



PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: January 2023

Centre number: 6615

Centre name: PORT PIRIE WEST CHILDREN'S CENTRE FOR
EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT AND
PARENTING

1. General information

- Preschool Director: Brenda Murray
- Postal address: First Street, Port Pirie SA 5540
- Location address: First Street, Port Pirie SA 5540
- DfE Partnership: Pirie
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km): 227km north of Adelaide
- Telephone number: 8633 0077
- Preschool website address: <http://www.portpiriewestcc.sa.edu.au>
- Preschool e-mail address: DL.6615.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au
- Enrolment/Attendance

2017	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
Enrolments	50	53	56	54
Attendance	93.8%	87.7%	76.6%	82.6%
2018				
Enrolments	38	42	43	43
Attendance	90.2%	81%	80.5%	76.6%
2019				
Enrolments	32	33	36	40

Attendance	79.2%	86.1%	76.0%	70.7%
2020				
Enrolments	40	N/A	45	54
Attendance	87.4%	82%	85.1%	83.3%
2021				
Enrolments	32	40	39	46
Attendance	87.3%	82.5%	80.8%	81%
2022				
Enrolments	47	45	46	43
Attendance	77%	68%	72%	76%

- Co-located/stand-alone: Stand-alone
- Programs operating at the preschool:
 - ⊞ Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children
 - ⊞ Associated Programs: pre-entry, early entry, playgroups, parenting programs
 - ⊞ Preschool Support

2. Key Centre Policies

- Centre Priorities/Statement of Purpose
The Children's Centre shares a commitment to improving outcomes for all children and families in Port Pirie, especially those who are disadvantaged by poverty, disability, culture or opportunity. Together, we are building a community of learners who believe in themselves, each other and the future.

3. Curriculum

- Framework used: Early Years Learning Framework
- Core Values: respect, responsibility, confidence and persistence
- Specific curriculum approaches: play and inquiry based curriculum, numeracy, literacy and oral language development embedded throughout the curriculum

- Joint programmes/special curriculum projects

4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff Profile
Director 1.0 FTE
Teachers 4 X .5 FTE
2 x ECW 0.4
1 Preschool support worker 16 hours per week
1 Children's centre Administrator 18:45 minutes per week
1 Occupational Therapist .5 FTE per week
1 Community Development Coordinator 1.0 FTE
1 Family Practitioner 1.0 FTE
- Performance Management Program
Meet week 6 Terms 1 & 3. We use the DfE template and make strong connections between individual plans and the PQIP
- Access to special support staff
- Other

5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds:
The Port Pirie West Children's centre comprises the kindergarten and community parenting space. It also houses the community based Port Pirie Child Care service and CaFHS. Our centre is located next to Port Pirie West Primary School.
- Capacity: 44 per session
- Centre Ownership: Department for Education
- Access for children and staff with disabilities: yes
- Other

6. Local Community (intended for country preschools)

- General characteristics:
Port Pirie is home to the Nystar Lead Smelter and supporting businesses. Being located in the Spencer Gulf, fishing, farming & related industries also provide employment opportunities. Approximately 32% of the children enrolled in kindergarten at the Children's Centre are Aboriginal or Torrens Strait Islander.
- Parent and community involvement in the preschool:
Families are involved in the Children's Centre through the Governing Council, volunteering, attending events and communicating daily with educators
- Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool:
Port Pirie West Primary School
- Other local care and educational facilities:
Port Pirie has a total of 1 public High school, 4 public Primary Schools, 4 preschools, 2 child care services and 1 OSHC
- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
- Other local facilities:
Set against a dramatic backdrop of the southern Flinders Ranges on the shores of Spencer Gulf lies Port Pirie. This historic seaport town is home to beautiful heritage buildings, fascinating industrial history and a blossoming cultural precinct. Less than a three hour drive from Adelaide, Port Pirie is the third largest town north of Adelaide and is the perfect spot to spend a night when travelling to the Flinders Ranges, Outback and Eyre Peninsula. Explore local museums, head down to the jetty to cast a line and stock up at the huge array of shops.
- Availability of staff housing:
Government Employee Housing and homes to rent or purchase are in high demand but offer affordable options in Port Pirie
- Accessibility:
The National Highway runs between Adelaide & Port Pirie, making the trip a comfortable 3 hour drive. Buses run twice daily between Adelaide & Port Pirie
- Local Government:
The Port Pirie Regional Council area includes the city of Port Pirie, as well as the rural towns of Crystal Brook, Redhill, Koolunga, Wandearah, Mundoorra, Napperby and Warnertown. The total population of the council is 17,333 covering an area of 1,761 sq kms

7. Further Comments

- Partnership arrangements with other groups:
The 4 Pirie preschools work closely together to achieve the best learning outcomes for all children in Port Pirie