



# PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 15/6/2022

**Centre number:** 4638

**Centre name:** Mt Pleasant & District Kindergarten

## 1. General information

- Preschool Director  
Bridget Klingberg
- Postal address  
11 Saleyard Rd  
Mt Pleasant SA
- Location address  
As above
- DECD Partnership  
Torrens Valley Partnership
- Geographical location – i.e. road distance from GPO (km)  
59kms
- Telephone number  
85682079
- Preschool website address:  
<https://www.preschools.sa.gov.au/mount-pleasant-district-kgtn>

- Preschool e-mail address  
[www.dl.4638\\_leaders@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:www.dl.4638_leaders@schools.sa.edu.au)

- Enrolment/Attendance

Year	Average Enrolment	Average Attendance
2021	18	
2020	22	86%
2019	N/A	N/A
2018	29	84%
2017	14	89%
2016	19	91%
2015	17.75	90.4%
2014	19.75	89.9%
2013	14	88.95%
2012	29.5	95.27%

- Co-located/stand-alone

Stand alone

- Programs operating at the preschool

Pre-Entry

One session per week for three weeks offered to families in term 4 of each year if numbers/ staff ratios permit.

Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children

Up to 15 hours of preschool is provided to children in their eligible year prior to starting school. Sessions are held all day on Mondays, Tuesdays and every second Wednesday (odd weeks). Cost is approximately \$5 per session.

⌘ Occasional Care

Funded Occasional Care sessions are held every Thursday with a morning session facilitated 9.00am-12pm. Cost is \$5 per session and concession is also available.

## Associated Programs

⌘ Lunch/Full Day Program

Full Day Program is offered with children to bring their own healthy snacks and lunch

⌘ Bilingual Support

Offered as needed

⌘ Preschool Support

Offered as needed in consultation with support services.

Playgroup

Held every Friday at the Kindergarten between 9.30am-11.30am

## **2. Key Centre Priorities**

With families over the past three years we have been working on the following philosophy:

Through a rich PLAY environment the children, staff, families & community at Mt Pleasant & District Kindergarten strive to create a safe, supportive, fun, inclusive, respectful, challenging setting to foster learning as well as social and emotional development. We believe that investigating through a nature-focussed lens provides an opportunity to discover and learn about the wonders, beauty and complexities of our world.

We acknowledge that the land we play on is the traditional lands of the Peramangk people and we are committed to taking care of and learning more about the land together.

To be a life-long learner our preschool values learning dispositions. These include developing confidence, curiosity, communication, purposefulness, resourcefulness, persistence and co-operation. Our preschool works in harmony with children, families and the community to promote and develop these ways of thinking and being.

Our philosophy is seen as a living document, continually evolving in the light of new research, the ideas of new team members and input from families.

*Key Improvement Priorities for 2018 include:*

\*Ensuring high quality documentation about the planning cycle for individual children (Quality Area 1)

\*using multiple ways to make children's learning through play visible (Quality Area 1)

\*Greater information sharing between families and educators (Quality Area 1)

- \*Increasing the opportunities for children's strengths, interests, knowledge, ideas and culture to inform the learning within our centre (Quality Area 1)
- \*Integrate risk assessment into daily program (Quality Area 2)
- \*Healthy eating continually promoted and individual dietary requirements supported (Quality Area 2)
- \*Maintain a secure and safe environment for children and adults (Quality Area 2)
- \*Implementation of child protection curriculum throughout the year (Quality Area 2)
- \*Continue to explore sustainable practices (Quality Area 3)
- \*Refine staff reflective practices (Quality Area 4)
- \*Interactions with children and families with 2018 increased enrolments ensuring meaningful interactions and opportunities are maintained (Quality Area 5)
- \*Increasing involvement of families and meeting their social needs and sense of belonging (Quality Area 6)
- \*Update community information wall (Quality Area 6)
- \*Reflect on process and refine (Quality Area 7)
- \*Induction folder refine and review (Quality Area 7)
- \*Review philosophy (Quality Area 7)

### 3. Curriculum

- Framework used: Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF)
- Learning Dispositions
- The Preschool Literacy and Numeracy Indicators
- Child Protection Curriculum (Keeping Children Safe)
- Respect Reflect Relate
- Core Values

We value the learning dispositions of being confident, being cooperative, being confident, being resourceful, being a communicator, being purposeful and persistent.

- Specific curriculum approaches

We strive to build on our culture of inclusion and providing quality play based learning opportunities using the Early Years Learning Framework, Learning Dispositions and Preschool Literacy and Numeracy Indicators.

We believe play provides opportunities for children to learn as they discover, create, improvise and imagine. Play can provide a supportive environment where children can ask questions, solve problems and engage in critical thinking. Play can also expand children's thinking and enhance their desire to know and to learn in these ways play can promote positive dispositions for learning.

- Joint programmes/special curriculum projects  
Shared learning opportunities with the Mt Pleasant Primary School  
Stay and Play each term with families  
Yearly displays and stall at the Mt Pleasant Show held in March  
Workshops and exchanging of goods with the Mt Pleasant Natural Resource Centre  
Transition programs with feeder schools

## **4. Centre Based Staff**

- Staff Profile  
0.6 Director  
0.6 Teacher  
0.1 Occasional Care ECW2  
0.1 Occasional Care ECW1
- Performance Management Program  
All staff participate in the Performance Management process with at least 2 meetings conducted a year.

- Access to special support staff  
As needed the Director holds pre-referral discussions with a variety of support services and facilitates the allocation of support at a site level.

## 5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds

Mt Pleasant & District Kindergarten was built in 1979.

We are located in walking distance to the Mt Pleasant Primary School and the main street. The outside environment consists of large grounds including, large trees, large grassed area, a covered sand pit area, mud kitchen, digging patch, vegetable patch, fairy garden, 2 x swing areas, a chicken coop, rabbit hutch, large bark chipped area with a cubby and a veranda area that has blinds and can be partly enclosed and is surrounded by an enclosed safety fence.

The inside environment has an office, kitchen, three main rooms, a designated rest area, toilets and nappy changing facilities.

- Capacity  
38
- Centre Ownership  
DECD
- Access for children and staff with disabilities

Wheelchair access is available but the outside environment has some limited ability in places. There is no disabled toilet.

## 6. Local Community (intended for country preschools)

- General characteristics:

Our community is quite diverse as we are situated at the edge of the Barossa and are surrounded by farming land (mainly sheep and cattle), forest and orchards/grapevines.

- Parent and community involvement in the preschool

Parents participate in daily cleaning rosters, washing and feeding of animals.

Parents also participate in Governing Council, fundraising, excursions and 'stay and play sessions'.

The Mt Pleasant Natural Resource Centre stocks our recycled wrapping paper and packaged seeds for sale. They also travel to us and hold workshops every second term.

The Mt Pleasant Primary School also participates in a transitioning program which involves visits on a regular basis every fortnight including us visiting them at the school as well as them visiting us at the Kindergarten.

- Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool

We have three main schools that we tend to feed these are

Mt Pleasant Primary School, Birdwood Primary School, Palmer and Springton Primary School.

- Other local care and educational facilities.

OHSC is available at Mt Pleasant Primary School, which many of our families' access.

Childcare is also available at Birdwood and Gumeracha.

- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities

There are two bakeries, two hotels, a post office, chemist, butcher, fodder store, small general store and several second hand shops in Mt Pleasant. The main supermarket is located at Birdwood 10km from Mt Pleasant.

- Other local facilities

There are several local sporting clubs including football, netball, tennis, soccer and cricket. There is also a Doctors surgery and hospital located in Mt Pleasant.

- Availability of staff housing  
None available
- Accessibility  
Mt Pleasant & District Kindergarten is easily accessible by car, bike and walking if living within Mt Pleasant.  
Mt Pleasant has a limited bus service connecting it to Adelaide and the surrounding towns.
- Local Government  
Barossa Council

## **7. Further Comments**

- Partnership arrangements with other groups  
Mt Pleasant & District Kindergarten is part of the Torrens Valley Partnership and also works across other partnerships including Uleybury, Montague and the Hills Early Childhood Educators network.