



PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 24/5/2022

Centre number: 4626

Centre name: Kathleen Mellor Kindergarten

1. General information

- Preschool Director: Anne Willis
- Postal address: 51 Bowen Road Tea Tree Gully, 5091
- Location address: 51 Bowen Road Tea Tree Gully, 5091
- DECD Region: Northern Adelaide:
- Geographical location – 20 km from GPO
- Telephone number: (08) 82643603
- Mobile: 0427 076 189
- Fax number: (08) 83953607
- Preschool website address: www.kathmellkgn.sa.edu.au
- Preschool e-mail address: dl.4626_leaders@schools.sa.edu.au
- Enrolment/Attendance

The centre has had a stable enrolment/attendance pattern over the last 3 years, with an average of 28 children attending.

- Co-located/stand-alone: Stand alone Preschool/kindergarten
- Programs operating at the preschool

- ⌘ Playgroup: Operates at the kindergarten on Monday Mornings from 9.00am -10.30am.
- ⌘ Pre-Entry: Where possible Pre-entry is offered to children in the term before they are eligible for full time kindergarten.
- ⌘ Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children.
- ⌘ Lunch/Full Day Program: On the days we operate a lunch program is part of the program. There is no additional cost for the lunch program.
- ⌘ Preschool Support: We offer Preschool support for children who are identified as requiring additional support to access the kindergarten program.

2. Key Centre Policies

The kindergarten is located within the Tea Tree Gully Partnership and aligns itself with the Tea Tree Gully Partnership priorities. Currently the priorities for the Partnership are Improved Numeracy achievement across all levels of schooling/ preschool. The goal is for all students to have success in learning and life.

3. Curriculum

Framework used:

- The centre uses the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) to plan and implement a play-based program
We also use the Indicators of Literacy and Numeracy to inform our practice
And the Reflect Respect Relate Tool to reflect and assess our practice
- At Kathleen Mellor our vision is “for each child to become a confident, competent learner who is physically and emotionally healthy and is a caring participant in our community”

Core Values

Respect, Honesty, Self worth, Friendship, Safety/ security and Knowledge.

Specific curriculum approaches

- Kindergarten staff are currently working with the self regulation team within the Department for Education to strengthen children’s capacity to self regulate, persist at tasks, and take risks.
- Child Protection frameworks and strategies are in place.
- Growth Mindset and Powerful Learner strategies are used to improve learner dispositions.
- The “You Can Do It” program is employed to teach specific social skills and dispositions for learning.
- The Preschool has run “Bush Kindy” sessions for the past 4 years and has a relationship with the Friends of Anstey Hill. The kindergarten has been involved with tree planting in Anstey Hill.
- The Preschool has a strong relationship with the main feeder school, Tea Tree Gully Primary School and the school and kindergarten visit each other’s sites on a regular basis. The Kindergarten Director attends the Tea Tree Gully Primary School leadership meetings on a regular basis.
- The Kindergarten has a relationship with the OSHC facility at Tea Tree Gully Primary School. The OSHC staff walks children to the kindergarten in the mornings and the kindergarten staff walk the children back to the OSHC program at the end of the kindergarten session.

4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff Profile

The centre currently operates with a 0.6 Director, 0.6 Teacher, 0.6 ECW plus a Preschool support worker for 3.25 hours every Tuesday.

The centre employs a Finance/admin Officer (ECW 1) for 4 hours per week

Currently the kindergarten is operating on a 12/18 model of service delivery.

That is 12 hours per week in terms 1 and 2 and 18 hours per week in terms 3 and 4.

- Performance Management Program

Our Performance Management processes encourage staff to regularly review their goals/action plans in line with key National/DECD/Partnership and site priorities and to work collaboratively to achieve these.

- Access to special support staff

Our centre has regular access to a variety of team members for additional support eg. Disability Coordinator; Early Years Initiatives Coordinator, Speech Pathologists and Department specialist Staff (eg Self-regulation Team).

5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds

Buildings and grounds

- The kindergarten was built in the early sixties, with a spacious main room and Large withdrawal room attached.

- The outdoor area is primarily in a bush setting with many mature gum trees Offering natural shade.

- There is a shade structure over the sandpit.

- There are two large carparking areas to ensure ease of access.

- The facility is leased from the Tea Tree Gully Council.

- There are blinds on the verandah to filter direct sunlight in Summer and keep out the cold in Winter.

- The centre is in a moderate bushfire risk area and procedures for emergencies have been reviewed and are practiced regularly.

- Capacity (per session) 33 children

- Centre Ownership

The centre is a DECD facility housed within a building leased from Tea Tree Gully Council

- Access for children and staff with disabilities.

The centre has access via both carparks and a disability ramp and disabled carpark from the Bowen Road carpark

The staff toilet is a disability access toilet.

6. Local Community

General characteristics:

- Kathleen Mellor is situated in the historic township of Tea Tree Gully, within the Tea Tree Gully Council area.

It is located adjacent to the Memorial Oval, and enjoys a park- like setting, with natural gum trees a shady feature of the outdoor area.

Tea Tree Gully Primary School is within walking distance across the Memorial Oval.

- Children from the kindergarten mainly attend Tea Tree Gully Primary and nearby St. David's Catholic School, however, we have had children transition to over 13 different schools in recent years.
- Housing is mainly owner occupied, with some units and rental available.

Other local facilities

- The kindergarten is very close to the St Agnes Shopping Centre and has a bus stop outside the kindergarten on Perseverence Road which can transport families to the local shops, to Tea Tree Plaza and into the city.

Local Government

The kindergarten has a good relationship with the Tea Tree Gully Council who are the owners of the kindergarten building and maintenance issues are quickly resolved upon request.

DECD facilities are also involved with the ongoing maintenance at the kindergarten.