

# Governing Council



The kindergarten is primarily funded by the South Australian Government through The Department for Education and Child Development. The centre manages a budget which is determined by the number of eligible enrolments and the site's context.

This funding covers staff costs (within the allocated annual financial resource entitlement), breakdown maintenance and some of our operating costs. The funding does not cover all of our operating expenses. Curriculum materials and equipment, cleaning costs and garden maintenance are outside this funding. Sites endeavour to plan and develop their services. They continually seek to improve their grounds, update curriculum materials and replace and/or maintain equipment. This is done with the help of parental financial contributions (kindy fees) and through fundraising activities.

The parents elect a Governing Council at the Annual General Meeting at the beginning of each year. This group represent the community. New members are welcome and able to join throughout the year.

The Governing Council meets twice a term. Being involved in governance in a good way to find out what is happening at the centre, help make decisions and plan for improvements. Governing Council supports the budgeting process for the year, reviews policies, plans possible functions and is involved in curriculum matters. Many members find it is a great opportunity to meet other parents and make new friends.

The Governing Council in partnership with staff have many key responsibilities. These can include governance in relation to:

- ✚ Accountability and transparency of the running of the service. Each year this will involve information about the centre's Quality Improvement Plan, any relevant National Quality Standard accreditation matters and financial management.
- ✚ The discussion and review of financial management for the site in relation to DECD policy and any improvement priorities determined at the local level
- ✚ Being informed of any directives and mandated policies as they become available
- ✚ Determining local community contexts and priorities as well as liaison and engagement with the wider community (inclusive of local and state government)
- ✚ Reviewing site specific policies
- ✚ Be involved in Workplace, Health and Safety matters that relate to the service
- ✚ Joining in fundraising events and opportunities
- ✚ Supporting fundraisers and social functions
- ✚ Attending working bees for the kindergarten

***Please consider joining Governing Council for our Kindergarten***