



PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 08/ 2023

Centre number: 4690

Centre name: Margaret Lohmeyer Kindergarten

1. General information

- Preschool Director: Kelly Klau
- Postal address: 28 Crozier Ave, Daw Park 5041
- Location address: As Above
- DECD Region: Mitcham Plains
- Geographical location – 7 kms south of the GPO (along Goodwood Road)
MLK is a stand alone Kindergarten located on a suburban house block.
- Telephone number: (08) 8276 2033
- Preschool website address:
<https://www.preschools.sa.gov.au/margaret-lohmeyer-kindergarten>
- Preschool e-mail address: dl.4690.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au

Enrolment/Attendance:

- Currently we have 43 children attending. In July 2023 we have commenced our Mid Year intake.
- Our kindergarten has a good attendance rate.

Programs operating at the preschool:

- ⊞ Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children:
Children attend 2 full days – 8:30am- 3:30pm and two half days a term on Fridays from 8:30am – 1:30pm.
- ⊞ Full Day Program including lunch

- ⌘ Orientation Sessions the term prior to children commencing
- ⌘ Early entry if site capacity allows
- ⌘ Bilingual support is accessed when necessary.
- ⌘ Preschool support is accessed through IESP funding and applications are made for extensive adjustment funding when required.

2. Key Centre Policies

The staff team and Governing council regularly review our policies to ensure they meet National Quality Standards.

Our 2023 QIP goals are:

- To strengthen children's identity as a mathematician.

3. Curriculum

Frameworks used include:

Early Years Learning Framework

Literacy and Numeracy Indicators

Reflect, Respect, Relate.

Protective Behaviours

Core Values:

Vision Statement

To be an inclusive community in which children and their families come together to wonder, explore, build relationships and develop strong foundations for lifelong learning.

Statement of Philosophy

Educators provide engaging learning environments that encourage children to:

- Explore, be challenged and take risks.
- Wonder, ask questions and develop strategies for finding out answers.
- Develop positive dispositions for learning and a growth mindset.
- Make connections with each other, the educators and the natural world.
- Develop meaningful relationships that demonstrate care, empathy and respect.

We are committed to:

- Engaging with Kurna elders to provide a program that explores Kurna culture and language.

Embedding reconciliation into our practice.

- Being active listeners who value children's individual interests, thoughts and opinions.
- Respecting the diversity of children's cultural beliefs and family values, and planning learning experiences that reflect our multicultural community.
- Encouraging children to develop their independence and self-confidence while ensuring their well
- Work with families and the broader community to promote health and physical wellbeing of children.
- Demonstrating an ongoing commitment to caring for the natural environment and fostering environmental awareness and responsibility in children. Engaging in sustainable practice.
- Working collaboratively with families, acknowledging their role as the first educator and supporting their involvement in their child's learning at kindergarten.

4. Centre Based Staff

- *Staff Profile – the site is funded for*
Director: 1.0
Teacher: 1.4
The centre is currently operating as:
Director: 1.0
Teacher: 0.8
Teacher: 0.6
The Site self funds an Early Childhood Worker.
All staff regularly engage in Performance Development conversations.
Access to special support staff:
Support Worker
Bilingual Worker
Speech pathologist
Psychologist
Special Educator

5. Centre Facilities

- *Buildings and grounds*
Margaret Lohmeyer Kindergarten is a stand alone kindergarten with one main building containing a small office area, main room, smaller carpeted room,

small kitchen, two childrens toilets and an adult toilet.

The verandah has “all weather” blinds.

There is a large shady outdoor learning area, with two shade cloths, sand pit/watercourse a rectangular lawn area and a pergola containing all weather blinds on two sides. The outdoor area had been updated over the last two years through Climbing Tree. The sheds are due to be replaced during the Christmas holidays.

- Capacity: 25 children per session
- Centre Ownership: Owned by the Department for Education.
- Access for children and staff with disabilities
Access for children and staff with disabilities: There is a concrete ramp located at the rear of the kindergarten.

6. Local Community

General characteristics:

90% of children come from the local area.

13% of the children come from ESL families

Parent and community involvement in the preschool:

Family occasions, including Harmony Day, Spring Art Extravaganza, End of Year Celebration, Working Bees and Special Friends Day take place throughout each year.

Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool

70% children transfer to Colonel Light Gardens Primary School

15% children attend Edwardstown Primary School

15% children attend a variety of other Educational Sites

Other local care and educational facilities,

DFE Preschools include, Cumberland Park, Clarence Gardens, St James Park and Pasadena.

DFE Primary Schools include, Colonel Light Gardens and Edwardstown.

Melrose Park Child Care Centre and Colonel Light Gardens World of Learning are also relatively close.

Local Government:

Margaret Lohmeyer kindergarten is located within the Mitcham Council.

7. Further Comments

The Margaret Lohmeyer Kindergarten has a long history in the area. It was originally located in Colonel Light Gardens but was moved to Daw Park (in its current location since 1975).

A vibrant, enthusiastic community exists, with a Governing Council, parents, grandparents and other family members along with the staff team all contributing to the creation of a welcoming, caring learning environment.