



PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 23.04.2023

Centre number: 6666

Centre name: Solomontown Kindergarten

1. General information

- Preschool Director: Monique Button
- Postal address: 1 Prince Street, Port Pirie
- Location address: 1 Prince Street, Port Pirie
- DECD Partnership: Pirie
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km): 1.6km
- Telephone number: 86 32 3800 Mob 0437 594 413
- Fax number
- Preschool website address: <https://www.preschools.sa.gov.au/solomontown-kindergarten>
- Preschool e-mail address: dl.6666.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au
- Enrolment/Attendance: 50 Children. 3 IPP Children Full Time Site
- Co-located/stand-alone: Stand Alone
- Programs operating at the preschool:

Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children 15hrs per week for eligible children. 12hrs per week for 3yr old Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander children or children under guardianship

IPP (Inclusive Pre School Program) for eligible children operates as a .6 program on Wednesday and Thursday on odd weeks and Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday on even weeks. Up to 6 children can be

Associated Program

We offer a Supported Playgroup, which runs for 2 hours on Monday's from 10am -12pm and is free.

Pre Entry and early entry programs are available to eligible children in consultation with the Director.

Full Day Program – Children attend 5 full days of Kindergarten over a fortnight with Universal Pre School funding (30hrs per fortnight). This is available to children in their eligible year of preschool, attending 6hr days, 2 days every odd week and 3 days every even term week. Eligible 3yr old children attend 2 days per week.

Preschool Support– is available to support identified children

2. Key Centre Policies

Centre Priorities/Statement of Purpose

At Solomontown Kindergarten, we challenge, learn and grow through play. We strive to provide an environment where everyone has a sense of belonging, where everyone has the space and time to be in the moment and where everyone is encouraged and assisted to become lifelong learners so they can reach their full potential.

3. Curriculum

- Framework used: Early Years Learning Framework
- Core Values: Our Core Values are Respect, Responsibility, Confidence and Persistence

4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff Profile
 - Director 1.0
 - Teacher 0.8
 - Teacher 0.6
 - IPP Teacher 0.6
 - ECW 1.0
 - IPP ECW 2 0.6
 - ECW support worker
- Performance Management Program
 - All staff undertake PDP with the Director
- Access to special support staff
 - Site accesses Regional Office Support staff
- Other

5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
 - Solomontown Kindergarten has a large yard space with natural features for children to play, including a salt bush hedge, fort and sandpit space. Our indoor environment includes a separate learning space used by the kindergarten and shared with the Inclusive Pre School program and a smaller outdoor space adjacent to this area.
- Capacity (per session) We currently have a maximum of 34 children per session, with floor space for 45 children maximum.
- Centre Ownership: The Government of South Australia
- Access for children and staff with disabilities – The Kindergarten has disabled toilet facilities and access to disabled change facilities in our inclusive pre school bathroom
- Other

6. Local Community (intended for country preschools)

- General characteristics:
- Solomontown is a suburb on the outskirts of the regional city of Port Pirie, which is located 220kms north of Adelaide on the Spencer Gulf. The population percentage of Port Pirie is approximately 15,000 and includes Aboriginal, Italian, Greek and Filipino communities. We have an indigenous enrolment of 30%. We work with TLAP (Targetted Lead Abatement Program) to minimise exposure to lead in our learning environment through daily washing of our paths and equipment and the Environmental Health Centre to support families with lead smart practices and blood lead level testing due to the Lead Smelter in Port Pirie.
- Parent and community involvement in the preschool: Families are involved through membership of Governing Council. We also have families share interests such as cultural events, cooking activities and art with our children. We hold an annual Books and Burgers Drive Thru night as well as an Art Exhibition supported by the Pre School Families and broader community. We are also involved with our local school, Solomontown Primary. Each term families attend an evening celebration with their children. Playgroup families attend and support the playgroup and kindergarten by helping with the packing up, handing out fruit and supporting one another.
- Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool: Our main feeder school is Solomontown Primary school. We also have children attending Risdon, Pirie West, Airdale, Napperby Primary Schools as well as local Catholic and Independent schools.
- Other local care and educational facilities, Port Pirie has 2 child care centres, family day care and OHSC for school aged children based at Airdale Primary School. Port Pirie also has 3 other DfE Kindergartens
- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities: Nyrstar, the Lead Smelter is the main employer in town, with small businesses, a main shopping complex and 3 major supermarkets in the community.
- Other local facilities: Port Pirie has a large sporting complex and oval, upgraded pool facilities and hockey grounds as well as basket ball and netball courts.
- Availability of staff housing: Private rental is available as well as some government housing.
- Accessibility: Taxi and bus services run in Port Pirie. There is a regular bus service to Adelaide as well as a local aerodrome
- Local Government: Port Pirie Regional Council service the local area and surrounding towns.

7. Further Comments