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Home



Find out more about our goals and our focus in our philosophy statement (PDF 402KB)

(
https://www.preschools.sa.gov.au/sites/default/files/pooraka_community_kindergarten_philosophy_statement_0.pdf).

Governing council

We invite you to join the governing council, which meets twice a term to ensure the smooth running of the preschool. Read through what a governing council does

(<https://www.decd.sa.gov.au/sites-and-facilities/governing-councils/understanding-governing-councils/what-governing-council-does>) and speak to us to register your interest.

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land we are on and pay our respects to their Elders past and present, and extend that respect to other Aboriginal people who are present today.

Contact us

Preschool director: Mrs Kate Walker

Phone: (08) 8260 1741

Fax: (08) 8359 4258

Email: dl.2656.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au

Street address: 14 McCarthy Court Pooraka SA 5095

Postal address: 14 McCarthy Court Pooraka SA 5095

What we offer

We offer a number of programs and services to support your child's early years learning (<https://www.decd.sa.gov.au/teaching/curriculum-and-teaching/primary-and-secondary-curriculum/curriculum-taught-south-australia>).

Preschool program

Times

Your child can attend preschool for up to 15 hours per week.

Koala group

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8.30am to 3.00pm	—	8.30am to 3.00pm	—	8.30am to 12.30pm even weeks

Possum group

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
—	8.30am to 3.00pm	—	8.30am to 3.00pm	8.30am to 12.30pm odd weeks

Fees

The parent contribution is \$375 per year. See our enrolment and fees page (<https://www.preschools.sa.gov.au/pooraka-community-kindergarten/getting-started/enrolment-and-fees>) for more information.

What to bring

Your child needs to bring these items each day:

- bag
- broad-brimmed, legionnaire or sun-safe hat (without chin straps)
- change of clothes
- drink bottle containing water only
- fruit/healthy snack for morning
- packed lunch
- appropriate footwear (sandals or sneakers).

Please write your child's name on all their belongings.

Sun-safe hats are only required in terms 1, 2 and 4. Please dress your child in clothes that are sun-smart and cover their shoulders.

Kindy clothes must be everyday wear such as pants, shorts or skirts and t-shirts. You can buy our Pooraka kindy t-shirts for \$15.

Laundry roster

We ask parents and caregivers to help with our kindy wash. Please refer to our laundry roster on the entrance door.

What not to bring

Children should not bring these things:

- food containing nuts (some children have nut allergies that can be dangerous)
- unhealthy food or drink (lollies, chocolate, chips, fizzy drinks)
- toys from home.

Disability support

There is support available for children with disability (<https://www.education.sa.gov.au/supporting-students/children-disability-and-special-needs>). Talk to us for more information.

Enrolment and fees

When your child can start preschool

Your child is entitled to access 1 year of preschool.

If your child turns 4 before 1 May, they can start preschool at the beginning of the year. If your child turns 4 on or after 1 May, they can start the next year.

If you want to delay your child's start to preschool or you're not sure about when they should start, please talk to us about your options.

If your child is Aboriginal or under guardianship (in care) they are eligible for 12 hours of preschool after they turn 3. They will then be eligible for 15 hours per week of preschool in the year before they start school.

Early entry

Your child may be able to come to preschool 1 term earlier, in term 4 the year before starting their preschool year, if they:

- have additional needs or disability
- are learning English as an additional language or dialect
- are at significant risk because of family circumstances.

Early entry is for up to 6 hours per week, if places are available.

Access is decided on a case-by-case basis.

Please contact us if you want more information about early entry.

Enrolling your child

You can register your interest to enrol your child with us by using the preschool registration of interest form (<https://www.education.sa.gov.au/doc/preschool-registration-interest-form>). This form is also available from us.

Try to register your interest by 30 June, but you can do this any time during the year.

Priority will be given to children living in our catchment area (<https://www.preschools.sa.gov.au/pooraka-community-kindergarten#location>). If you don't live in our catchment area you should indicate at least 2 other preschool options on your form.

If we can give your child a place with us we'll send you an offer letter in term 3 (<https://www.decd.sa.gov.au/teaching/south-australian-state-schools-term-dates>). You can accept the offer by filling in and sending back the acceptance slip by the due date.

Before your child starts

Please contact us (<https://www.preschools.sa.gov.au/pooraka-community-kindergarten#contact-us>) once your child turns 2 and half. We will ask you to come in and collect our enrolment form.

You must complete and return the enrolment form to us by the due date to ensure your child's place at our kindergarten.

Before they start preschool your child can come to 2 pre-entry transition visits. These will be in term 4 and are a chance for your child to meet our staff and other children.

Fees

We ask you to contribute towards the cost of your child attending preschool.

The parent contribution is \$450 per year. You can choose to pay the total amount at the beginning of the year or pay 3 instalments of \$150. Instalments are invoiced in terms (<https://www.decd.sa.gov.au/teaching/south-australian-state-schools-term-dates>) 1, 2 and 3 only.

When to pay

We will invoice you 3 payments of \$150 via your child's communication pockets.

Please contact us in confidence if you have difficulty paying.

How to pay

Cash or cheque

You can pay cash or cheque at the kindy. Please put the payment in a sealed envelope with your child's full name on the front. Put the envelope in the fees box, located just inside the entrance door.

EFT information

You can pay by direct deposit. We will provide EFT information and bank details via your invoice.

Immunisations

When you enrol your child you will be asked to provide evidence of their immunisation status (<https://www.education.sa.gov.au/supporting-students/health-e-safety-and-wellbeing/early-childhood-services-immunisation-requirements>).

Reports and plans

National Quality Standard rating

Our services are assessed and rated against 7 quality areas of the National Quality Standard.



Overall Rating: Exceeding NQS

Quality Area Ratings

- 1 Educational program and practice:** Exceeding NQS
- 2 Children's health and safety:** Exceeding NQS
- 3 Physical environment:** Exceeding NQS
- 4 Staffing arrangements:** Exceeding NQS
- 5 Relationships with children:** Exceeding NQS
- 6 Partnerships with families and communities:** Exceeding NQS
- 7 Leadership and service management:** Exceeding NQS

Rating for: Pooraka Community Kindergarten

Rating issued: August 2015

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Quality improvement plan

An assessment of the programs we offer against the National Quality Standard and national regulations. It identifies areas for improvement and includes our philosophy statement.

Quality improvement plan (PDF 117KB)

(https://www.preschools.sa.gov.au/sites/default/files/pooraka_community_kindergarten_qip.pdf)

Site context statement

A summary of our:

- general information
- key policies
- curriculum
- staff
- facilities
- local community
- partnership arrangements with other groups.

Site context statement (PDF 86KB)

(
https://www.preschools.sa.gov.au/sites/default/files/pooraka_community_kindergarten_site_context_statement.pdf)

Annual report

A report on our progress, achievements, highlights and challenges for the year.

Annual report (PDF) (http://docs.decd.sa.gov.au/Sites/AnnualReports/2656_AnnualReport.pdf)

Parenting support

Giving your child a strong start in the early years

Research tells us that quality education and care early in life leads to better health, education and job outcomes in adulthood. Children are learning and growing from the time they are born. The greatest influence on a child's future health, development and happiness is in the first 5 years of life.

We're working with families to take a 'learning together' approach about child development in the early years.

Parenting resources

Several early childhood parenting resources are available to help your child learn and grow right from the start.

Little Big Book Club (<http://www.thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/>) supports parents to read, sing and play with their children from birth, with access to book recommendations, reading packs and resources.

Dad's Read (<http://dadsread.org.au/>) offers advice for fathers to encourage reading together with their child.

Parenting SA (<https://www.education.sa.gov.au/parenting-and-child-care/parenting/parenting-sa>) has free parenting factsheets, videos and upcoming seminars on many parenting topics.

Positive Parenting program
(<http://www.triplep-parenting.net.au/au-uk/en/find-help/triple-p-parenting-in-south-australia/?itb=bc37e109d92bdc1ea71da6c919d54907>) has free seminars, workshops and one-on-one sessions for parents of children aged 3 to 12 years.

Learning with your child (GreatStart)
(<https://www.education.sa.gov.au/parenting-and-child-care/parenting/learning-your-child-greatstart>) gives parents everyday learning ideas and activities to help build their child's maths and language skills.

Raising Children Network (<http://raisingchildren.net.au/>) provides up-to-date, evidence-based, scientifically validated information about raising children and caring for yourself as a parent or carer.



EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

In the event of an emergency it may be necessary to evacuate the building.

Signals for Evacuation: short blasts on whistle (LOCATED just inside main doors and shed doors)

Muster Assembly point: All children, visitors and staff must assemble by back fence, area marked with smiley face poster.

Roles of staff.

INSIDE TEACHER

- Collect mobile phone and emergency back pack (put this on) LOCATED office. SHUT DOOR.
- Collects children's medications (where necessary) Located in kitchen cupboard
- Collects sign in sheets and pen LOCATED verandah table
- Checks shed shuts doors and gate
- Checks mud kitchen area before joining others at muster point.

E.C.W. – (or if only 2 staff, teacher does this)

- Collect first aid kit, staff bags, (LOCATED bathroom cupboards)
- Checks all rooms are clear, shutting doors as you proceed. Exits building (shuts doors)
- Once assembled at muster point, telephone appropriate emergency service if applicable.

Emergency Number: land line: **000** mobile: **112**

Police Assistance: **131 444** Police attendance

DECD EMERGENCY HOTLINE 1800 000 279 - Staff must contact this number once you have enacted your emergency procedure and informed SAPOL.

OUTSIDE TEACHER -

- Stands at muster point to act as focus for children.
- Directs other adults to assist where necessary

OTHER STAFF/ADULTS - Move to muster point. Assist where needed as instructed.

When all are assembled a roll will be called. If deemed necessary, (Director will be guided by first responders) we will evacuate to oval.

Children will only be dismissed to parents or nominated contact as per Kindergarten procedure.

DATE OF LAST DRILL:

Approved _____ Signed _____ Dated _____



Philosophy Statement

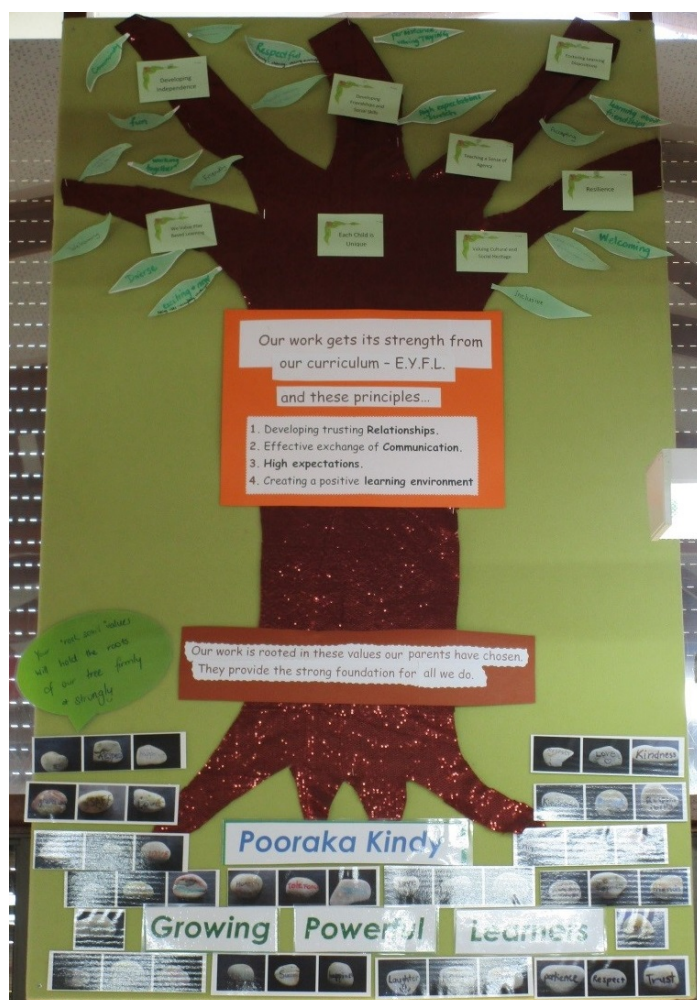
Our vision is “Growing Powerful Learners.”

Firmly rooted in the “rock solid values” parents have shared with us, our service philosophy grows like the trees that surround us.

Its strong trunk is formed by the 4 core principles found in EYLF:

- 1/ Developing trusting relationships.***
- 2/ Effective exchange of communication.***
- 3/ High expectations.***
- 4/ A positive learning environment.***

The canopy (the leaves) grows and spreads out to encompass the important values and aspirations staff and parents have for children.



Curriculum

The curriculum for all care and education services for children 0-5 in South Australia is called the **Early Years Learning Framework**.

It is a framework because it provides the strong elements around which we can create meaningful learning opportunities. There are many local factors which influence what happens here.

The framework identifies 5 learning areas. They are:

1. Children have a strong sense of identity.
2. Children are connected with and contribute to their world.
3. Children have a strong sense of wellbeing.
4. Children are confident and involved learners.
5. Children are effective communicators.

The principles underlying these learning areas are:

- Learning is maximized when staff and families work together
- Play is learning
- Relationships are key
- High expectations for all children
- Respect for diversity
- Educators continually seek to learn

At the time of enrolment, parents are asked to identify any concerns they have about their child's learning. This is the time to make shared plans/goals for children's learning. We also ask what parents are looking for from their child's participation at kindergarten. This helps create shared understandings for children's progress.

We collect learning data from children throughout their time at kindergarten but in particular at the start and end of their time in order to create a measure of the distance travelled. This data is kept in children's folders and can be viewed at any time. Children and staff work together to put samples of work in these folders, they are works in progress and include photographs, artefacts and sticky notes. We ask that these folders stay at kindergarten until children transition to school.

Learning at kindergarten is sometimes difficult to see but if you remember that each day builds experiences and relationships, the result in knowledge and skills at the end of the 12 months is surprising. Keep your eyes open for information around the room, in newsletters and in your child's folder for details of learning. Talk to a staff member about your child's learning, ask questions, request an interview, seek advice or share your knowledge about your child. Teamwork- teachers and parents together!

Enrolment and Preschool Priority of Access Guidelines

Pooraka Community Kindergarten

PRINCIPLES

Enrolments will be determined in accordance with the Preschool Enrolment Policy of the Department for Education and Child Development (DECD).

Families are entitled to enrol in any DECD preschool service across South Australia; however where the demand for preschool places exceeds the capacity (number of places available) at that site, then the priority of access guidelines will apply to guide equity in allocating preschool places.

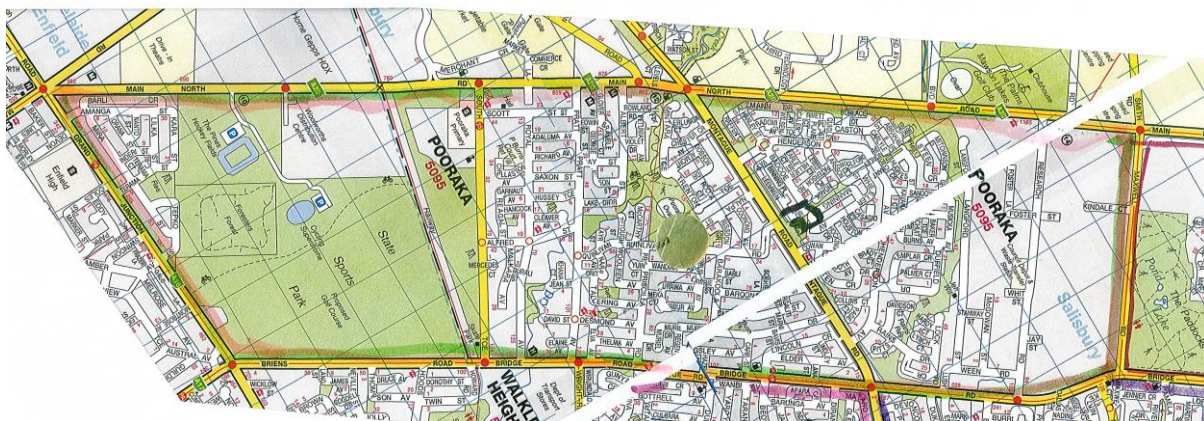
PROCEDURE DETAILS

- Parents / guardians are asked to register intent to enrol at the preschool. This can be done in person, via phone or email.
- All registration of intent to enrol will be acknowledged within one week of receipt.
- The preschool will only take enrolments for the two following years. *Parents will be asked to resubmit interest at a later date, if child is not eligible to start within this time.*
- All applications for enrolment will be assessed by the site leader, using the criteria listed below.
- In August the first round offers will be sent. Families will be notified by email (or letter where appropriate) of acceptance onto the centre and invited to collect forms and complete the enrolment procedure. Those who don't respond will go to the bottom of the waiting list.
- If more places are available a second round of offers will be initiated in October.
- Children are invited to attend two introductory sessions in term 4 to meet staff and familiarise themselves with the centre.
- Where a place cannot be offered parents / guardians will be provided with the names of alternate local preschools or referred to Regional Early Childhood Consultants who are aware of local vacancies.

Enrolments will be assessed using the following criteria:-

Priority 1:

- Children living in the immediate local area, known as the priority catchment area. Including children attending family day care or "grandparent care" situated in the local area. See attached map.



1b If there are insufficient places then the following criteria will be applied ..

- A child at risk of serious abuse or neglect
- Identifies as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander
- Child Under the Guardianship of the Minister
- A child or parent with a disability
- Children in socially isolated families
- Families without access to transport
- Children in families with culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds

Families whose application does not meet these criteria will go onto a waiting list and will be offered a place in the second round of offers in term 4.

If the site still has vacancies this criteria will be applied.

- Children who are enrolled to attend a co-located school
- Children who have older siblings currently attending the co-located school
- Siblings have previously attended the preschool
- Enrolments will be accepted by date of registration of interest.
- The director will use her discretion to prioritise

Authorised by Governing council 1/6/2016

Food At Kindergarten

In recognition of the kindergarten environment as a major part of the social environment that shapes eating behaviour and attitudes to food, this food policy is a guide to decisions in curriculum and practice around food. This policy has used the following DECD guidelines.

[Right Bite Policy - Right Bite Easy Guide to - Healthy Food & Drink Supply for South Australian Schools & Preschools](#)

[Eat Well SA - Schools and Preschools: Healthy Eating Guidelines](#)

Pooraka Community Kindergarten aims to promote learning, health and wellbeing in relation to food and nutrition by

- Requesting suitably healthy snacks and lunches are provided by families.
Healthy snacks are ones that are low in
 - fat
 - salt
 - sugar
Healthy snacks are
 - high in fibre
 - have good nutritional value
- We have a routine of eating at scheduled break time. However, flexible opportunities exist for children to eat and drink.
- Children are taught and reminded to wash their hands before eating.
- We DO NOT supply food however when providing emergency snacks such as fresh fruit or cracker biscuits, parents are consulted beforehand.
- **We are unable to heat foods because we cannot meet the national standards for food safety with our limited facilities.**
- Actively promoting the Australian Guide to Healthy Eating chart; foods are displayed in everyday and sometimes groups.
- Children are given opportunities to learn about the principles of healthy eating through food preparation and tasting as part of our learning/curriculum.
- Providing a pleasant social environment in which to eat snacks and lunch.
- Providing fresh filtered drinking water.
- Nut and peanut products are prohibited.
- Special events such as cultural celebrations are opportunities to enjoy sometimes foods.
- Parents are asked not to bring food to celebrate children's birthdays. This removes the possibility of supplying unhealthy food or causing life threatening allergic reactions.
- We respect the cultural diversity of our centre and include specific dietary requirements when needed. (e.g. Halal meat, vegetarian). We encourage food choices which are representative of the food of the preschool community.

Reviewed March 2018



HEALTHY FOOD SUPPLY AND NUTRITION POLICY

Rationale

Pooraka Community Kindergarten promotes safe, healthy eating habits in line with the **Right Bite Healthy Food and Drink Supply Strategy for South Australian Schools and Preschools**.

See <http://www.decd.sa.gov.au/eatwellsa/>

We believe that early childhood is an important time for establishing lifelong, healthy eating habits and can benefit the children in three ways:

1. Short term: maximises growth, development, activity levels and good health.
2. Long term: minimises the risk of diet related diseases later in life.
3. Good nutrition contributes to good health and wellbeing and this is vital for positive engagement in learning activities.

Therefore:

- staff at this Kindergarten encourage healthy eating behaviours.
- food and drink are consumed in a safe environment for all children.
- parents and caregivers are encouraged to supply healthy foods.

Curriculum

Our Kindergarten's food and nutrition curriculum:

includes activities that encourage children to make positive healthy food choices.

The Learning Environment

Children at Pooraka Community Kindergarten:

- have fresh, clean tap water available at all times and are encouraged to drink water regularly through the day
- eat a mid morning snack of fresh fruit or vegetable [supplied by parents]
- are fully supervised at lunch time by 2 staff members. Each child sits at a table and are encouraged to independently manage their own lunch box and seek assistance if needed
- use the preschool garden to learn about and experience growing, harvesting and preparing nutritious foods

Our Kindergarten:

- provides rewards/encouragements that are not related to food or drink
- understands and promotes the importance of breakfast and regular meals for children
- teaches the importance of healthy meals and snacks as part of the curriculum
- is a breastfeeding friendly site

Food supply:

Pooraka Community Kindergarten:

- encourages healthy **food and drink choices** for children in line with the **Right Bite** strategy
- encourages food choices which are representative of the foods of the preschool community
- ensures healthy food choices are promoted and are culturally sensitive and inclusive

Healthy Food Supply and Nutrition Policy Continued

- ensures a healthy food supply for preschool **activities and events** in line with the *Right Bite* strategy
- has the following guidelines for families for **food brought from home** or provided by staff within preschool time.

Fruit Time:

Parents and carers are encouraged to supply fruit and vegetables at fruit time to:

- provide children with important minerals and vitamins
- encourage a taste for healthy foods.

Food and drinks provided to children:

- parents and carers are encouraged to provide healthy food and drink choices in line with the *Right Bite* strategy
- staff will ensure that food provided to children by the preschool is in line with the *Right Bite* strategy.

Food safety

Pooraka Community Kindergarten:

- promotes and teaches food safety to children as part of the curriculum
- provides adequate hand washing facilities for everyone
- promotes and encourages correct hand washing procedures with children and staff.

Food-related health support planning

Pooraka Community Kindergarten:

- liaises with families to ensure a suitable food supply for children with health support plans that are related to food issues.

Working with families, health services & industry:

Pooraka Community Kindergarten:

- invites parents and caregivers to be involved in the review of our whole of site food and nutrition policy
- provides information to families and caregivers about the *Right Bite Strategy* through a variety of ways including:
 - newsletters
 - policy development/review
 - information on enrolment
 - pamphlet/poster displays
- promotes the alignment of fundraising with the Right Bite strategy.

NOTE: if your preschool has a child with a serious **Food Allergy** (eg. Nuts), a separate policy for the duration of that child's involvement with the preschool should be developed and communicated to parents and staff.

The staff at Pooraka Community Kindergarten, thank you in advance for your support of this policy.



HEALTH SUPPORT

Staff are committed to safety and wellbeing of all children in our centre and will provide timely first aid in the event of illness or injury.

FIRST AID

- All staff are trained to administer basic first aid.
- If a child becomes ill or injured, this **MUST** be reported to the director.
- The first aid equipment is located in the kitchen.
- The child's individual's medication is kept sealed in a box with their name on it.
- In the event of an injury or illness the child should be treated by the nearest available adult using the basic first aid kit or following the child's individual health plan.
- The incident will be recorded as per the injury or illness home report slip and also recorded for site records. The treating staff member and parent will both sign. Parent will be given a copy of report.
- According to the seriousness of the illness or injury, an ambulance may be called by the director, the parent contacted and the child monitored until collected.
- If a parent is not contactable, then an adult from the child's emergency list will be called.

ALL HEAD INJURIES MUST BE REPORTED TO PARENT/CARER BY PHONE AND A WRITTEN NOTE.

Excursions

- Prior to excursions staff must undertake risk assessment to identify and inform first aid and emergency procedures.
- The following need to be taken on excursion:
 1. First aid kits [including asthma kits]
 2. Learners health support plans and personal medication
 3. Mobile phone

ROUTINE HEALTH AND PERSONAL CARE SUPPORT

Health Care Plans

Some students may require assistance with routine or emergency health needs. These children must have a health care plan. Copies are available from the director. Health conditions include Epilepsy, Asthma, and Anaphylaxis.

Personal Care Plan

Some children also require support with daily living skills, including:

- Eating and drinking
- Continence care

Health Support Policy Continued

It is the responsibility of parents to ensure that the information on all care plans is completed and appropriately updated by a health care professional.

Staff will work with parents to develop a plan that will outline procedures to be followed on site in order to meet individual goals, eg toilet timing.

Individual Health Care Plans and Personal Care Plans are located on kitchen shelves. .

MEDICATION

- As much as possible, we encourage students to take medication outside of kindergarten hours. For example, if medication needs to be taken 3 times a day; can be taken in the morning [before kindergarten], afternoon, [straight after kindergarten] and at bedtime.
- Under DECS guidelines the school is not authorised to stock medication [e.g. paracetamol] on premises for general use.
- If the child needs to have regular medication, a form, available from the director, must be signed by the health care professional.
- Medication brought to kindergarten must be in the original pharmacist container, with written directions on the label
- The child's name **must** be on the label.
- Medication must be brought to a staff member to be stored in the first aid cupboard.
- Medication will be stored in sealed clear plastic containers reserved for individual children in a child safe cupboard.
- The staff member giving the medication will record the time and the sign medication log form. This will also be signed by the parent.
- Only one day's worth of medication will be stored at a time.

INFECTION AND INFESTATION MANAGEMENT

Staff undertake standard worksite precautions including.

- Covering personal cuts and abrasions with a waterproof bandage and ensuring the same has been done for the children.
- Using barriers for protection such as wearing gloves during provision of continence care.
- Nappies will be double bagged before disposal.
- Heavily soiled clothes will be double bagged then placed in a sealed bucket reserved for this purpose. A note will be placed in child's pocket informing parents of incident and asking them to contact staff.

Additional precautions include:

- Seeking advice from health authorities regarding infection/ immunisation protocols.
- Authority to be obtained from parents /carers in managing an infestation eg. Inspection of head lice.



HOT WEATHER POLICY

On days of extreme heat the preschool will remain open.

However, if you are aware that your child becomes distressed in the heat you may:

- Keep your child at home
- Collect him/her early from preschool. This can be negotiated with staff on the day.

On days the weather bureau indicates they expect a temperature of 38 degrees C or over, we will post a sign reminding parents of this option.

In the playground we will:

- Locate outdoor activities in shaded areas where possible
- Encourage the children to play in the shade
- Have available a container of broad spectrum sunscreen for parents to apply to their children if needed
- Staff will protect their own skin and be role models for the children
- Incorporate sun and skin awareness activities into our teaching programs
- Encourage quiet play
- Encourage children to drink water frequently.
- Have cool water available for children and staff.

As parents we encourage you to:

- Provide a hat for your child to wear to preschool, which shades the face, back of the neck and ears ie legionnaire, broad rimmed. Remember "No hat, No play". Please see Sun Protection Policy.
- Apply broad spectrum sunscreen to your child before leaving home
- Protect your own skin and be a role model for your child
- Encourage your child to avoid direct exposure to the sun during the hours of intense ultraviolet radiation (10am – 2pm or 11am-3pm during daylight saving time).
- Dress your child in clothing that protects their skin from the sun



SICK CHILDREN / INFECTIOUS DISEASES POLICY

The health and well being of children in the centre is of the highest priority.

Sick children should not come to kindergarten. Instead, they need time and care to recover within a family environment. While we understand how difficult this can be for working parents, it is very important that sickness is not passed on to other children and staff members.

The purpose of this statement is to provide guidance as to when your child is likely to be infectious to others and therefore needs to be excluded from kindergarten.

This is likely to be when your child has:

- A temperature of 38C or higher
- Been vomiting in the last 24 hours
- Diarrhea
- A productive cough
- Conjunctivitis
- Coloured nasal mucous
- An undiagnosed rash
- Head Lice [until treated]
- Cold sores

The kindergarten has a list of infectious diseases and the DECD exclusion policy available for parents if you wish to find out more.

In the event of your child becoming ill at kindergarten, we will telephone you to collect your child.

In Jan 2017 the “**Protecting children from vaccine preventable diseases procedure**,” came into force. It tasks sites to view and record children’s immunisation records and parents are asked to bring a copy of their child’s record at enrollment. This is a request only, if evidence is not provided, then the child will be recorded as not immunised. Homeopathic immunisation is not recognised as a valid vaccination option. Children receiving homeopathic immunisation will be recorded as non-immunised

If there is an occurrence of an infectious vaccine preventable disease (VPD) covered by the Childhood Immunisation Program at a service, then **a child who is recorded as non-immunised is to be excluded in accordance with the SA Health exclusion period guidelines.**



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

NUT POLICY

Pooraka Community Kindergarten is a Nut Aware Preschool

Due to the severe, sometimes fatal reaction that some children have to nuts, the centre has a policy of:

NO NUTS OR NUT PRODUCTS

This means that children must not bring nutella, muesli bars, peanut butter and any other products with traces of nuts into the preschool.

Please check food packaging for “nut traces”.

Please refer to the preschool handbook for information regarding our strict snack policy.

Staff will replace items that have nuts or traces of nuts listed as ingredients in child's lunchbox with accompanying note indicating why they have been excluded.

On behalf of families who have children with severe allergic reactions to nuts, we ask for your co-operation in this matter.

Date Approved: _____ Signed _____
Policy reviewed 2/2/2018



SUN PROTECTION POLICY

Policy Statement:

Children living in Australia are at risk of developing skin cancer, as we have the highest incidence of skin cancer in the world. As the preschool is air conditioned, we are opened in extreme weather conditions.

Context:

The outdoor area at Pooraka Community Kindergarten offers both natural shade and shade cloth over most play areas.

At Pooraka Community Kindergarten staff aim to:

Assist children to be aware of the need for skin protection through group learning activities

Help them to learn ways of protecting their skin

Take action to protect children from sun damage while at kindergarten.

Work with parents to protect children from skin cancer.

Be role models for children by using sun protection.

In terms 1, 3 and 4

Children and staff are required to bring and wear a hat for outside play. The centre requires children to use a wide brimmed or "bucket" hat that shades the face, ears and back of the neck, and not a cap that only shades the face.

As per DECD Alert (Feb2017) hats with cords, drawstrings and toggles have been deemed unsafe and so prohibited for use at Kindergarten. Parents will be advised to remove straps or cords.

Outdoor activities will be set out in shady areas where ever possible

During terms1, 3 and 4 children and staff are required to wear a hat.

. After fruit time we will access the cancer council app and check the UV rating . If it is 3 or over children will not be permitted to play outside without an appropriate hat. Staff will remind and assist children to get their hats and keep them on. If they do not have a hat, children will play under the veranda, or inside.

A reminder note will be sent to parents if the child does not bring a hat or their hat is not appropriate.

If parents send a hat at other times of the year, children will be encouraged to wear it.

Sunscreen

We encourage parents to apply sunscreen to their children prior to coming to pre-school.

Is applied in Terms 1 and Term 4

On enrolment, we will seek permission to apply sunscreen.

After morning snack and lunch, staff will apply sunscreen to each child. Preschool will supply sun screen.

If your child requires a special sunscreen, please supply it.

Notify staff if you have a reason why we should not apply sunscreen eg; an allergy. Staff need to document this information.

Clothing

Children and staff may wear protective eye wear if they wish.

Parents are encouraged to dress children in loose fitting and comfortable clothing during summer, but are recommended avoiding strapless/ backless tops, dresses and singlets.

Revised 2/2/2018

Date approved: _____ Signed: _____

Transition from Home and to School

Starting Kindergarten is an exciting time but change can be scary too. Here are a few ideas to consider.

- ❖ Visiting the kindergarten before starting full time gives your child a mental image to use when discussing their approaching start date. Talk about 'my kindy' and what activities they may look forward to.
- ❖ You can choose to stay with your child at the start of their kindergarten year to support them. There is a lot to learn at first. Staff are experienced with helping new families and children.
- ❖ We are sensitive to the signals from children and can offer support. Sometimes we suggest parents make the separation quickly to minimize distress and take over the supporting adult role in place of parents. We suggest telephoning the centre after 15/30 minutes to check on your child, very often they are taking comfort from a teacher and settling to an activity.
- ❖ We know these anxious feelings are short lived but intensely felt, children usually respond to a warm caring adult.
- ❖ Start the day by saying "Let's do an activity together then I will go", always say goodbye and reassure them that you will return after doing the shopping (or going to work or something ordinary)
- ❖ Always bring your child into the playroom and sign the attendance sheet. **NEVER** leave your child in the yard.
- ❖ Arrive and Pick up on time. Be reliable for your child, it gives reassurance.
- ❖ Make a routine for getting ready to help your child anticipate what has to be done, e.g. packing a snack into their bag.
- ❖ Attend regularly, it shows your child that kindergarten is important and valuable to you too.
- ❖ Talk to your child about their teachers and friends. Learn our names to use with your child, just like family members. Some cultures prefer their children to call us 'Teacher' or 'Miss', that's ok. Just remember that Teachers are human beings too!

Starting School is an exciting time but change can be scary too. This is what happens usually...

- ❖ Children are invited to attend school visits prior to starting. These visits are often just two or three mornings in the last few weeks of term. They may meet their teacher or just be in a classroom environment.
- ❖ Staff from kindergarten can accompany children on these visits to offer reassurance if necessary. This can be negotiated between parent, teacher and school.
- ❖ Visit the school after hours. Walk around and see if you can identify any areas of interest, e.g. the canteen, the sports shed and the toilets. Keep it simple.
- ❖ Don't talk too much about unknowns. You don't have to teach your child the entire evacuation procedure; it will only increase their anxiety.
- ❖ Borrow the hand-made starting school book. It has photos of our local school. Use it as a starting point for talking about what to expect when starting school.
- ❖ Ask for help from staff if you are very anxious. They want to help.