Solomontown Kindergarten parent handbook

www.preschools.sa.gov.au/solomontown-kindergarten

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Home



"We challenge, grow and learn through play" is our philosophy.

Volunteering

If you'd like to volunteer with us, we'd love to hear from you. See volunteering in schools, preschools and children's centres

(https://www.decd.sa.gov.au/supporting-students/parent-engagement-education/volunteers/volunteering-schools-preschools-and-childrens-centres) and have a chat to us about how you can get involved.

We invite you to join the governing council, which meets twice a term to make sure the preschool runs smoothly. Read through what a governing council does

(https://www.decd.sa.gov.au/sites-and-facilities/governing-councils/understanding-governing-councils/what-governing-council-does) and speak to us to register your interest.

Contact us

Preschool director: Mrs Monique Button

Phone: (08) 8632 3800

Fax: (08) 8633 2576

Email: dl.6666.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au

Street address: 1 Prince Street Port Pirie SA 5540

Postal address: 1 Prince Street Port Pirie SA 5540

What we offer

We offer a number of programs and services to support your child's early years learning (https://www.decd.sa.gov.au/teaching/curriculum-and-teaching/primary-and-secondary-curriculum/curriculum-taught-south-australia).

Preschool program

Times

Your child can attend preschool for up to 15 hours per week. Children attend 5 full days per fortnight.

Odd weeks

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
_	_	8.45am to 2.45pm	8.45am to 2.45pm	

Even weeks

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
_	8.45am to 2.45pm	8.45am to 2.45pm	8.45am to 2.45pm	

Fees

The parent contribution is \$80 per term. Concession fees are \$70 per term and you must present your concession card to staff to receive the lower rate. See our enrolment and fees (https://www.preschools.sa.gov.au/solomontown-kindergarten/getting-started/enrolment-and-fees) page for more information.

What to bring

Children need to bring these items each day:

- bag
- change of clothes (our play is often very messy)
- Pull ups, Nappies and wipes if required
- drink bottle containing water
- packed healthy lunch (sandwich and fruit or yoghurt).

Please write your child's name on all their belongings.

What not to bring

Children should not bring these things:

- toys from home.
- unhealthy drinks or snacks in lunchboxes

We will give your child a hat, which stays at kindy.

Additional information

Please put sunscreen on your child before they come to kindy. We will help them to reapply at lunch time.

Our breakfast bar is available from 9.30am to 10.30am. Children are encouraged to make their own healthy breakfast, and can choose fruit, toast, cereal, milk and cheese.

Inclusive preschool program

We have a specialised program for children who have significant additional needs. Teachers work with support services and therapists to provide individual learning for your child.

Children must be referred and meet specific criteria to enrol in the program.

Times

Odd weeks

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
-	_	8.45am to 2.45pm	8.45am to 2.45pm	_

Even weeks

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
_	8.45am to 2.45pm	8.45am to 2.45pm	8.45am to 2.45pm	_

Cost

The parent contribution is \$80 per term. See our enrolment and fees (https://www.preschools.sa.gov.au/solomontown-kindergarten/getting-started/enrolment-and-fees) page for more information.

What to bring

Children need to bring these items each day:

- bag
- change of clothes (our play is often very messy)
- Nappies and wipes if required
- drink bottle containing water
- packed healthy lunch (sandwich and fruit or yoghurt).

Please write your child's name on all their belongings.

Playgroup

Our supported playgroup is run every week. You and your child can meet other families and spend time learning together.

Times

Monday, 10am - 12pm

Cost

Donations are happily accepted.

What to bring

Please bring:

- drink bottle containing water
- hat
- change of clothes and nappies if required.

Additional information

A healthy afternoon snack is provided.

Disability support

There is support available for children with disability (https://www.education.sa.gov.au/supporting-students/children-disability-and-special-needs). Talk to us for more information.

Enrolment and fees

When your child can start preschool

Your child is entitled to access 1 year of preschool.

If your child turns 4 before 1 May, they can start preschool at the beginning of the year. If your child turns 4 on or after 1 May, they can start the next year.

If you want to delay your child's start to preschool or you're not sure about when they should start, please talk to us about your options.

If your child is Aboriginal or under guardianship (in care) they are eligible for 12 hours of preschool after they turn 3. They will then be eligible for 15 hours per week of preschool in the year before they start school.

Early entry

Your child may be able to come to preschool 1 term earlier, in term 4 the year before starting their preschool year, if they:

- have additional needs or disability
- are learning English as an additional language or dialect
- are at significant risk because of family circumstances.

Early entry is for up to 6 hours per week, if places are available.

Access is decided on a case-by-case basis.

Please contact us if you want more information about early entry.

Enrolling your child

You can register your interest to enrol your child with us by using the preschool registration of interest form (https://www.education.sa.gov.au/doc/preschool-registration-interest-form). This form is also available from us.

Try to register your interest by 30 June, but you can do this any time during the year.

Priority will be given to children living in our catchment area

(https://www.preschools.sa.gov.au/solomontown-kindergarten#location). If you don't live in our catchment area you should indicate at least 2 other preschool options on your form.

If we can give your child a place with us we'll send you an offer letter in term 3 (https://www.decd.sa.gov.au/teaching/south-australian-state-schools-term-dates). You can accept the offer by filling in and sending back the acceptance slip by the due date.

Before your child starts

We will contact you at the end of term 3

(https://www.decd.sa.gov.au/teaching/south-australian-state-schools-term-dates) about an orientation session. This will be a 1-hour session where you can ask questions.

Before they start preschool your child can come to pre-entry transition visits. These will be in term 4 and will be a chance for your child to meet the staff and other children.

Fees

We ask you to contribute towards the cost of your child attending preschool.

The parent contribution is:

- \$80 per term for the 4 year old preschool program
- \$70 per term for concession (you must present your concession card to staff to receive the rate)
- \$60 per term for 3 year old attendance (if your child is Aboriginal or under the guardianship of the minister)
- \$15 for term 3 early entry (1 session)
- \$15 for term 4 early entry, which includes hat for the following year (2 sessions).

You can choose to pay the total amount at the beginning of the year or to pay instalments each term (https://www.decd.sa.gov.au/teaching/south-australian-state-schools-term-dates).

We offer other programs that may have additional costs (https://www.preschools.sa.gov.au/solomontown-kindergarten/getting-started/what-we-offer#solomontownprograms).

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When to pay

You will receive an invoice at the start of each term (https://www.decd.sa.gov.au/teaching/south-australian-state-schools-term-dates). Your invoice will be placed in your child's note pocket.

Payments are due by the end of each term.

Please contact us if you are having difficulty paying.

How to pay

Cash or cheque

You can pay cash or cheque at the kindy. Please put the payment in a sealed envelope with your child's name on the front. Put the envelope in the payments box.

EFT information

You can pay by EFTPOS at the kindergarten or by direct deposit. For direct debit details please speak with us.

Immunisations

When you enrol your child you will be asked to provide evidence of their immunisation status (https://www.education.sa.gov.au/supporting-students/health-e-safety-and-wellbeing/early-childhood-services-immunisation-requirements).

Reports and plans

National Quality Standard rating

Our services are assessed and rated against 7 quality areas of the National Quality Standard.



Overall Rating: Exceeding NQS

Quality Area Ratings

1 Educational program and practice: Exceeding NQS

Children's health and safety: Meeting NQS

Physical environment: Exceeding NQSStaffing arrangements: Meeting NQS

5 Relationships with children: Exceeding NQS

6 Partnerships with families and communities: Exceeding NQS

7 Leadership and service management: Exceeding NQS

Rating for: Solomontown Kindergarten

Rating issued: December 2015

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Quality improvement plan

An assessment of the programs we offer against the National Quality Standard and national regulations. It identifies areas for improvement and includes our philosophy statement.

Quality improvement plan (PDF 289KB)

(https://www.preschools.sa.gov.au/sites/default/files/solomontown_gip.pdf)

Annual report

A report on our progress, achievements, highlights and challenges for the year.

Annual report (PDF) (http://docs.decd.sa.gov.au/Sites/AnnualReports/6666 AnnualReport.pdf)

Parenting support

Giving your child a strong start in the early years

Research tells us that quality education and care early in life leads to better health, education and job outcomes in adulthood. Children are learning and growing from the time they are born. The greatest influence on a child's future health, development and happiness is in the first 5 years of life.

We're working with families to take a 'learning together' approach about child development in the early years.

Parenting resources

Several early childhood parenting resources are available to help your child learn and grow right from the start.

Little Big Book Club (http://www.thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/) supports parents to read, sing and play with their children from birth, with access to book recommendations, reading packs and resources.

Dad's Read (http://dadsread.org.au/) offers advice for fathers to encourage reading together with their child.

Parenting SA (https://www.education.sa.gov.au/parenting-and-child-care/parenting/parenting-sa) has free parenting factsheets, videos and upcoming seminars on many parenting topics.

Positive Parenting program

(http://www.triplep-parenting.net.au/au-uken/find-help/triple-p-parenting-in-south-australia/?itb=bc37e109d92bdc1ea71da6c919d54907) has free seminars, workshops and one-on-one sessions for parents of children aged 3 to 12 years.

Learning with your child (GreatStart)

(https://www.education.sa.gov.au/parenting-and-child-care/parenting/learning-your-child-greatstart) gives parents everyday learning ideas and activities to help build their child's maths and language skills.

Raising Children Network (http://raisingchildren.net.au/) provides up-to-date, evidence-based, scientifically validated information about raising children and caring for yourself as a parent or carer.

COMMUNICATION We have *communication pockets* in the kindy with important information for you. Please check these regularly.

Please also utilise the kindy mobile phone to keep in contact. We will give you the number at the start of your child's kindy year.

Please make sure we have up-to-date phone numbers and information e.g. medical conditions so we can keep your child safe.

We have a <u>closed Facebook group</u>. This will be used to share information, reminders and exciting learning opportunities. This page is only for families with a child enrolled at the centre for this year and will not be accessed by people outside this group. We ask that you respect the privacy of all children and if you do not wish for images of your child

CURRICULUM Our program is a play based curriculum. It is based on the National Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) - Being, Belonging, Becoming for children birth - 5 years. The learning outcomes include:

- Children have a strong sense of identity
- Children are connected with and contribute to their world
- Children have a strong sense of wellbeing
- Children are confident and involved learners
- Children are effective communicators.

Family Books and the Floor Book are available to all families as a record of your child's learning experiences. Please take opportunities to view these and add your own comments and reflections on your child's learning.