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## Niina Marni

We respectfully acknowledge the Kaurna people, as the traditional custodians of the land we share today. We pay respects to the Elders past, present and becoming. We will honour the values and ways that our traditional custodians taught and still teach today. We walk together and care for this Country.

## Educators



Amy Vaughan (Director)



Pushpa Kundi (Bilingual Support/ECW)



Carrie-Anne McGarry (Teacher)



Heidi Pearl (ECW)



Mawuana Gray (Teacher)



Jo Parkinson (ECW)





### Session Times

Milte Group:

Monday & Tuesday (8:30am-3.15pm)

+ 2 full Wednesday's per term (8.30-3.15pm) <u>Karalta Group</u> Thursday & Friday (8.30am - 3.15pm)

+2 full Wednesday's per term (8.30-3.15pm)





### Our Philosophy Statement

Willunga Preschool is a place where children feel heard, valued and championed. Educators are sensitive to children's thoughts and feelings and support the development of a strong sense of wellbeing. Educators give priority to nurturing relationships and providing children with consistent emotional support to assist children to develop the skills and understandings they need to interact positively with others.

We have commitment to developing reciprocal and respectful relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities. We endeavour to consult with, and learn from Elders and knowledgeable Aboriginal people to enrich our work. This supports us to create sustainable relationships with people and environments to promote a sustainable and positive future.

approach We believe the learning approach honors all different learning styles. It enables children to express their thinking, make connections between concepts and test and refine their theories.

We believe in a play-based emergent curriculum. Play provides a supportive environment where children can ask questions, solve problems and engage in critical thinking. Educators have a commitment to work alongside children to develop a curriculum that is responsive to children's interests, and is meaningful, relevant and engaging for each child.





"Children are born with a sense of wonder and an affinity for Nature. Properly cultivated, these values can mature into ecological literacy, and eventually into sustainable patterns of living."





## What will your child's Preschool Day look like?

#### 8:30:

Children arrive, inside/outside play

Healthy snack: Picnic rugs provided under the veranda for children to eat their healthy snack when they are feeling hungry

Children reminded to eat their healthy snack

Give 5 minutes notice for upcoming group time

#### 11.40:

Short mat time all together in large room before splitting into small groups (15 mins max)

#### 12:00:

Children wash their hands and eat lunch under the verandah

#### 12:30:

Inside/Outside play (Optional relaxation/quiet time inside)

#### 2.00:

Picnic rugs provided under the veranda for children to have the option to eat what is left over in their lunch boxes when they are feeling hungry (triangle)

#### 2:10:

Shoes on

#### 2:45-2:50:

Children and Educators pack up inside and outside.

#### 2:50:

Give 5 minutes notice for mat time

#### 2:55:

Mat time all together









# What should you bring each day to preschool?

A backpack or bag with an empty soiled clothing bag inside

A hat – either broad brimmed or legionnaire – Terms 1, 3 and 4 (Hats must not feature cords - as these are a safety hazard)

A piece of fruit or healthy snack and a packed lunch A bottle of water

Named spare clothes

Sunscreen should be applied in the morning before leaving home. Educators reapply sunscreen at lunch time \*Please advise us if your child has an allergy to sunscreen and needs to bring their own

Please use ice packs to keep food cold

Please label all belongings clearly with your child's name.

Please keep toys and other valuables (including non-cultural jewelry) at home to avoid the high risk of being lost or broken.

We understand that for some children a special toy can be used as a comforter. Please speak to our educators if your child uses a toy for soothing and regulation.





Children learn through their interests and passions



Children learn from peers and construct meaning together.

Learning happens indoors and outdoors.





For safety reasons please don't bring your children to preschool wearing thongs. Please send rubber boots for wet weather play and for use in our digging patch. We have a small selection of gum boots that children can access if they forget their boots.

Please ensure your child has sun-safe clothing e.g. shirts with collars and sleeves that cover their shoulders.

Please dress your child in clothes that neither you nor your child minds if paint or mud should get onto them. We love messy play at Kindergarten and best clothes often stop children from deeply engaging in the kindergarten curriculum.



As we encourage independence when going to the toilet. Please avoid belts, overalls and clothing that is hard to undo and pull down. Don't forget to label everything (a permanent marker name is all you need).

Please provide a set of labelled spare clothes and an empty shopping bag for soiled clothing.

A simple rain jacket is a wise investment for your child, as we will access the outdoor learning environment in almost all weather.,

### <u>Uniforms</u>

Jumpers: BSB - 105 108

Size 4 or 6 - \$25 Account no - 396 270 240

Please put as reference

'your child's name'

uniforms

size 4 or 6 - \$20

Polo tops:

Hats: Bucket hat - \$10 Legionnaires hat - \$10

### Healthy Eating

At Willunga Preschool we care about children's health and promote and encourage healthy eating. Please don't send chocolate bars, lollies and sugary/ high fat foods. Some children struggle to manage their behaviour after consuming such large amounts of sugar.

Children only drink water at preschool and we will refill their bottle when required.

Please care for the planet by not using plastic wraps and heavily packaged foods. Whilst we encourage healthy eating we acknowledge every child's right to participate in special celebrations which are, at times, part of our program. Eg. Sausage Sizzles.

The children learn that this is a 'special time food' and is only eaten at special events.

Label all parts of lunch boxes, including casing or detachable lids. Please note: We are an Allergy Aware site and we ask that you do not send nuts or nut products. (Refer to Allergy Aware Policy)

If your child has dietary requirements either due to a medical condition or a lifestyle choice please speak to our education team. Birthdays are also very special events for children.

At Willunga Preschool we celebrate birthdays by encouraging the birthday child to design and make their own playdough birthday cake. We then sing 'Happy Birthday

At Preschool it is recommended that they are provided daily with:
• 2 serves of breads and cereals e.g.

One sandwich

· 2 serves of vegetables

· 1 serve of fruit

·1 - 2 serves of dairy

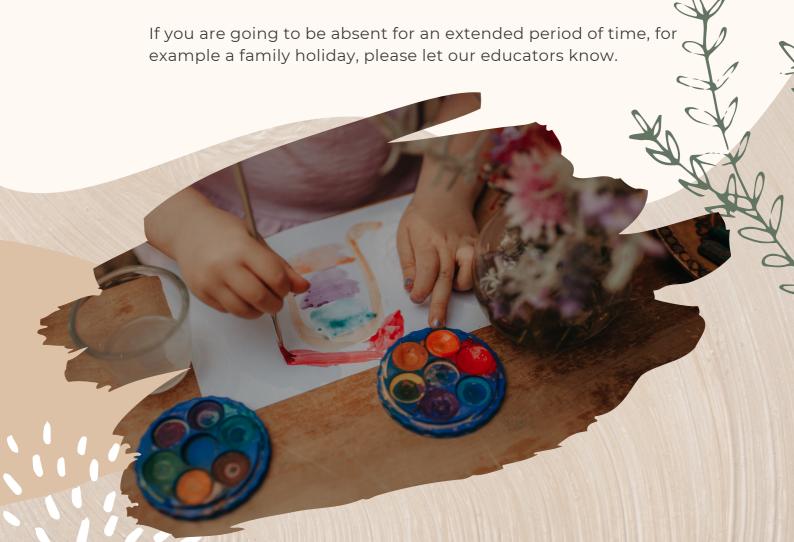
· 1 serve of lean meat or meat substitutes for vegetarians such as legumes

### Attendance

Your child will gain much more from preschool if they attend regularly, particularly establishing and maintaining relationships with educators and other children and being actively involved in all aspects of the curriculum.

It is important that children do not attend if they are unwell. Our current COVID19 response plan and the recommendations from the Department for Education state that children must not attend if they have gastro, cough, cold or flu like symptoms.

Please ring or message our mobile and let us know if they are unwell. Some illnesses are contagious and we will let our community know if a contagious illness is occurring while maintaining your confidentiality. Please ensure children are completely well before they return. (Refer to Delivery and Collection of Children Policy)



### Collection/ Delivery

We are open for drop off after 8.30 am, before this time the educators are preparing the preschool for the day.

Let the children do it themselves! They can pop their bag on an empty hook and find their name to label it.

Two white trolleys will be available for your child to place their drink bottle on. Lunchboxes go in the baskets provided. (Please make sure your child's lunchbox is clearly labelled)

At the end of the day we gather the children for mat time. Lunch boxes and the drink bottle trolley will be under the veranda for you to collect. Grab your child's name card from above their bag hook and post card in the slot in the window (around the corner) and we will send your child out to you.

Please ensure you arrive no later than 3.15pm. Educators often have meetings that they need to get to on time.

If another adult other than Parents are to collect or drop off your child please inform our educators personally of the relationship and the name of the person collecting, or via a phone call or text message. If the person collecting the child is unknown to educators we will require them to show their photo ID.

Please don't hesitate to seek assistance from educators if your child and you need support when separating



Willunga Primary Out of School Hours Care

Willunga OSHC is located within the grounds of the Willunga Primary School. Please contact the OSHC to arrange care for your child. If you do use the OSHC, OSHC staff will walk your child down in the morning and preschool educators will walk your child up to the building after each session.

https://willungaps.sa.edu.au/oshc/

Contact

Nikki Cook (Director) Mobile: 0438761656

Email: dl.0744.oshcwillunga@schools.sa.edu.au





### Medication/Health Accidents & Illness

Educators, parents, guardians and health professionals work together to manage the health conditions of children who attend kindergarten. Educators must be notified of a child's allergies, intolerances and health conditions prior to enrolment or from when you become aware of the problem. All children who are enrolled who have a medical condition must have a health care plan from a GP in place and families must complete a Health Support Plan. A Health Support Plan may be required when a parent or guardian identifies there is a support need but there is no health care plan, for example using own sunscreen. Please let educators know if you need any support in managing a health concern.

#### CAN WE GIVE MEDICATION?

Yes, if you provide a medication form from the doctor. If it is cold medication or Panadol etc. then the best place for your child to be is at home. Preschool is very busy and if a child is a little flat at home they will quickly become exhausted at preschool and if they are unwell then the best place for them is at home resting. Also by keeping sick children at home you are helping your community by protecting their friends and educators from infection and illness.

#### WHAT IF MY CHILD BECOMES ILL AT PRESCHOOL?

We will contact you to pick up your child. By asking parents to collect their children we are not exposing our whole group to the potential to become unwell as well.

### HOW DO WE REPORT ACCIDENTS?

If your child has an accident at preschool, staff will assess the situation and if its more than a bump or scape we will contact you. If you child has a head or facial injury we will always contact you.



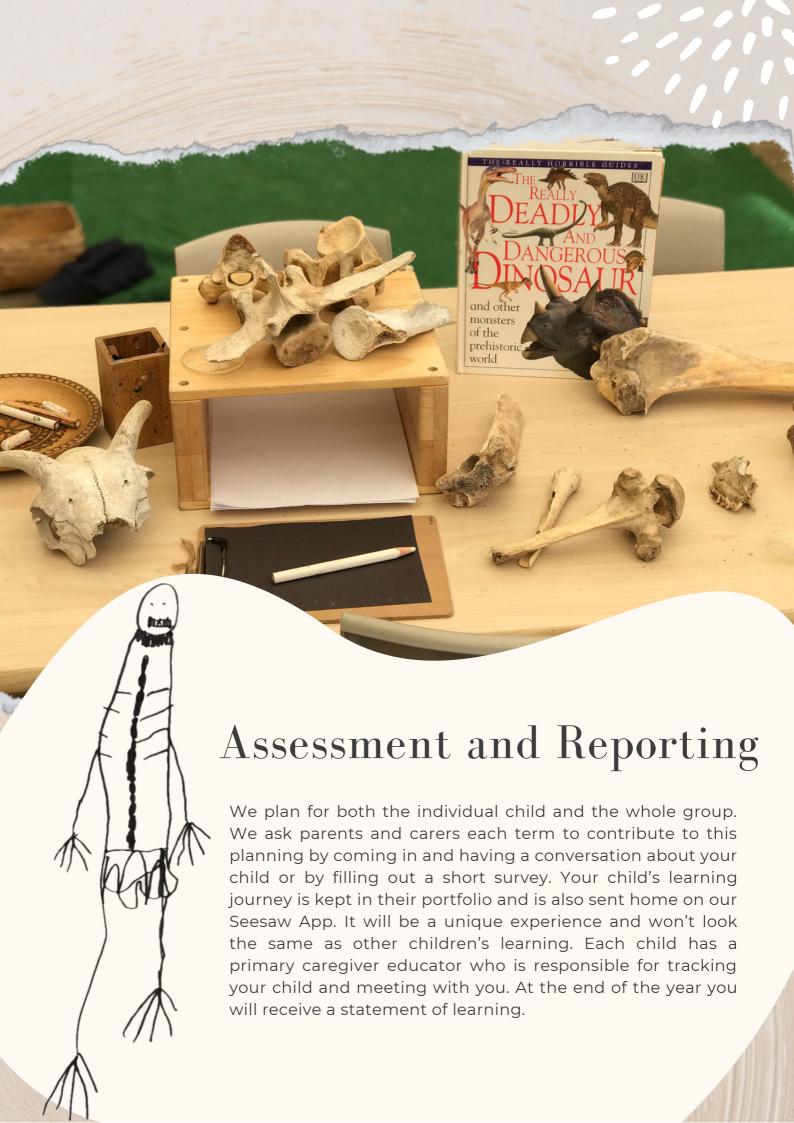


Children are all different and have very different needs. They reach milestones in their own unique time and we must honour where our children are at and who they are.

If you are concerned about your child's development please make a time to speak to our team. We can help you with speech pathology, occupational therapy, psychologists and any assessments or services that may be needed.

These services are provided via referral and may include assessment and therapy for children and also, advice and training for parents educators and children. The funding available to help children is considerably less once they get older. In order help children be successful its important to access the right services as soon as possible.







Fees at Preschool are called Parent Contributions. Families will receive an invoice via their email. Parent Contributions are \$120 per term. Payment can be made electronically or by cash to preschool educators.

Please see the Director if experiencing difficulties making payment - confidentially is respected.

To pay electronically: (EFT)
BSB Number: 105 108
Account Number: 396 270 240

Reference: Child's surname or invoice number



### **Notices**

Lots of information is shared with you through the children's hessian pockets and more our Seesaw App. Please check for notices every day. Reminder notices and community information is also displayed on our notice boards under the veranda.



# BEING, BELONGING & BECOMING

The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia

EARLY YEARS LEARNING FRAMEWORK

A national early learning framework for children from birth to five years

#### WHAT IS THIS LEARNING FRAMEWORK ABOUT?

The Early Years Learning Framework was developed to ensure your child receives quality education programs in their early childhood setting. This is a vital time for them to learn and develop. The Framework's vision is for all children to experience play-based learning that is engaging and builds success for life.

It is a guide for early childhood educators who work with children from birth to five years. They will use the Framework in partnership with families, children's first and most influential educators, to develop learning programs responsive to children's ideas, interests, strengths and abilities, and recognise that children learn through their play.



The Early Years Learning Framework describes childhood as a time of belonging, being and becoming.

- · Belonging is the basis for living a fulfilling life. Children feel they belong because of the relationships they have with their family, community, culture and place.
- · Being is about living here and now. Childhood is a special time in life and children need time to just 'be'—time to play, try new things and have fun.
- · Becoming is about the learning and development that young children experience. Children start to form their sense of identity from an early age, which shapes the type of adult they will become.



### How will it work?

Educators will use this Framework in a range of early childhood settings, including long day care, preschools and family day care to ensure that your child receives a high quality experience. It has been created and trialled by experienced early childhood educators, academics, parents and carers.

The Framework focuses on your child's learning. Educators will work with you in order to get to know your child well. They will create a learning program that builds on your child's interests and abilities, and keep you in touch with your child's progress.

Through the Framework's five learning goals educators will assist your child to develop:

- · a strong sense of their identity
- · connections with their world
- · a strong sense of wellbeing
- · confidence and involvement in their learning; and
- · effective communication skills.

"The learning outcomes are positive and help me to think about how my child is progressing"



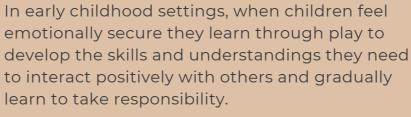
### Play is learning

Play is very important for children. Through play babies and young children explore and learn to understand the world around them as they come to communicate, discover, imagine and create.

When children play they are showing what they have learned and what they are trying to understand. This is why play is one of the foundations of the Early Years Learning Framework. By using this Framework educators will guide your child's play by carefully designing learning activities and stimulating indoor and outdoor learning environments.

### Relationships are key

It is well known that children learn best when they have secure relationships with caring adults. When children from a very early age develop trusting relationships they feel more confident and able to explore and learn.









# Watching your child's progress

Using the Early Years Learning Framework educators will observe your child's learning so they can build on it and plan the next steps. They will do this by listening, watching and talking to your child.

They will keep in touch with you regularly to discuss your child's progress. They may use photos or keep a folder of your child's work to show what your child is learning, how they are developing and what particular learning interests them.

Before your child starts school educators will prepare information about your child's learning and development to share with their new teacher. This will help ensure that your child's new school is well prepared to continue your child's learning.

"The Framework helps me to understand how skilled the staff at my centre are and what a great support they are to me and my family"

### Working Together

By working together parents and educators can enhance a child's learning and wellbeing. As the most important person in your child's life you can make a difference by talking regularly with your child's early childhood educator and asking about their learning. Information you provide allows educators to link your child's experiences at home with the time they spend together in the early childhood setting



### Find out more

This booklet is an introduction to the Early Years Learning Framework. To find out more or to access translations visit www.deewr.gov.au/earlychildhood or ask your child's early childhood educator. Produced by the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations for the Council of Australian Governments.

https://www.dese.gov.au/national-quality-framework-early-childhood-education-andcare/resources/belonging-being-becoming-early-years-learning-framework-australiainformation-families-0

## Respect, Compassion, and Connections

Our preschool values of Respect, Compassion and Connection are the foundation for all of our interactions with all adults and children in our preschool community.

#### RESPECT

Acceptance of everyone for who they are and what they bring to the Preschool Community.

#### CONNECTIONS

Maintain and strengthen positive reciprocal relationships between staff, children, families, community and the environment.

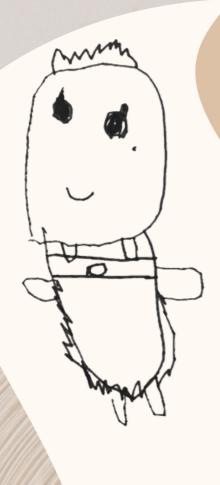
#### **COMPASSION**

Staff, children and families show kindness, understanding and appreciation for what we share and learn from each other.

### Educators will consistently:

- Provide a caring, safe and healthy learning environment for all.
  - Encourage and support self regulation and agency.
    - Role model positive behavior and language.
- Discuss and regularly negotiate (with children) appropriate, safe behaviors and language for inside and outside areas.
- -Teach the 'Keeping children safe' child protection curriculum every year.

  -Abide by the principles of the Department for Education's 'Protective Behaviour's' policy and include them in our everyday practice and language
  - We all have the right to feel safe at all times.
- -It is ok to ask people to stop what they are doing to you if you don't like it.
  -If you can't resolve a problem yourself, ask a friend or educator for help



### Our Social Emotional Curriculum

At Willunga Preschool we utilize Kimochis® to support children with their social and emotional learning.

Kimochis® is a program designed to give children the knowledge, skills, and attitudes they need to recognize and manage their emotions, demonstrate caring and concern for others, establish positive relationships, make responsible decisions, and handle challenging situations constructively.

Through an inquiry process, educators and children cocreate behavior agreements. These agreements are expected behaviours that guide children in how they will treat each other, property and the preschool environment. Preschool agreements are created at the start of each preschool year with the children. Throughout the year educators will use teachable moments that arise to address behaviour. We see conflict as an opportunity for learning.



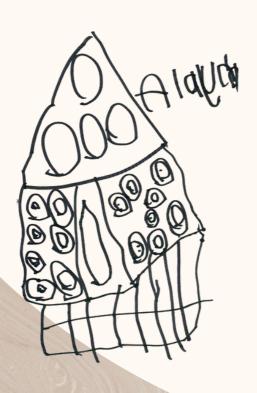
## Inquiry learning

Educators work alongside children in an Inquiry based approach. We believe this learning approach honours all different learning styles and abilities. It enables children to express their thinking, make connections between concepts and test and refine their





""Curiosity and questioning are encouraged and valued, being at the heart of inquiry"





# Family & Community Involvement

We pride ourselves on providing an environment where families feel welcome. If you have any skills or interests, please let us know! Come along and read with the children, stay and play, volunteer to lead a learning experience (art, woodwork, cooking, sport/exercise, science, share something about you job, the list is endless!). Please talk to educators about ways you would like to be involved in the curriculum or how you can gain support with processing a Police clearance.

## Governing Council

Who is on the governing council? The governing council committee is made up of both preschool educators and parent volunteers

## Benefits of being a committee volunteer

Not only will you support the preschool, but it can also be very rewarding for you. Committee parents have the advantage of hands-on involvement in their childs early education. It is a fantastic way to meet new friends in a fun and relaxed manner. Refer to the governance and management of the service policy.

How much time will it take to be in the committee?

Meetings are held twice a term. We hold a end-of-year celebration to thank our volunteers.

### Can I be a committee volunteer?

Parent members are elected at the annual general meeting (AGM) which is held in February each year. There are both specific positions (chairperson, secretary, treasurer, fundraising coordinator) and general positions available within the committee.

### **Policies**

Our site specific policies have been written in consultation with the Governing Council. Some can be viewed on our website: .https://www.preschools.sa.gov.au/willunga-preschool

Please ask educators to show you where hard copies of policies are kept at the site.

All policies relevant to kindergartens can be accessed on the Department of Education and Childhood Development website- go to www.decd.sa.gov.au and click on Policies A-Z on the right hand side of the home page.





