



PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: January 2024

Centre number: 1563

Centre name: Campbelltown Preschool

1. General information

- Preschool Director
Patricia Silvestrino
- Postal address
163A Montacute Road, Newton 5074
- Location address
163A Montacute Road, Newton 5074
We are set back from the main road with carparking available.
- DECD Partnership
Campbell
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km)
9.5km from GPO
- Telephone number
8365 6732
- Preschool website address
www.preschools.sa.gov.au/campbelltown-preschool

- Preschool e-mail address
dl.1563.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au
- Enrolment/Attendance
Children attend our centre regularly and while there is some variation in attendance our enrolments are near capacity. To enquire about enrolments please contact the director for an appointment and parent information pack.
- Programs operating at the preschool

15 hours of preschool is available for children in the year before they start school. These hours are split across three days. Children attend weekly for 2 full days and every second Wednesday they have an additional 4 hours.

Bilingual Support

Is provided by the Department of Education for children based on their needs and parental request.

Preschool Support

Our Special Rights children can access additional support. We work with families for the best outcomes for individuals.

2. Key Centre Policies

- Centre Priorities/Statement of Purpose

Our philosophy is strongly influenced by the belief that play is the foundation of a child's learning journey. We are committed to providing a nurturing and vibrant environment where children can explore, create, and discover in an atmosphere that encourages curiosity and self-expression. Through intentional play-based experiences, we aim to inspire a love for learning that will serve as a foundation for a lifetime of intellectual and emotional growth.

Our dedicated team of teachers and educators understand the significance of their role as facilitators in the learning process. By carefully planning and creating a supportive environment, we empower children to make choices, solve problems and develop essential social and cognitive skills. We believe in fostering a sense

of autonomy, self-confidence and decision-making in each child, promoting both individual and group learning experiences.

Preschool Quality Improvement Plan (PQIP)

We develop an annual improvement plan to ensure that our centre meets national standards and that our staff are constantly learning and reflecting on the program, facilities, procedures and most importantly children's learning outcomes. There are opportunities for parent input, especially through Governing Council, and as we review and update policies and practices.

3. Curriculum

Our philosophy underpins our work. The required curriculum documents support us to create a learning environment and program which facilitate the best possible outcomes for each child.

'Early Years Learning Framework Belonging, Being and Becoming' outlines the preschool planning cycle that guides us to implement, reflect and evaluate, observe and record, analyse data and intentionally plan.

The 'Implementation guidelines for indicators of preschool numeracy and literacy' support our focus on the development of early literacy and numeracy skills, see more here: <https://www.education.sa.gov.au/sites/default/files/implementation-guidelines-indicators-preschool.pdf>

The 'Preschool curriculum resources': provide evidence-based curriculum guidance for educators of 3 to 5-year-old children in five domains which are:

- Social • Emotional • Language • Cognitive • Physical

The 'Child Protection Curriculum' is a respectful relationships and child safety curriculum for children and young people from age 3. See more here:

<https://edi.sa.edu.au/educating/curriculum-pedagogy-frameworks/child-protection-and-wellbeing/child-protection-curriculum>

The 'National Quality Framework' (NQF) includes national law and regulations, the National Quality Standard, assessment and quality rating processes and national learning frameworks.

- Core Values

Our values are based on inclusivity – this involves all children. We value family participation, traditions and diversity. We acknowledge there are multiple and diverse intelligences, and as such respect all differences. We embrace and celebrate the cultural differences our children and families bring to our preschool community.

We are engaged in Music Education professional development and understand that music helps children develop their oral language, improves well-being and enriches early literacy skills.

We draw on these documents to ensure we are current and responsive:

The 'Early Learning Strategy 2021 to 2031: All Children Thriving and Learning', which has a goal of 'high-quality educational preschool programs underpinned by excellence in teaching and learning'. See this link for further information:

<https://www.education.sa.gov.au/sites/default/files/early-learning-strategy-2021-to-2031-all-young-children-thriving-and-learning.pdf>

The 'Aboriginal Education Strategy' which holds this goal: 'Aboriginal children develop foundations for success in the early years' and supports us to make connections, recognise strengths and provide stretch. See this link for further information:

<https://www.education.sa.gov.au/sites/default/files/dept-ed-aboriginal-education-strategy-2019-2029.pdf>

4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff Profile

Full time Director, 1.6 Teachers, and 0.6 Early Childhood Workers. Additional staff negotiated according to children's needs.

- Performance Management

Staff are well supported in a collaborative environment. Regular Performance Development Plan (PDP) meetings are held to encourage ongoing learning and ensure staff can support our philosophy, values and practices. We are committed to working as a team to achieve the best outcomes for children.

5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds

The centre has a large indoor space, set out in areas that support different play and learning opportunities. We constantly redesign the space and each area, as the environment is an 'additional teacher', being the source of inspiration and creativity.

The large, attached veranda provides opportunities for children to play in the shade or away from inclement weather, and is often set up for art experiences.

Although aged, the buildings provide scope for wide-ranging learning options and use natural materials as much as possible.

The outdoor space is extensive and provides a range of fixed and flexible spaces for play, learning and fun.

- Capacity (per session)

The centre has a total capacity of 50 children. We operate in two sessions, with groups of 20 and 30 children, staffed according to the needs of each group.

- Access for children and staff with disabilities

Most areas are accessible to children and staff with disabilities. Further accommodations can be negotiated with the department if required.

6. Local Community

- Parent and community involvement in the preschool

We enthusiastically involve parents care providers in our centre's operations.

Parents and care providers are encouraged to settle their child in the learning environment before leaving at the beginning of each session. Please speak to us if you need additional support with this.

Families are actively encouraged to participate in their children's learning, especially during special interest weeks and events. We also encourage parents to join the governing council. Meetings are held twice a term and this is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about how we operate and to have a say.

Parents and Care providers wishing to volunteer their time can do so once they have all relevant documents and induction in place. Please see the Director on how to obtain these.

- Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool

East Torrens Primary School, East Marden Primary School, Thordan Park Primary School and local Catholic schools.

- Other local care and educational facilities

Campbelltown Community Children's Centre is next door. Children can attend to access outside of the Preschool hours care. For further information please contact them on 8336 2100.

Campbelltown Library is located on Anderson Court which is a short walking distance from the Preschool.

7. Further Comments

Although we share a building with the Campbelltown Community Children's Centre, the Preschool is a Department for Education site and is a separate entity.