



PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: August 2022

Centre number: 4686

Centre name: Pasadena Kindergarten

1. General information

- Preschool Director : Sue Klar
- Postal address : 39 Cash Grove, Pasadena, 5042
- Location address: 39 Cash Grove, Pasadena
- DfE Partnership: Mitcham Plains Partnership
- Geographical location – 9.6 km south of Adelaide GPO
- Telephone number : 08 8277 4623
- Preschool website address: www.pasadenakgn.sa.edu
- Preschool e-mail address: DL.4686_leaders@schools.sa.edu.au

Enrolment/Attendance

2020 -2022:33 place centre, 2018 -2019: 44 place centre

Attendance is strong on the 2 full days with 70% of children attending on half days.

In the last 15 years many of the children who attended Pasadena Kindergarten have been the children of International Students who are studying at Flinders University. In the past 3 years the number of International Students attending the University has dropped significantly with Covid 19 restrictions on International Travel and International Students attending Australian Universities. This has directly impacted on the number of children who attend our Kindergarten. We anticipate that our enrolment numbers will grow as International Students return to Australia in the future.

Programs operating at the preschool.

- Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children in the year before they go to school. The Kindergarten is a stand-alone Kindergarten that operates on Tuesday and Wednesday 8.45am to 2.55pm and then Thursday 8.45 - 11.30am
- Associated Programs : Early Entry program
- Orientation Program for children in the term before they commence Kindergarten,
- Playgroup to recommence on Fridays in Term 4, 2022: 9.00 – 11.00am
- Bilingual Support is available as provided by DfE. In 2022 six Bilingual Assistants were employed to support the children with little or no English.
- Preschool Support is available as provided by DfE

2. Key Centre Policies

Centre Priorities/Statement of Purpose

- We believe that every child is a unique individual and every child brings with them a family and cultural heritage which we should value and embrace.
- The most powerful way that children learn is through play.
- Our purpose is to provide a high quality and inclusive play based program which gives children the freedom, resources and encouragement to explore their interests and become self motivated learners.

3. Curriculum

Curriculum planning is based on the Early Years Learning Framework which embraces the view that “children's lives are characterised by Belonging, Being and Becoming: Belonging acknowledges children's interdependence with others. Being recognises the significance of the here and now in children's lives. Becoming reflects this process of rapid and significant change that occurs in the early years as young children learn and grow”.

The Indicators of Preschool Literacy and Numeracy are woven into the curriculum planning and reporting.

The National Quality Standards provides a framework to establish, assess and improve the quality of our Preschool Service.

Core Values

The children at Pasadena Kindergarten will be supported and encouraged to develop the following competencies and dispositions to enhance their learning and development: self confidence, emotional resilience, social confidence, independence, resourcefulness and self direction, self motivation, curiosity, involvement, persistence, problem solving and resourcefulness.

Our goal is to provide a stimulating and interesting physical environment that provokes creative thinking and curiosity and gives children the opportunity to explore and develop their interests and new interests.

Specific Curriculum approaches

- The staff team work in partnership with parents to provide for high quality learning and development opportunities for each child. The staff present an Individual Learning Plan for each child to their parents in an informal interview, maintain Individual Learning books describing children's learning and involvement and provide a Statement of Learning at the end of the child's year at Kindergarten. Parents are kept informed of learning goals and their outcomes in newsletters and reports to Governing Council. Parents are encouraged to talk with staff at any time about their child's progress.
- The Cultural Diversity of our Kindergarten Community is a great strength and joy. The children of Pasadena Kindergarten come from a diverse range of cultural and linguistic backgrounds providing a rich multi cultural experience for all children attending. In 2022 45% of our children came from non English speaking homes.
- We understand that every child needs a language that they can use to think and develop their ideas and understandings. It is essential that a child's home language is valued and used.

We also understand that facilitating the learning of English provides children with a tool they will need when they navigate our Australian Education system and which will connect them with their peers, educators and community.

So our goal is to both maintain and uphold the development of a child's home language and also provide them with a curriculum where they develop increasingly sophisticated English language.

4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff Profile
Director: 0.6
Teacher: 0.6
Early Childhood Worker: 0.6
- Performance Management Program : Our performance management is based on self reflection, twice yearly reviews and is tied closely to our Quality Improvement Plan to identify training and development needs for all staff.
- Preschool Support ECW's provide support for children with additional needs.
- Bilingual Assistants provide Bilingual Support for the high percentage of children in our centre who have a home language other than English.

5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
Pasadena Kindergarten is set on spacious grounds in a natural park setting. Native birds and koalas are frequent visitors and it provides a cool shady environment in the summer with a large enclosed outdoor area for the winter months. It has many natural areas for imaginative play and opportunities for challenging gross motor activities.
The building is spacious, well lit and well maintained with a number of different learning areas available for use. It was built in 1976.
Capacity (per session) 39
- Centre Ownership: Leased from Mitcham Council
- Access for children and staff with disabilities - wheelchair access to the main building and top level of outside learning environment.

6 Further Comments

- Children move onto a wide range of schools in the local area including Clapham, Colonel Light Gardens and Bellevue Heights DfE Primary Schools and St Bernadettes and St Therese Catholic Schools.