

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!