

## PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 2/2019

Centre number: 3661

Centre name: Mount Compass Preschool

### General information

- Centre name  
Mount Compass Preschool
- Centre number  
3661
- Preschool Director  
(Ms) Jay Elmslie
- Postal address  
P.O. Box 82 Mount Compass Preschool 5210
- Location address  
Oval Rd. Mount Compass 5210
- Telephone number  
85568342
- Fax number  
85568085
- e-mail address  
dl.3661.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au
- Partnership  
Fleurieu
- Geographical location –  
60kms from GPO
- Enrolment/Attendance  
28 children + 1 early entry
- Co-located/stand-alone  
:stand alone
- Programs operating
  - Preschool Sessions  
Monday-Wednesday. Children are able to access 30 hours of preschool over a two week period. Children can attend Mondays and Wednesdays of odd weeks of term and Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays of even weeks of term.

- Lunch/Full Day Program  
Full day sessions include lunch
- Bilingual Support  
available when required
- Preschool Support  
Support is offered by Regional Staff when required. Speech pathology and educational psychology services are available. Families with children who have additional needs are encouraged to make contact with the preschool prior to time of enrolment.
- Playgroup  
A playgroup usually runs on Fridays 9.30 -11.30 from the preschool building, please contact the preschool for up to date information.

## Key Centre Policies

At Mt Compass Preschool we aim to foster the positive and holistic growth of all children in our care as they transition from home to preschool and from preschool to school through a well resourced quality preschool program. We provide a welcoming environment, working in partnership with families and the local community by valuing their input in providing a quality preschool program within a safe, caring, responsive and stimulating environment.

The centre has a strong commitment to healthy eating and physical activity. This focus is also reflected in the general community which often comes together in outdoor, physical and sporting events.

Relationships are central to our work as educators and carers. Educators strive to promote supportive, inclusive, sensitive and respectful relationships between all stakeholders. 'The relationships we build and the style of our interactions with young children are critical to their present and future wellbeing, to their learning, their development and their social competence.' (Reflect, Relate, Respect document p.33)

## Curriculum

'Belonging, Being and Becoming' National Early Years Learning Framework  
National Curriculum Framework provides the basis for planning our education and care programs. We provide an educational program that values play; individuality; inclusiveness; and the development of learning dispositions, self esteem and self motivation for children in the year prior to starting school. We also cater for early and extended enrolment for children with special needs and for Aboriginal children from 3 years of age.

Educators use the Preschool Numeracy and Literacy Indicators to plan for and reflect on children's learning.

## Centre Based Staff

- Staff Profile

3 educators- part time Director, Teacher and Early Childhood Worker  
We also usually have support staff/lunch care staff
- Access to special support staff

Support staff including Department for Education speech pathologist and educational psychologist are available to assist children and families with special needs. Support staff visit the preschool throughout the year according to the current needs of the centre. Additional staff may be employed at the centre to meet special needs of children enrolled.

## Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds

The centre building is owned by the Department for Education and was opened in 1980. The land is leased from the local community. Extensions have added some additional space to the inside area and also extended the verandah that overlooks a spacious outdoor area. The outdoor area includes a large sandpit, slippery dip & mound, boat, swings, native trees and open space.  
Educators and Governing Council members are currently involved in redeveloping the outside play area.
- Site Capacity (per session)

25 children (this includes 'provisional savings'). A variation to capacity has occurred this year under direction of Regional Staff. This means the preschool can accept local enrolments up to 30 children per session during 2019.
- Centre Ownership

Department for Education (building only)

  - Access for children and staff with disabilities  
wheelchair access

## Local Community

- General characteristics:

Mount Compass Preschool is a small rural preschool catering for families within the Mount Compass, Nangkita, Yundi, and Mount Jagged areas. See catchment map for more details. Occupations of families range from farming, local and small business to city and suburban employment. The preschool is mainly accessed by car or by foot.

Family and community involvement in the preschool

The town of Mt Compass enjoys a high level of community spirit and participation. Families participate in the preschool through Governing Council, fundraising events, working bees, excursions and involvement in other educational activities and practical support.

- Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool

The vast majority of children enrol in Mount Compass Area School, which is situated alongside the Preschool. Children also transfer to Eastern Fleurieu School, Tatachilla Lutheran School, Encounter Lutheran School, Galilee Catholic School and Investigator College.

- Other local care and educational facilities

The Mt Compass Area School is situated alongside the Preschool and is a Reception to Year 12 site. There is one family day care facility run from a community building close to the preschool.

- Outside School Hours Care

This service is offered by Mount Compass Area School and can be accessed by preschool families. Both before and after school care is available. Children are brought to preschool and collected from preschool by OSHC staff.

- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities

There is a small group of local shops nearby and local businesses including an IGA, Post Office, butcher, bakery, chemist, medical service, strawberry farm and blue berry farms, venison, alpacas and dairy farming.

- Other local facilities include sporting, social, cultural, recreational facilities

- Availability of staff housing

None

- Accessibility to Adelaide and relevant major centres

Limited public transport is available to Victor Harbor and Adelaide.

- Local Government

District Council of Alexandrina 85552202. A Family and Community Directory is available free from the council, linking families and the community.