



Neta Kranz Children's Centre

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Whyalla 5600

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PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 2023

Centre number: **6644**

Centre name: **Neta Kranz Children's Centre**

Welcome

Welcome to Neta Kranz Children's Centre. We are a Department for Education preschool site located in Whyalla, South Australia. We deliver a quality rich educational program through child lead learning e.g. Children's voice, interests and wonderings. We work alongside our preschool families and local community to connect learning between the home, community and preschool environments. Our preschool offers full day preschool sessions across 2 groups. We offer a Greek learning language program which is embedded into the preschools daily routine.

Contact Information

Preschool Director: Nicole Adams

Phone: 8645 7224

Address: 55 Wood Terrace, Whyalla, 5600

Region: Eyre and Western

Email: dl.6644.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au

1. General information

Preschool Director: Nicole Adams

Postal address:

55 Wood Terrace

Whyalla, 5600

DECD Partnership: Port Augusta 2/ Whyalla

Geographical location – approximately 400 KMs from Adelaide

Telephone number: 8645 7224

Preschool website address:

www.netakranzcc.sa.edu.au/

Preschool

e-mail

address:

dl.6644.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au

Enrolment/Attendance:

2023, we currently have 44 enrolments. However due to mid-year enrolments, our enrolments will increase to 66.

Co-located/stand-alone:

Stand-alone Preschool

Programs operating at the preschool:

Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children:

- Children aged four years and above are eligible to attend preschool for a maximum of 15 hours a week.
- Children who identify as being Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander or are under the Guardianship of the Minister are entitled to attend preschool for a fixed amount of hours each week, from the age of 3.
- Our preschool sessions are as follows:
 - **Yellow Group** (Monday and Wednesday)

- 8:30am-3pm
- **Blue Group** (Tuesday and Thursday)
 - 8:30am-3pm
- We offer catch-up sessions throughout each term to meet the entitlement of 15 hours of preschool each week.

Associated Programs: Playgroup

- We offer a free Playgroup session on Friday mornings, 9:30am-11am. This is an educator-led program.

IESP: Inclusive Education Support Program

- IESP is a functional needs based funding model for preschool children and school students with additional needs to have the opportunity to access support for meaningful participation within the preschool program.

This resourcing funds additional educators (preschool support worker) to support children to participate in the curriculum and have access to key specialists within the Department for Education e.g. Speech Pathologist, Special Educator and Behaviour Support Coach

Bilingual Support:

- This program offers support for children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and who speak English as their second language.
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2. Key Centre Policies

Key policies for our preschool, can be located under the 'Things to know' section on our website.

3. Curriculum

At Neta Kranz Children's Centre, we use the Early Years Learning Framework, Department for Education Literacy and Numeracy Indicators, Respect, Reflect and Relate, as well as guidance from the National Quality Framework to guide our practice.

We provide a play-based learning environment that all children can access, engage in, develop and build skills for success.

The Belonging, Being and Becoming: The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia is a framework that we follow at Neta Kranz Children's Centre.

Belonging: to know where you belong and whom with, to live a fulfilling life. A sense of belonging is supported by the relationships developed within their family, community, culture and place.

Being: The here and now, to seek and create meaning within their world.

Becoming: the learning and growth that occurs in the early years that is shaped by different events and circumstances.

We recognise the importance of each child's early experiences and the knowledge they have acquired prior to attending Kindergarten. As educators, we plan to provide experiences that support, enhance and extend children's learning. Children construct understandings through discovery and exploration; therefore, we provide a play based curriculum based on children's interests and voice. We utilise the Early Years Learning Framework to guide our programming. Each child is treated with respect and valued as a unique individual. We acknowledge and respect the bond that Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have with this land.

Our Philosophy:

We recognise the importance of each child's early experiences and the knowledge they have acquired prior to attending Kindergarten. As educators, we plan to provide experiences that support, enhance and extend children's learning. Children construct understandings through discovery and exploration; therefore, we provide a play based curriculum based on children's interests and voice. We utilise the Early Years Learning Framework to guide our programming. Each child is treated with respect and valued as a unique individual. We acknowledge and respect the bond that Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have with this land.

Relationships are fundamental in developing a sense of belonging and lifelong learning. Trusting, supportive and caring relationships are developed and fostered between educators, families and children through collaborative partnerships

The child in the context of their family is valued and building connections between home, the centre and the community is promoted.

Continuous improvement, best practice and quality outcomes underpin our practices. Current research and understandings are considered and applied through a process of ongoing critical reflection.

Greek Language Learning at Kindy:

We offer a Greek language learning program at Neta Kranz Children's Centre that is embedded into our practice and daily routine. Children learn the Greek language through various learning experiences, song and games

Parent Information

We value parents as children's first and foremost educators and embrace collaborative partnerships with parents to develop appropriate programs that are relevant to the learning needs of all children. We encourage parent participation within our preschool through our Governing Council and in volunteering opportunities.

Our educators provide a welcoming, warm, nurturing and safe environment for children through offering various play-based experiences within each environment to support children's learning. We provide learning experiences with a literacy, numeracy, wellbeing, socio-emotional and self-regulating lens. We value child led learning and being co-researchers with children. Children's voice, interests, needs and wonderings guide our programming and planning cycle.

Our program, assessment and reporting processes reflect the outcomes found within the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) - Belonging, Being and Becoming. These outcomes 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

4. Centre Based Staff

Staff Profile:

Our staff profile consists of the following:

- Preschool Director (1.0)
- Teacher (1.0)
- Teacher (0.4)
- Preschool support/ Early Childhood Worker (ECW)

Performance Management Program:

Performance conversations are held twice a year between educators and the Preschool Director. Goals are identified and feedback is given in verbal and written forms.

Our educator team, meets weekly to discuss and reflect on our learning program, learning environments, children's individual goals and any upcoming special events.

5. Centre Facilities

Buildings and grounds

The Centre is a purpose built brick building, initially built by the kindergarten union of SA and opened in June 1979. There are extensive low glass windows along the front and side section of the building which assists with bringing the feeling of the outdoors to the inside.

Capacity (per session):

We have a capacity of 22 enrolments per session with our total enrolment cap for 2023 being 44. From term 3, 2023, our enrolment cap increased to 66.

Centre Ownership:

Department for Education

Access for children and staff with disabilities:

The building is on one level.

6. Local Community (intended for country preschools)

General characteristics:

Our Centre is located at the eastern end of Whyalla. The Centre is in a settled area, with predominately privately owned homes. We have a reasonable percentage of parents employed by steel making or mining, which is the major industry of the town.

We also have a number of teachers and persons employed at the Whyalla Hospital, which is also located on Wood Terrace.

Our Traditional Custodians:

We acknowledge the Barngarla people as traditional custodians of our land and give thanks for its use. The Barngarla people's rich cultural heritage and spiritual beliefs are connected with this land, maintaining a positive relationship with the living members of their community today.

Parent and community involvement in the preschool:

We value and encourage parent and community involvement at Neta Kranz Children's Centre. The Governing Council is comprised of mostly parents who support the quality improvement planning process of all educators and the preschool, as well as support fundraising opportunities. We value connections from within our local community which impacts on our preschool program by having various visitors visit our site. We have received visits from emergency services personnel and a variety of interest based experiences such as Animals Anonymous and Bugs and Slugs. We value community

connections, with a focus on planning excursions and incursions to support and enhance children's learning.

Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool:

The majority of our children attend one of three nearby schools. One of which is Catholic Education, Samaritan College, the other two are public state schools; Whyalla Town Primary and Memorial Oval Primary

Other local care and educational facilities:

Child Care Centres located in Whyalla:

- Whyalla child care centre
- TAFE child care centre
- Family Day Care
- Sunrise Early Learning Centre
- Goodstart Early Learning Centre and
- Wynbring Jida child care centre

Department for Education Preschools located in Whyalla:

- McRitchie Crescent Childhood Services Centre
- Norrie Stuart Childhood Services Centre
- Gabmididi Manoo Children and Family Centre
- Win Newby Kindergarten
- Whyalla Stuart Childhood Services Centre

Local Government:

- Whyalla City Council
8640 3444