

2024 annual report to the Community

Wallaroo Preschool Centre

Wallaroo Preschool Centre number: 6640

Partnership: Northern Yorke



Preschool director:

Belinda Petherick

Date of endorsement:

18/02/2025



Government
of South Australia
Department for Education

Context Statement

Information about Wallaroo Preschool Centre is available on the centres website, as well as the Australian Children’s Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA) website.

Governing Council Report

This year the preschool was fortunate to have an amazing group of volunteers on the Governing Council. I want to thank each member of our Governing Council for 2024. Thank you to the Directors, Belinda and Ashleigh, Vice Chairs, Amber Birchmore and Brylee Farquhar, Treasurer Mark Sawyer, Fundraising Co-Ordinator Alyce Donaldson, Secretary Casey Dolan, Playgroup Representative Min Sawyer and the general committee Sarah Riley, Danielle Stoodley, Bianca Dubsy and Kayla Prouse. Each of you shared common goals to support families and staff, help with fundraising and help to make the preschool an even better place for our children and future generations. You have definitely achieved this with all your dedication and hard work.

Fundraising is a major role of the Governing Council. Our goal was to raise as much money as possible for improvements in the outdoor learning area.

In term 1, it was decided to do 2 fundraisers. The Picture Plate Products fundraiser raised \$447 and our Easter Raffle raised \$754, totalling \$1201. Thank you to everyone who turned their child’s artwork into a keepsake by ordering a Picture Plate Product and to those who donated, sold or bought a ticket in our popular Easter Raffle (chocolate is always a winner!).

In Term 2 the Governing Council organised a Disco for the children. With the help of the volunteers, Ruby’s family transformed the preschool into a magical dance space. There was music, glow sticks, dancing, popcorn, donated bottles of water, lights, decorations and huge smiles all round. Not only did this event raise a total of \$130, it created special kindy memories for our children to treasure forever. Thank you to the educators for donating their time and contributing to the fun of the party.

Term 3 was the Preschool Photo Book fundraiser. Thank you to Casey and Miss Bronny for collating and editing photos, and to all the volunteers who donated hours of their time to take photos of the children in the preschool environment. You did a great job capturing their individual interests and learning. Thank you to all the families who purchased the final booklet of precious memories, raising a total of \$875.

And finally, during term 4 with the help of extremely generous donations from our local community we were able to raffle off over 21 amazing prizes in our Giant Christmas Raffle. Through a strong community and Christmas spirit this raised a huge 2379 Thank you to everyone who supported our end of year raffle. I wish you all the best of luck in winning.

Overall with fundraising we raised a grand total of \$4585. It’s important to note we could not have achieved this without the support of our beautiful families and wider community. I want to thank everyone who supported our fundraising efforts this year. Your contribution will help improve the outdoor play area.

I am so proud regarding how well our Governing Council worked together as a team this year. With a huge work ethic and great communication everyone contributed and supported each other. I would like to make a special mention our fundraising coordinator Alyce who put in a mammoth effort organising all the fundraising. Each prize in both raffles looked beautiful thanks to your creative flare and gift for styling.

It’s hard to believe the time has come for our special little people to start school. But I don’t think this can happen until we acknowledge our wonderful team of educators. Belinda, Ashleigh, Bronny, Claire, Lou, Maggie, Lisa, Georgina and Kelly. You are all now special people in our children’s lives. It’s obvious our children bring you happiness, and your team dynamic is amazing. Thank you for providing a safe, nurturing environment; advocating for our children; informing them of their rights, modelling kindness and compassion; guiding them and extending their knowledge of the world; amongst many other wonderful things! Memories of their experiences this year will live on in their minds forever as they transition to school and beyond.

Congratulations to all the children on a great year and preschool and I wish each and every family good luck with their journey to school in 2025.

Preschool Attendance

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2021 centre	83.6%	84.1%	82.7%	80.7%
2022 centre	86.8%	79.8%	75.5%	74.8%
2023 centre	80%	78.4%	78.9%	74.6%
2024 centre	91%		80.1%	

Based on attendances recorded in the two-week reference period each term. Data for eligible enrolments as described in the department's Enrolment policy. Attendance rates may differ to previous reporting with the transfer from calculations based on deemed attendance to actual attendance using booked hours divided by attended hours. Data Source: Department for Education Attendance Data, Semester 1 Report 2024. A blank cell indicates there were no students enrolled.

Attendance Comment

In South Australia, preschool attendance is not compulsory, but it is strongly encouraged. Preschool gives children the best opportunity to develop skills, which prepare them for school. These benefits include establishing positive routines and habits, friendships and connections as well as developing communication, problem-solving and creative skills. All children are entitled to access a preschool program over 4 terms the year before they start school.

Destination Schools


Feeder Schools (Site number - Name)	2022	2023	2024
0459 - Wallaroo Primary School	4.0%	18.8%	21.7%
0460 - Wallaroo Mines Primary School		10.4%	8.7%
0778 - Kadina Memorial School	4.0%	12.5%	10.9%
8200 - Harvest Christian College		6.3%	10.9%
9084 - St Mary MacKillop School		16.7%	23.9%
9999 - Unknown	86.0%	35.4%	23.9%

Note: The data is collected in term 3. It does not reflect actual schools enrolled in by existing preschool children. A blank cell indicates there was no data for students enrolled.

Data Source: Department for Education Destination Data Report, 2024.

Family Feedback

Tell us what you have loved about Wallaroo Preschool, including highlights of your child's and family's time.

I have loved the kindness shown to each family every morning when they walk through the door. The way you greet the child first, and speak to them directly instead of through the parents makes me feel like you genuinely care and are interested to know them as their own little people  being understanding and having the time ALWAYS to support and nurture. Including and sharing and being genuine people that are learning alongside is the whole way through.

We loved the sense of belonging to Wallaroo Preschool. It is such an inclusive place and made us all feel so welcome. We have felt such joy in watching our daughter grow in confidence and develop strong connections with her peers and the staff. Our daughter has loved so much about preschool - making new friends, "wondering time", creating artistic masterpieces to bring home and having the chance to be herself and play!

The preschool and staff are very welcoming and inclusive. Having opportunities to spend time at the kindy with (child) was very special. Including excursions and beach kindy. Watching (child) grow and develop through the year was pure joy. She was always happy and excited to attend preschool.

We have loved the Wallaroo Preschool, it has given our daughter a nurturing and caring environment, to thrive. She has become confident and independent with all her activities. She is excited to go to kindy and loves all her educators and always looks forward to whatever kindy has to offer.

We have loved everything about our time at Wallaroo Preschool this year! The educators are so warm and welcoming and really took the time to get to know our child and build a genuine connection with her. They know exactly how to support her when she needs it and are right there with her to celebrate her successes.

We love the opportunities she has had to visit many different places in the local community, especially beach kindy!!

Highest Qualifications held by the teaching workforce and workforce composition

All teachers at this school are qualified and registered with the SA Teachers Registration Board.

Qualification Level	Number of Qualifications
Bachelor's degrees or Diplomas	3

Data Source: Data extracted from Mandatory Workforce Information Collections as on the last pay date of June 2024. As self-reported by staff in the system.

Please note: Data includes staff who are Actively employed and on extended paid leave. Please note only the highest qualification of the Teaching staff is reported. Excludes any number of other certifications earned.

Workforce composition including indigenous staff

	Teaching Staff		Non-Teaching Staff	
	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous
Full-Time Equivalents	0.0	2.7	0.0	1.7
Persons	0.0	4.0	0.0	3.0

Data Source: Data extracted from Mandatory Workforce Information Collection as on the last pay date of June 2024.

Please note: Data includes staff who are actively employed and on extended paid leave. "Indigenous category" is self-reported by staff in the system.

Financial Statement

Funding Source	Amount
Grants: State	\$553706.02
Grants: Commonwealth	\$0
Parent Contributions	\$13,132.00
Fund Raising	\$5,655.50
Other	\$9295.27

Data Source: School supplied data.