



## PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

**Centre number:** 6659

**Centre name:** Port Pirie Community Kindergarten

### 1. General information

Preschool Director Emma Thompson-Wilton

*Postal address*

5 Halliday St, Port Pirie SA 5540

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Department for Education District: Pirie Partnership

*Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km)*

Approx. 230km from Adelaide on coast of upper Spencer Gulf, near Southern Flinders Ranges and mid-north area.

*Enrolment/Attendance*

50

Co-located/stand-alone

Stand Alone

## **Programs operating**

### *Pre Entry*

- 3 sessions in Term 4 prior to eligible attendance at preschool.
- Longer Transition Days offered during this term in line with local schools.

### *Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children*

Children attend 5 full days of a fortnight from either:

- Monday Tuesday Wednesday – Full days 8:45 am – 2.45pm one week and
- Monday Tuesday Wednesday & Thursday alternate weeks – Full days 8.45am to 2.45pm

Preschool Support: Support is provided for children with additional needs through Inclusive Education Support Program.

## **2. Key Centre Policies**

### *Centre Priorities*

- Offering a play-based curriculum aligned with Belonging, Being and Becoming – the National Curriculum
- To increase children's wellbeing with a focus on social skills and healthy lifestyle
- To support development of language use as a basis for Literacy and Numeracy skills.
- To promote care of our environment through extending sustainable environmental practices.

## **3. Curriculum**

Our curriculum is based on the "Early Years Learning Framework for Australia". Fundamental to the Framework is a view of children's lives as characterised by 'Belonging, Being and Becoming'. We also plan using Preschool Numeracy & Literacy Indicators.

The Learning Outcomes for children from birth to 5 years within this Framework are:

- Children have a strong sense of identity
- Children are connected with and contribute to their world
- Children have a strong sense of well being
- Children are confident and involved learners
- Children are effective communicators

Child Protection Curriculum is embedded in our approaches throughout the year.

## **4. Centre Based Staff**

The site is operates .8 (4 days a week with Universal Preschool funding)

### *Warranted Staff Profile*

- 1 director (0.5)
- 1 teacher permanent (0.8)
- 2 x ECW (1 x.8 & 1 .6)
- Adjusted for Universal Preschool

### *Performance Management Program*

- Negotiated with staff and director by end of first term & reviewed on a regular basis, with written feedback annually.
- Setting personal teaching goals and those related to Quality Improvement Plan (with commitment to training and development)
- All teachers are involved in Pirie Partnership Collaborative Impact Project/Visible Learning with innovative practices being implemented.

### *Access to special support staff*

- Early screening of children allows site to access support if required.

### *Other*

#### **History**

- Opened in 1962.
- The Broken Hill Associated Smelter donated the land (Parkland originally). Celebrated 50 years in 2012.

## **Centre Facilities**

### *Buildings and grounds*

- One main building with office, staff room, store room, kitchen, children's toilet/change area, staff toilet and main classroom.
- Large outdoor area with shed, large shaded 'playsafe' area, large trees, veggie garden, water feature, amphitheatre area.

### *Building Capacity*

- 43 children

### *Centre Ownership*

- DECD site erected on donated land.

### *Access for children and staff with disabilities*

- Wheel chair access in main entrance; on flat site.

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

### *General characteristics*

- Port Pirie Community Kindergarten is located in the city of Port Pirie which is a regional centre with a range of employment opportunities from service provision to the smelters. There is a great diversity in cultural backgrounds, socio economic backgrounds and family structures. Parent and community involvement in the preschool is very supportive.
- The centre's Governing Council meets twice a term to discuss issues such as centre priorities, fundraising, maintenance and finance.
- The centre promotes parent and community involvement in the following ways:

Community visitors to the kindy

Promoting and participating in community events

Liaising with associated family and early childhood services

Organising family events eg. Family Nights

Playgroup.

Communicating with Facebook page

### *Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool*

- Our main feeder schools are Risdon Park Primary School . We also have some children attend each of the other local schools: Airdale Primary School, Pirie West Primary School, Solomontown Primary School, St Marks College(Catholic R-12) and the Mid North Christian College.

### *Other local care and educational facilities, eg child care, schools, OSHC*

- Port Pirie Learning together at home.
- Port Pirie Family Day Care.
- Childcare Centres: Port Pirie West Children's Centre; Kingston Road Early Learning Centre
- Pirie Partnership Preschools: Port Pirie West Kindergarten, Risdon Park South Kindergarten, Solomontown Kindergarten and Napperby CPC
- Pirie Partnership Schools: Airdale Primary School (OSHC Program), Port Pirie West Primary School, Risdon Park Primary School, Solomontown Primary School, Mid North Education Centre, John Pirie Secondary School and Napperby Primary School.

### *Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities*

- Port Pirie has a wide range of shopping facilities including speciality stores, clothing, hardware, furniture, electrical, bakeries, chemists, garden nurseries, supermarkets (Coles, Woolworths) and variety stores (Prests, K-mart, Target, Cheap as Chips).
- The Central Business District is situated on and around Ellen Street (main shopping area). Port Pirie Plaza (Kmart, speciality stores, Coles) is situated away from CBD on Grey Terrace.

### *Other local facilities, eg medical, sporting, social, cultural, recreational*

- Hospital, 3 medical clinics, police station, council, public library, church services, outdoor/indoor pool, gymnasium, local shopping centres, parks, playgrounds and tourism attractions (Northern Festival Centre, Port Pirie Museum, Port Pirie Art & Tourism Centre, Southern Flinders Ranges).
- Port Pirie has a wide range of sporting clubs and facilities.

### *Availability of staff housing*

- Yes.

### *Accessibility to Adelaide*

- Premier Stateliner provides passenger and parcel delivery services daily to and from Adelaide.
- The highway to Adelaide is in good condition with the trip taking approximately 2 hours by car.

### *Air Service*

- Yes.

### *Local Government*

Port Pirie Regional Council Phone: 86321222 Fax: 86325801

E-mail: [council@ppcadc.sa.gov.au](mailto:council@ppcadc.sa.gov.au)

Website: [www.pirie.sa.gov.au](http://www.pirie.sa.gov.au)

Local area publications are also available at no cost from the Port Pirie Art and Tourism Centre.

## **7. Further Comments**

- CaYHS health screenings are organised for children.
- We accept students from:  
Uni SA, Pirie TAFE, local high schools, volunteers with th Working with children check.



## Statement of Philosophy

**AT PORT PIRIE COMMUNITY KINDERGARTEN WE PROVIDE A WELCOMING AND INCLUSIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT WHERE EDUCATORS, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITY VALUE AND RECOGNISE CHILDREN AS CAPABLE, COMPETENT AND ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS IN THEIR LEARNING.**

**Statement of Principles:** The following are the main principles and practices that best support our core belief and the developmental needs of our children.

- The importance of play is promoted as the foundation of child-centred programs and the structure of daily routines and activities. Long uninterrupted play periods are scheduled.
- The children's interests persuade the program content. We use the children's voice to plan and extend children's learning experiences.
- By offering an environment that is nurturing and supportive, children are encouraged to make positive choices and learn through repetition and without fear of failure. Indoor and outdoor environments will provide opportunities to provoke interest, invite open-ended interactions, connect with nature and challenge children.
- Children's independence, interdependence and self worth are highly valued and self help skills are encouraged in accordance with their ongoing personal development.
- Children are valued as individuals and our kindergarten environment reflects our appreciation of their diversity, family values and cultural backgrounds. We value respect and honesty by promoting an environment that is inclusive, accepting and free of culture and gender bias.
- We endeavour to empower children through their taking responsibility for their feelings, behaviour, environment, materials and personal belongings. Developing their dispositions for learning.
- We support parents/carers in their role as primary caregivers and share information about their child's development, needs, strengths and abilities.
- Educators strive to maintain a high quality programme and contribute openly towards continuing improvement (Quality Improvement Plan) and critical reflection practices.
- We appreciate the many levels of experience, backgrounds and skills that staff, parents/carers and children bring and endeavour to utilize these in a fashion that values all contributions.
- We maintain the privacy and delicate nature of information about children, parents/carers and staff members.