



PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: March 2022

Centre number: 2633

Centre name: Kapunda Kindergarten

1. General information

- Preschool Director
Mrs Sarah McCarthy
- Postal address
PO Box 58, Kapunda SA 5373
- Location address
10 Beck Street, Kapunda SA 5373
- DE Partnership
Goyder & Light
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km)
35 km North of Gawler and approximately 80km from Adelaide
- Telephone number
8566 2431
- Preschool website address:
www.kapundakgn.sa.edu.au
- Preschool e-mail address
dl.2633.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au

- **Enrolment/Attendance**
Enrolment and attendances are regularly above state averages. Over the past several years attendances have been on average 44. This year there are 35 children enrolled
- Kapunda Kindergarten is a stand-alone Kindergarten
- Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children
Currently the centre operates full time with sessions operating Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 8:45am to 3:30pm and Friday mornings 8:45 to 11:45.
- Occasional Care
Funded Occasional Care
Thursday 8:45am to 11:45am and 12:00noon to 2:45pm
Friday 9:00am to 11:45am
- Associated Programs
Pre-Entry is offered when possible
- Lunch/Full Day Program
Lunch time care is provided by teaching staff.
- Bilingual Support
This support is available for children who meet the criteria.
- Preschool Support
This support is available for children who meet the criteria.
Since 2012, Kapunda Kindergarten has been providing 15 hours of Preschool under the Universal Access agreement.
- Playgroup operates at the Kindy every Friday from 12noon-2pm. This is affiliated with Playgroup SA. A volunteer co-ordinator organises Playgroup with the support of Kindy staff.

2. Key Centre Policies

- Centre Priorities/Statement of Purpose
The centre has a Quality Improvement Plan which addresses the following Strategic Priorities.
High Standards of Learning
Relationships and Wellbeing
Quality Learning Environment

Policies

- ❖ Healthy Eating
- ❖ Behavioural Code
- ❖ Sunsmart
- ❖ Illnesses

Policies are regularly under review

3. Curriculum

- Framework used: Early Years Learning Framework - Belonging, Being & Becoming
The National Early Years Learning Framework is the curriculum used at the centre.
The Indicators of Preschool Numeracy and Literacy - Department for Education and Child Development
- Core Values
Learning Through Play
Respect
Honesty
Tolerance
- Joint programs/special curriculum projects: We work closely with DE Support Services including; Speech Pathologist, Psychologist, Behaviour Support Coach and Special Educator.
We also work closely with community services including the Barossa Early Childhood Intervention Team, Child and Youth Health and private consultants.
We provide opportunities for outside service providers to access the Kindergarten to support children and families where possible.

- Specific curriculum approaches
Kapunda Kindergarten is committed to the Philosophy of Learning through Play. We believe it is an age appropriate approach and is inclusive of constructivism and learning dispositions.
Strong links with local primary schools ensures a positive transition process is in place.

4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff Profile
Director 0.8 Sarah McCarthy
Director 0.2 Abby Walker Schwartz
Teacher 0.7 Abby Walker Schwartz
Teacher 0.7: Summer Dinnison
Early Childhood Worker and Preschool Support: Maria Towers (hours based on IESP grant and needs)
Occasional Care Worker .3 Kirralee Pratt
Finance Officer .1 Annabel Nicholls
- Performance Management Program
The DE Performance Management Policy is the basis for this program. Performance processes used which include an annual meeting in term 1 to set personal goals and goals and actions which are aligned with our site's PQIP as well as identifying training needs and supports. This process involves a 6 monthly and

- 12-month review process.
- Access to special support staff
Additional staffing to support children with special needs is appointed as part of the DE Preschool Support Program.
Additional staffing is also employed to support the site Early Intervention Program.

5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds

The stand-alone Kindergarten is situated in a quiet cul-de-sac next door to the town swimming pool. The town park is located directly behind the Kindergarten and The Swan Path walking trail is beside the Kindergarten. The building is quite small, but the outdoor learning environment provides plenty of space for children to explore and learn. Recent additions/improvements to the building include a new office space for educators'. The Building includes the main room, kitchen, two office spaces, side 'quiet' room and storage room.

The outdoor learning environment is well spaced out and is set amongst beautiful well-established seasonal trees, a large lawn space, vegetable patches and a fruit orchard. There is a shade structure over the sandpit and a water course that adjoins. The mud kitchen is located in the digging patch nearby. Children can access plants to pick and experiment and create with from the sensory garden. There is a chicken coop and native plants and butterfly attracting plants. There is a cubby house, slide and two swing frames. The outdoor area includes a large storage shed.

.The building also includes an 8 place Occasional Care facility.

- Capacity (per session)
45
- Centre Ownership
- DE
Barossa and Light Council own the driveway on eastern side of property. It is used with their permission.
- Access for children and staff with disabilities
Disabled car park available at the entrance to Kindy
A paved path provides wheel chair access.

6. Local Community (intended for country preschools)

- General characteristics

Kapunda Township was developed as a major mining settlement with a strong Cornish heritage. The town is located on the fringe of the Barossa Valley and is a service town for local agricultural community and families who have chosen a rural lifestyle.

The community is largely Anglo, English speaking.

We acknowledge that the land that we play, learn and work on is Ngadjuri land, and we acknowledge that the Ngadjuri people have social, spiritual and historical connections to this land, and their connections are as strong today as they have always been.

- Parent and community involvement in the preschool

Kapunda Kindergarten is well supported by the parents and they are welcome to participate in the curriculum. Positions on the Governing Council are always filled. The Kindergarten Governing Council comprises of representatives from the following services: Kindergarten, Occasional Care and staff. Evening meetings are held twice per Term in weeks 3 and 8.

A range of socio economic groups are represented within the community thus a wide range of attitudes, values and experiences are expressed within the Kindergarten.

Family nights and special events occur such as the annual Obstacle-a-thon, Special Person's Days, Christmas celebrations.

- Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool
Over 90% transition to Kapunda Primary School.
Families can also access private schooling in the surrounding townships including Redeemer Lutheran School in the Barossa and St John's Lutheran School at Eudunda.
- Other local care and educational facilities,
Kapunda High School
Kapunda Primary School
Kapunda Outside of School Hours located at Kapunda Primary School
Kapunda Early Learning Childcare Centre
- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
The town has a Bank SA, hospital, police, library, post office, 1 supermarket, accounting, hairdressing, hardware, chemist, stock and real estate agents, bakery and several other specialist shops.
- Other local facilities
The town offers excellent medical facilities including two Doctors surgeries and a hospital with an emergency attachment. The hospital has a helipad for emergency evacuations.
There are extensive sporting facilities with a wide variety of sports available: football, netball, cricket, basketball, swimming, table tennis, cricket, golf.
Bush walking and cycling at The Pines are popular.
CWA, Men's Shed, Art & Craft groups are active.
There are five denominations of churches in the town.
Kapunda Medical Centre provides access to local doctors, visiting dentist, visiting physiotherapist and chiropractor.
- Availability of staff housing
Sub-divisions within the town have increased the availability of building blocks.
Minimal Government housing available but private rental and house sales are available.
- Accessibility
A significant number of people commute to Adelaide, Elizabeth and the Barossa Valley for employment.
Train services are available from Gawler, a 30 minute drive from Kapunda.
- Local Government

Light Regional Council has an office in Kapunda.

7. Further Comments

- Partnership arrangements with other groups

Kapunda Kindergarten is part of the Goyder and Light Partnership and the Gawler Portfolio