



# PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 08/2019

**Centre number:** 6559

**Centre name:** Renmark West Preschool

## 1. General information

- Preschool Director  
Meegan Townsend
- Postal address  
PMB 4 Renmark SA 5341
- Location address  
Tarcoola Street, Renmark West SA 5341
- DECD Partnership  
Renmark-Loxton
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km)  
Renmark West Preschool is located on Tarcoola Street, between Cucamunga Street and Ontario Streets. It is 6kms from the local GPO.
- Telephone number  
85951036
- Fax number  
85951849
- Preschool website address:  
[www.renmarkwpre.sa.edu.au](http://www.renmarkwpre.sa.edu.au)
- Preschool e-mail address  
[dl.6559\\_leaders@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.6559_leaders@schools.sa.edu.au)

- **Enrolment/Attendance**  
Renmark West Preschool has a maximum enrolment capacity of 15 children. The majority of the 15 children enrolled at any one time come from local families living in close vicinity to the preschool. Preschool attendance has averaged between 90% and 95% over the past five years.
- **Co-located/stand-alone**  
Renmark West Preschool operates as a stand-alone preschool. We are colocated with Renmark West Primary, sharing their school grounds. We have a separate yarded area and our own facilities. We do utilise some school facilities, including the playgrounds, oval, COLA and hall areas.
- **Programs operating at the preschool**
  - **Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children**  
Renmark West Preschool offers 15 hours of preschool per week to eligible children. Children who turn four between 1 May and 30 April of any given year start preschool as one intake in the January of the year they turn four. Preschool days are currently:  
Monday 8:45am – 3pm  
Tuesday 8:45am – 3pm  
Wednesday 8:45am – 11:15am
  - **Associated Programs**  
Playgroup operates every Friday of the school term and is supported by a preschool Early Childhood Worker. Playgroup runs from 9am – 10:30am and costs families \$3 per session or \$15 a term as a lump sum payment.  
  
Pre-entry is offered where capacity and timing of transition allows. Sessions are planned by the director and usually run for 2 hours over two weeks.
  - **Lunch/Full Day Program**  
As children attend preschool two days a week over the lunch time period they require lunch. Lunch times are supervised by preschool staff and parents are not required to pay an additional fee for this. All food at preschool is supplied families.
  - **Bilingual Support**  
Support for bilingual children is accessed as required.
  - **Preschool Support**

Preschool staff work closely with support agencies to ensure children's individual needs are met. Children with an identified need are supported through the preschool support program.

## **2. Key Centre Policies**

- Centre Priorities/Statement of Purpose
  - Critical reflections on children's learning and development to inform and drive the program planning and implementation.
  - Deeper engagement with numeracy- in particular children subitising and trusting the count
  - Relaxation and mindfulness
  - Nature play approach the learning
  - Providing families with a sense of belonging within our preschool

## **3. Curriculum**

- Framework used: Early Years Learning Framework
- Core Values  
Explore. Inspire. Grow.
- Specific curriculum approaches  
Strong emphasis on loose parts play and natural materials and play spaces.

## **4. Centre Based Staff**

- Staff Profile  
Director/Teacher 0.6  
ECW1 0.6  
Additional Teacher or Preschool Support staff as required
- Performance Management Program  
As per DfE processes and requirements.
- Access to special support staff  
DfE process for referral to Student Support Services, Bilingual Program and access to Health Professionals from Riverland Community Health, CAFHS and CAMHS.

## **5. Centre Facilities**

- Buildings and grounds  
The preschool is a single transportable building with an open space play area. A small kitchen, two children's toilets and an adult toilet are at one end of the building. An office space is located at the other end. There is limited storage inside the preschool. A small verandah area allows for all weather play. The preschool yard is fully fenced and is a very natural space with a large sandpit, mud kitchen, path and rocks. Two sheds outside are used for storage of preschool equipment.
- Capacity (per session)  
15 children
- Centre Ownership  
DfE owned building and land, operating under the auspices of departmental policies, procedures and guidelines.
- Access for children and staff with disabilities  
Preschool has ramp access.

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

- General characteristics:  
The Renmark community is diverse in aspects of socio-economical and cultural backgrounds. The preschool is located rurally and many families are from family-owned fruit properties.
- Parent and community involvement in the preschool  
The preschool seeks a high level of involvement from families. Parents are encouraged to be part of the preschool Governing Council while their child is enrolled at preschool. Staff and parents link through a private social media app called ClassDojo and this is used as a tool to keep in touch with families on a daily basis. Parents are welcomed into the preschool for special days and events and as part of the preschool curriculum on a regular basis.
- Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool  
Most children at Renmark West Preschool transition to Renmark West Primary with a small percentage each year transitioning to St Joseph's School Renmark.
- Other local care and educational facilities  
Strong links exist between Renmark West Preschool and Primary School. The Director works closely with the Director from Renmark Children's Centre and the teacher from Renmark North CPC.
- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities  
Renmark has a central plaza with Woolworths and Big W. A Foodland supermarket is located in the township. All major banks have branches located in Renmark. The town also has a public library, hotel, club and theatre.
- Other local facilities  
A local Medical Clinic operates 6 days per week and a hospital offers some services. A 24 hour emergency department is located at the hospital in Berri, a 15 minute drive from Renmark. Sporting clubs are strong in Renmark with football, hockey, tennis, netball and soccer to name a few.
- Availability of staff housing  
Government housing available. Rentals and for sale houses also available.
- Accessibility  
Daily bus between Adelaide and Renmark. The local bus company offer an intertown bus daily which operates from Renmark throughout Riverland

towns. There is a local Taxi service. Sturt Highway between Renmark and Adelaide is in good condition.

- Local Government  
Renmark Paringa Council – 08 8580 3000