



PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 24/05/2019

Centre number: 6525

Centre name: McKay Children's Centre

1. General information

- Preschool Director Jennifer Smibert
- Postal address 7 Scott Street Penola 5277
- Location address 7 Scott Street Penola 5277
- DECD Partnership South East Coast and Vines
- Geographical location – Penola South East of SA in the iconic Coonawarra Wine Region. 50 Ks North of Mt Gambier 380Ks Adelaide 430 ks to Melbourne 40Ks to Mt Gambier Airport - daily flights to Adelaide and Melbourne.
- Telephone number 87372535
- Preschool website address: www.mckaycc.sa.edu.au

- Centre e-mail address info.mckay725@schools.sa.edu.au
- Enrolment/Attendance

2018: 29 kindergarten 30 childcare utilisation 24 OSHC utilisation
 2019: 39 kindergarten 30 childcare utilisation 24 OSHC utilisation
 2020: small reduction in kindergarten enrolments predicted
 Childcare/OSHC programs expected to remain steady.

- Stand Alone on site at Penola Primary School part of a birth to year 7 connected education and care service supporting local families.

Programs operating at McKay Integrated Service.

Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children. Full day and half days offered

Associated Programs - transition to kindy and transition to school programs
 regular both informal and formal

Lunch/Full Day Program

Preschool Support Services are accessed as needed

Regular Site Professional Learning opportunities offered locally and within region.

Long Day Care (Approx 30 places Tuesday to Thursday
 40 places Monday and Friday)

Out of Hours School Care Daily during school terms(34 places)

2. Key Centre Policies

- Quality Improvement Plan (QIP)
Philosophy Statement
Centre based policies, e.g., Health and Nutrition, Bus, Emergency, First Aid, etc
Transition programs between our x3 site services and feeder schools.

3. Curriculum

- Framework used: Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF)
- Playful Pedagogies-eg bookmaking, story tables, loose parts etc
- Individual learning programs for every child, intentional teaching practices, documentation and analysis ('Notebook') reflective practice and sound communications within teams and with families (School Stream and See Saw) support every child's growth and development
- Preschool Literacy and Numeracy Indicators
- Respect, Reflect Relate
- Regular transition visits between childcare and kindy and kindy and school/OSHC throughout the year. Increasingly targetted in Terms 3 and 4.
- High Levels of targetted accessible and available Professional Development Opportunities with the engagement of quality presenters in Partnership region
Eg; 2018/2019 Matt Glover, Pamela Snow, John Hattie, Simon Breakspear, Jane Lemon, Anthony Semann, Alma Fleet, Kath Murdoch, Partnership Study Tour opportunity (Melbourne) and more.

- SECAV Partnership provides and initiates within various settings
High level support, strong collegiality, quality interactions with peers
- Availability of focus networks, professional learning hubs and research possibilities/projects.

4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff Profile
1.0 Director 0.5 Teacher 0.5 ECW
(2018 - 1.0 Director, 1.3 Teacher and 0.5 ECW)
- x2 Admin staff (= 1 FTE) manage office – bookings/billings general finance and administration duties.
- Childcare Level 6 Assistant Director x1
- Diploma and Cert III educators x17 educators (equivalent to approx. 12FTE's)
- Performance Management Programs using Department for Education proformas for all staff.
- Access to support services from Country Health Connect and Department for Education Support Services locally, out of Mt Gambier and regionally.

5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds –purpose built and on site at Penola Primary School
Two large rooms. One for childcare with x2 cot rooms and a flexible space that converts to a sleep space as required. Kindy room also has a small library room. A shared outdoor play area
Childcare operates 50 weeks per year
OSHC program has two groups – one located in Penola Primary Science Room and other for younger children in Kindy Room operates daily SA School term time
Preschool operates SA Term times
Total building capacity 65 children (Childcare/Kindy/OSHC)

6. Local Community (intended for country preschools)

- Wattle Range Council
- Excellent sporting, health and medical facilities
- Community Library and services including bakery, large quality supermarket, bank, cafes, hotels, restaurants, walks, wineries, galleries, tourist accommodation etc

- Regular festivals ('Penola Coonawarra Arts Festival', 'After Dark', 'Cellar Dwellers' 'Cabernet Festival').
- Primary School and High School
- Catholic Primary School
- Local industries include wine – agriculture, viticulture, wine making, cellar door, forestry and tourism. High levels of and wide range of employment opportunities available in local area.

7. Further Comments

McKayCC works closely with the Penola Primary accessing library, oval, shared events, playground etc shares bookmaking as a tool for continuity of learning

- McKay Children's Centre has been rated as EXCEEDING under the National Quality Standards
- The Centre enjoys strong community support and easy access to a range of local groups and facilities. Centrally located to local shops and services.