

PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT 2020



Government of South Australia

Department for Education and
Child Development

Updated: 25/02/2022

Centre number: 6640

Centre name: Wallaroo Preschool Centre

1. General information

- **Preschool Director**
Mrs Belinda Petherick
- **Postal address**
11 Elizabeth Street, Wallaroo, SA, 5556
- **Location address**
As above
- **DECD Partnership**
Northern Yorke
- **Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km)**
157kms
- **Telephone number**
8823 2389
- **Fax number**
8823 3781
- **Preschool website address:**
www.wallaropre.sa.edu.au
- **Preschool e-mail address**
dl.6640.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au
- **Enrolment/Attendance**
48 enrolled
- **Co-located/stand-alone**
Stand alone
- **Assessed under the National Quality Framework:**
Rated 'Exceeding the National Quality Standard' in 2015.
- **Programs operating at the preschool**
 - ❖ Transition visits offered during term 4
 - ❖ Sessional Government Preschool for eligible children
On an 'as needs' basis
 - ❖ Bilingual Support
For children from a Non English Speaking Background
 - ❖ Inclusive Education Support Program
To support children with developmental delays including language, behaviour or social.

2. Key Centre Policies

- **Centre Priorities/Statement of Purpose**

“Educators at Wallaroo Preschool Centre have respect and relationships between children, families and educators at the forefront of our practice and pedagogy each and every day. Our extensively experienced, dedicated and qualified Early Childhood Educators continually acknowledge and appreciate the beautiful Nharrangga Land which we learn upon. We welcome children and families to explore this rich, natural environment and together discover and wonder about the world around them. Educators utilise spontaneous moments of play to intentionally teach and support children to develop dispositions for life-long learning such as curiosity, wonder, resilience, persistence while respecting and acknowledging each child’s individual strengths and sense of agency. Our philosophy and pedagogy is centred around inspiring environments to facilitate quality conversations and wondering between children and adults which supports the continuation of *Beach Kindy* each year.”

3. Curriculum

- **Framework used:**

Early Years Learning Framework - Being, Belonging, Becoming

Respect, Reflect, Relate Tool.

Department for Education Literacy and Numeracy Indicators and Guide Books

Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum

- **Specific curriculum approaches**

Play Based and child initiated learning

Strong focus on children developing dispositions for learning through exploring and discovering our natural environments.

Beach Kindy runs at specific times throughout the year.

- **Joint programmes/special curriculum projects**

Transition program with local state and private schools (6 feeder schools – 4 state and 2 private).

4. Centre Based Staff

- **Staff Profile**

Director -1.0

Teacher- 1.2 (0.5, 0.5, 0.2)

Early Childhood Worker 1 – 0.9.

Preschool Support Worker- As per funding allowance

Finance Officer (works at Wallaroo Primary School),

- **Performance Management Program**

Site Leader has a personal performance plan which is discussed in consultation with the Education Director on a regular basis.

Educators have performance development meetings with Site Leader (Director) once per term. Educators are encouraged to discuss any issues relating to performance management as they arise.

The Family Opinion Survey distributed to parents each year is a good indicator of parent opinion of educator performance.

- **Access to special support staff**

A range of support personnel are available on an as needs basis

5. Centre Facilities

- **Buildings and grounds**

Building is in sound condition and is 40 years old. Grounds are aesthetically pleasing with natural developments ongoing.

- **Capacity (per session)**

38 children

- **Centre Ownership**

Wallaroo Preschool Centre Incorporated

- **Access for children and staff with disabilities**

Ramp available, disabled toilets, disabled parking

6. Local Community (intended for country preschools)

- **General characteristics:**

Population of close to 3,500. Northern Yorke Peninsula area. English speaking families, some transient families. Retirees. Coastal town. International wharfing facilities. Marina development. Popular holiday beach town. Moderate to high unemployment.

- **Parent and community involvement in the preschool**

Governing Council initiates fundraising and working bees to support Preschool upkeep. Close working relationships with Healthy Families Team, CaFHS, police, etc

- **Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool**

Wallaroo Primary School, Saint Mary Mackillop School, Wallaroo Mines Primary School, Kadina Memorial School, Harvest Christian School.

- **Other local care and educational facilities,**

Wallaroo Primary School OSHC, Saint Mary Mackillop OSHC, Kadina Childcare Centre, Community Kids Kadina

- **Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities**

Drakes in Wallaroo, mainstreet with local stores, tourism grain handling and wharfing

- **Other local facilities**

Library, Town Hall, five Hotels, take-away, supermarket, churches, parklands, large community Health Care Service with helipad, insurance agent, hairdresser and a wide variety of sporting facilities

- **Availability of staff housing**

Mainly private rental available

- **Accessibility**

Private vehicle, Premier Stateliner Coach group, and small airstrip

- **Local Government**

7. Further Comments

- **Partnership arrangements with other groups**

Wallaroo Preschool is part of the Department for Education Northern Yorke Partnership.