manager, 3 part time admin

- Performance Management Program

Regular, formal meetings with goal setting that reflects staff's individual needs and the priorities of the service occur.

- Access to special support staff
KICS has embedded connection with Child and Youth Health, Child Health and Development (CHAD) Team, Cook Centre (Speech and OT), DfE support staff and Parenting KI.

5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
Our main site at Kingscote is just over 20 years old. It is a light and airy open plan centre that has designated spaces for 6 month- 3 year olds, and 3-5 year olds. Kingscote is a 66 place centre. Both age ranges have their own outdoor area.
- Capacity
At Kingscote the site can accommodate 66 children.
At Penneshaw the site can accommodate 18 children.
At OSHC the site can accommodate 20 children.
- Centre Ownership
Kingscote Preschool and centre based care is a Department owned building.
Penneshaw centre based care operates in the same building as the Kindergarten. The hours of operation and viability of the service is annually reviewed to endeavour to meet the needs of the small community.
OSHC operates at Kangaroo Island Community Education(KICE)-Kingscote campus. KICE and Kangaroo Island Children's Services have an agreement with each other to enable the service to operate on school grounds to meet the needs of families.

6. Local Community

- Parent and community involvement
Kangaroo Island Children's Services is run by a parent body called Governing Council. This parent body is elected annually and is made up of parents who have children enrolled in the service.
- Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool
The largest intake is to KICE-Kingscote campus.
- Kingscote is the main town on the Island. As well as a school campus, it has a medical clinic, hospital, and a small range of other services and shopping

facilities. The Island has a number of other smaller towns with a campus of the Kangaroo Island Community Education based at Parndana and Penneshaw.

- The main industries are agriculture and tourism. KI is well known for having a unique environment. The Island has a ferry service that leaves from Cape Jervis and arrives at Penneshaw. There is also flightss available that operate from Adelaide Airport to the Kingscote Airport, which is 10 minutes from Kingscote.
- Sport is an important part of many people's life on the Island. Football and netball during winter and tennis, cricket and basketball during the summers are the main sports. However, there are also other clubs including calisthenics, bowls, archery, team sailing, soccer, 8-ball, walking groups and flora and fauna groups.
- The Kangaroo Island Council is responsible for the governance across the whole Island.

7. Further Comments

- KICS endeavours to keep a high profile in the community and has a solid reputation of being a provider of high quality education and care in all services across the Island. As a not for profit organisation KICS is committed to servicing the community.