Mannum Kindergarten parent handbook

www.preschools.sa.gov.au/mannum-kindergarten

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Home



Our kindy provides a safe, warm and welcoming atmosphere. We encourage children to explore, nurture, and value their environment. We build strong relationships with your child and encourage open communication. We respect your parenting role in your child's learning and development. We value our small rural town and we're committed to working with our community.

Find out more about our goals and our focus in our philosophy statement (PDF 522KB). (https://www.preschools.sa.gov.au/sites/default/files/mannum_kindergarten_philosophy.pdf)

Volunteering

If you'd like to volunteer with us, we'd love to hear from you. See volunteering in schools, preschool and children's centres

(https://www.decd.sa.gov.au/supporting-students/parent-engagement-education/volunteers/volunteering-schools-preschools-and-childrens-centres) and have a chat to us about how you can get involved.

We invite you to join the governing council, which meets twice a term to make sure the preschool runs smoothly. Read through what a governing council does

(https://www.decd.sa.gov.au/sites-and-facilities/governing-councils/understanding-governing-councils/what-governing-council-does) and speak to us to register your interest.

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land we are on and pay our respects to their Elders past and present, and extend that respect to other Aboriginal people who are present today.

www.preschools.sa.gov.au/mannum-kindergarten

Contact us

Preschool director: Mrs Mary Langsford

Phone: (08) 8569 1487

Fax: (08) 8569 2618

Email: dl.6550.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au

Street address: Cnr Adelaide & Male Roads Mannum SA 5238

Postal address: Cnr Adelaide & Male Roads Mannum SA 5238

What we offer

We offer a number of programs and services to support your child's early years learning (https://www.decd.sa.gov.au/teaching/curriculum-and-teaching/primary-and-secondary-curriculum/curriculum-taught-south-australia).

Preschool program

Times

Your child can attend preschool for up to 15 hours per week.

Your child can attend a combination of full days and a morning sessions.

Full day

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9.00am to 3.00pm	9.00am to 3.00pm	9.00am to 3.00pm	9.00am to 3.00pm	_

Morning

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9.00am to 12.00pm	9.00am to 12.00pm	9.00am to 12.00pm	9.00am to 12.00pm	_

Fees

The parent contribution is \$60 per term. See our enrolment and fees page (https://www.preschools.sa.gov.au/mannum-kindergarten/getting-started/enrolment-and-fees) for more information.

What to bring

Your child needs to bring these items each day:

- bag
- broad-brimmed, legionnaire or sun-safe hat (without chin straps)
- change of clothes
- drink bottle containing water
- healthy snack
- packed lunch.

What not to bring

Children should not bring these things:

- food containing nuts (some children have nut allergies that can be dangerous)
- unhealthy food or drink (lollies, chocolate, chips, fizzy drinks)
- toys from home.

Rural Care

Our rural care program provides families with access to long day care, before and after school hours care, and vacation care for children from 6 weeks old to 12 years.

Times

Full day - 8.00am to 6.00pm

Morning session - 8.00am to 1.00pm

Afternoon session - 1.00pm to 6.00pm

Cost

Please refer to our fee schedule (PDF 639KB)

https://www.preschools.sa.gov.au/sites/default/files/mannum_kindergarten_rural_care_program_fee_schedule_2019.pdf).

What to bring

Your child needs to bring these items:

- bag
- broad-brimmed, legionnaire or sun-safe hat (without chin straps)
- piece of fruit, or healthy snack
- drink bottle containing water
- milk if required
- packed lunch and afternoon snack food provided must be within our nutrition guidelines
- change of clothes appropriate to weather
- nappies, if required
- familiar toy or comforter.

Additional information

Please store your child's food in our kindy fridge so food is kept at a safe temperature.

Playgroup

Our playgroup is a great way to connect with our Mid Murray families and the wider community. Children from ages birth to 5 years can attend. You and your child can meet new friends, talk with staff and get to learn about our kindy.

Times

9.30am to 11.30am on Fridays from week 1 to 9 each term.

Cost

This program costs \$2.50 per child and 50 cents for additional children.

What to bring

Your child needs to bring:

- bag
- broad-brimmed, legionnaire or sun-safe hat (without chin straps)
- piece of fruit to share
- drink bottle containing water.

Disability support

There is support available for children with disability (https://www.education.sa.gov.au/supporting-students/children-disability-and-special-needs). Talk to us for more information.

Enrolment and fees

When your child can start preschool

Your child is entitled to access 1 year of preschool.

If your child turns 4 before 1 May, they can start preschool at the beginning of the year. If your child turns 4 on or after 1 May, they can start the next year.

If you want to delay your child's start to preschool or you're not sure about when they should start, please talk to us about your options.

If your child is Aboriginal or under guardianship (in care) they are eligible for 12 hours of preschool after they turn 3. They will then be eligible for 15 hours per week of preschool in the year before they start school.

Early entry

Your child may be able to come to preschool 1 term earlier, in term 4 the year before starting their preschool year, if they:

- have additional needs or disability
- are learning English as an additional language or dialect
- are at significant risk because of family circumstances.

Early entry is for up to 6 hours per week, if places are available.

Access is decided on a case-by-case basis.

Please contact us if you want more information about early entry.

Enrolling your child

You can register your interest to enrol your child with us by using the preschool registration of interest form (https://www.education.sa.gov.au/doc/preschool-registration-interest-form). This form is also available from us.

Try to register your interest by 30 June, but you can do this any time during the year.

Priority will be given to children living in our catchment area (https://www.preschools.sa.gov.au/mannum-kindergarten#location). If you don't live in our catchment area you should indicate at least 2 other preschool options on your form.

If we can give your child a place with us we'll send you an offer letter in term 3 (https://www.decd.sa.gov.au/teaching/south-australian-state-schools-term-dates). You can accept the offer by filling in and sending back the acceptance slip by the due date.

Before your child starts

We will contact you in term 3 about an orientation session. This will be held early in term 4 and will be an opportunity for you to ask questions.

Before they start preschool your child can come to pre-entry transition visits. These will be later in term 4 and are a chance for your child to meet our staff and other children.

Fees

We ask you to contribute towards the cost of your child attending preschool.

The parent contribution is \$240 per year. You can choose to pay the total amount at the beginning of the year or pay instalments of \$60 each term (https://www.education.sa.gov.au/teaching/south-australian-state-schools-term-dates).

We offer other programs that may have additional costs (https://www.preschools.sa.gov.au/mannum-kindergarten/getting-started/what-we-offer#mannumprograms).

When to pay

We will invoice you at the beginning of each term via email, or printed invoice in your child's pocket.

Payments are due in week 6 of the term.

Please contact us (https://www.preschools.sa.gov.au/mannum-kindergarten#contact-us) if you are having difficulty paying.

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How to pay

Cash or cheque

You can pay cash or cheque at the kindy. Please put the payment in a sealed envelope with your child's full name on the front and put the envelope in the payments box at kindy.

EFT information

You can pay by direct deposit.

Account name: Mannum Kindergarten Inc. Management Committee

BSB: 105085

Account number: 326105240

Please put your child's full name as the reference.

Immunisations

When you enrol your child you will be asked to provide evidence of their immunisation status (https://www.sa.gov.au/topics/education-and-learning/early-childhood-education-and-care/preschool-and-kindergarten#immunisation).

Reports and plans

National Quality Standard rating

Our services are assessed and rated against 7 quality areas of the National Quality Standard.



Overall Rating: Exceeding NQS

Quality Area Ratings

1 Educational program and practice: Exceeding NQS

Children's health and safety: Meeting NQS

Physical environment: Meeting NQS
 Staffing arrangements: Exceeding NQS
 Relationships with children: Exceeding NQS

6 Partnerships with families and communities: Exceeding NQS

7 Leadership and service management: Exceeding NQS

Rating for: Mannum Kindergarten

Rating issued: November 2015

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Quality improvement plan

An assessment of the programs we offer against the National Quality Standard and national regulations. It identifies areas for improvement and includes our philosophy statement.

Quality improvement plan (PDF 1601KB)

(https://www.preschools.sa.gov.au/sites/default/files/mannum_kindergarten_gip.pdf)

Annual report

A report on our progress, achievements, highlights and challenges for the year.

Annual report (PDF) (http://docs.decd.sa.gov.au/Sites/AnnualReports/6550_AnnualReport.pdf)

Parenting support

Giving your child a strong start in the early years

Research tells us that quality education and care early in life leads to better health, education and job outcomes in adulthood. Children are learning and growing from the time they are born. The greatest influence on a child's future health, development and happiness is in the first 5 years of life.

We're working with families to take a 'learning together' approach about child development in the early years.

Parenting resources

Several early childhood parenting resources are available to help your child learn and grow right from the start.

Little Big Book Club (http://www.thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/) supports parents to read, sing and play with their children from birth, with access to book recommendations, reading packs and resources.

Dad's Read (http://dadsread.org.au/) offers advice for fathers to encourage reading together with their child.

Parenting SA (https://www.education.sa.gov.au/parenting-and-child-care/parenting/parenting-sa) has free parenting factsheets, videos and upcoming seminars on many parenting topics.

Positive Parenting program

(http://www.triplep-parenting.net.au/au-uken/find-help/triple-p-parenting-in-south-australia/?itb=bc37e109d92bdc1ea71da6c919d54907) has free seminars, workshops and one-on-one sessions for parents of children aged 3 to 12 years.

Learning with your child (GreatStart)

(https://www.education.sa.gov.au/parenting-and-child-care/parenting/learning-your-child-greatstart) gives parents everyday learning ideas and activities to help build their child's maths and language skills.

Raising Children Network (http://raisingchildren.net.au/) provides up-to-date, evidence-based, scientifically validated information about raising children and caring for yourself as a parent or carer.

Site Behaviour Code

At Mannum Kindergarten:

- We believe that each child is individual and unique, and we value their families & their diverse backgrounds & experiences.
- We believe that all children learn through play and at Mannum Kindergarten we recognise the importance of play in children's learning and support for them to develop and grow.
- We believe that all children have the right to feel valued, trusted & respected
- WE believe that all children have the right to feel safe.
- We believe that everyone has the right to feel safe all of the time
- We believe that negative behaviour changes more quickly when handled in a positive way. Thus what children can do, rather than what they cannot, is the starting point in any interaction.
- We accept that children feel angry, frustrated and upset at times, and need help to express those feelings appropriately.
- We believe that staff and parents need to share the responsibility for managing challenging behaviours by being consistent at all times, by creating safe & secure environments for children and by modelling appropriate behaviours.

The behaviours we encourage at Mannum Kindergarten:

Cooperation/collaboration, working together, consideration/thoughtfulness, caring, sharing, respect, keeping safe, being polite, listening, being friendly enjoyment & participation

Ways we maximise positive behaviours at Mannum Kindergarten include:

- role modelling
- Positive communication using positive language
- Providing opportunities for children to take risks & experience success
- Encouraging
- Praising for the little things that children do
- Respecting & encouraging children's voice
- Value & recognise individual strengths
- Help children to recognise and articulate their feelings
- Setting an environment children understand routines, rules and being flexible & responsive to differing needs at differing times
- Being consistent

Behaviours which are not acceptable or appropriate at Mannum Kindergarten are:

Swearing, hitting, biting, bullying, running indoors, throwing objects inappropriately, pushing/shoving, kicking, yelling - aggressive tones, put downs & upsetting other children

Ways we minimise challenging behaviours at Mannum Kindergarten include:

- Verbal Warning Explanation of why it's not acceptable/safe 1.
- Offer choices
- redirect the play or the children

If unsafe and unacceptable behaviours are constantly repeated, staff will use:

- 4. Time away from the activity
- Thinking time which includes supporting children to problem solve, negotiate, find resolutions and manage emotions appropriately and using Restorative Justice practices that support children to empathise with others and restore relationships

Challenging behaviours - may require specialist support and we have access to DECS services including a social worker, special educator, speech pathologist and psychologist, all of whom have extensive experience in supporting families to manage their child's behaviour.

<u>Informing children:</u>

- Occurs at the beginning of every term rules, routines
- Reminders when behaviours become inappropriate & general reminders in play
- When children are talking to others about inappropriate behaviour.

Consulting & informing Parents

- Newsletter
- Centre handbooks
- On an individual basis, Staff will ensure that families are informed of any behavioural issues that occur
 during the day.

How parents can help support the Site Behaviour Code:

- Support the Kindergarten Behaviour Code
- Support their child's regular attendance
- Talk to staff about behavioural issues concerning your child.
- Work together
- Share information

Informing staff

- Handbook
- Review the behaviour code yearly
- Staff meetings
- Programming individual learning

Challenging Behaviours - set routines & modify

How Staff can help support the Site Behaviour Code

- Be consistent
- Be fair & patient
- Work together
- Be supportive
- Report to staff, families as required

Reviewing the Site Behaviour Code

- Yearly
- Complete review check guidelines

Our Centre is guided by DECD Policies & procedures and our site policies & procedures which in-

Site Specific Policies

clude:

-Healthy Food Supply & Nutrition Site Policy

-Hot Weather Site Policy

-Administration of First Aid

-Dealing with Infectious Diseases

-Emergency & Evacuation

-Excursions

-Site Behaviour Guidance Code

-Sustainability Policy

-Philosophy Statement

-Payment of fees (R/C)

-Toileting & Nappy Change procedure

-Skin Protection Site Policy

-Water Safety Site Procedure

-Incident, Injury, Trauma & Illness

-Dealing with Medical Conditions

-Delivery & Collection of Children (R/C & Kindy)

-Establishing a Protective Environment

-Grievance Procedure

-Attendence Improvement Plan

-Priority of Access Guidelines

-Single Staff Checklist

-Sleep & Rest Guidelines

Our Centre Policies are available to you, and can be located in Policy Folder at Visitors' sign in. Our site has a formal complaints policy. If you have any concerns or issues please talk to any staff member or contact the site leader.

Complaints Policy

For further information please refer to: **Pamphlet in your enrolment package & Grievance Procedure**

PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT

At Mannum Kindergarten & Rural Care, we aim to provide a high quality educational & care service for children, families, the community, staff & DECD and work in close partnership to complement & respond to needs.

For the Children

We believe:

- That each child is an unique individual and develops at their own pace driven by their own learning & interests
- Children learn most effectively through play & hands on experiences
- That working with families in partnership enhances children's learning & wellbeing
- We aim to provide this;
- Ensuring children are safe, physically & emotionally
- By providing an environment that is safe, child orientated where children can explore with wonder & delight
- Providing a variety of learning experiences appropriate to their developmental needs which supports the holistic development of a child - social, emotional, physical, intellectual.
- Being respectful of each individual and the family they come from (social, physical, gender, religion, race)
- Encouraging caring relationships with staff, & other children

For the staff

We aim to create an environment that is positive & mutually supportive for staff by:

- Creating a safe working environment in accordance with Work, Health Safety requirements
- Support continued learning as professionals
- Providing appropriate resources which reflects our diverse world
- Fostering active involvement in management- a staff representative on the management committee
- Supporting award conditions
- Promoting open communication channels

To ensure the provision of quality children's services, our staff will work as a team to:

- Provide a friendly, caring, safe & secure environment
- Value the uniqueness of each child, parent/care provider & staff
- Display effective communication with children & adults
- Demonstrate skills & knowledge of child development
- Be a positive role model for children
- Share a commitment to the Centre goals & philosophy & be reflective in practice Our Staff will be required to behave in a professional manner & at all times maintain

For Parents and Families

We aim to support parents/guardians & families in their role as primary care givers & educators by:

- Warmly welcoming them into our centre, and providing a friendly, safe, caring environment in which parents can confidently leave their children
- Regularly sharing information with parents/guardians about their children
- Providing information about Family & Children's services.
- Informing parents & families through handbook, regular newsletters & policy folder
- Reflecting the values of the diverse family & cultural backgrounds of individual children
- We value involvement & participation and encourage open communication.
- Valuing privacy & confidentiality

For the Governing Council

The Governing Council's commitment to the Philosophy of the Centre shall be displayed through:

- Representation of families
- Meeting the legal requirements of an incorporated body
- Working within the constitutional limits'
- Responsible & effective management of funds & resource
- Providing opportunities for consultation

Members of the Management Committee will be required to maintain confidentiality at all times.

For the Wider Community

This Centre will promote quality children's services in the wider community through:

- A mutual support network with other community agencies & service groups (eg Child & Youth Health, Community Health, Council, Schools)
- Effective communication channels through various media & other means
- Opportunities for visits, excursions, & interactions with the wider community



Date: 20/6/2017 Review: 20/6/2019