



PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: January 2015

Centre number: 6667

Centre name: Stirling North Childhood Services Centre

1. General information

Preschool Director-Robyn Rosenzweig

Postal address - PO Box 1399, Stirling North, 5710, S.A.

Location address- Beckman St. Stirling North SA 5710

DECD Partnership – Port Augusta/Quorn Partnership

Geographical location –approximately 400m west of the Stirling North Store/Post Office

Telephone number-08 86436205

Fax number-08 86436378

Preschool website address www.stirlingnkgn.sa.edu.au

Preschool e-mail address- dl.6667_leaders@schools.sa.edu.au

Enrolment/Attendance-current enrolment 50 children (term 1, 2016) attendance has been 85% -90% attendance

Co-located/stand-alone- Co-Located on the Stirling North Primary School Site

Programs operating at the preschool

Pre Entry- currently includes 3 visits towards the end of the term 4 before beginning fulltime preschool

Full Day Program-for eligible children-The preschool operates Monday to Thursday each week. Each four year old child attends five full days over a fortnight. Each child attends four terms of fulltime preschool before starting school

Children are entitled to attend up to 15 hours of preschool per week for four terms before they start school.

Children who are Aboriginal or under the guardianship of the Minister are entitled to attend up to 12 hours of preschool per week from three years of age and 15 hours, at the beginning of the year before starting school.

Preschool Support- The preschool support program provided by DECD supports the inclusion of children with special needs and/or developmental delay in their local preschool. Support hours are requested by each site and allocated according to District priorities and the availability of hours. The number of children requiring and receiving support varies each term.

2. Key Centre Policies

Centre Priorities/Statement

Whole centre approach in place to improve children's Numeracy and Literacy skills
Use of the Respect, Relate, Review Document to improve practices
Promotion of healthy lifestyle
Engaging families and the community into the preschool.

3. Curriculum

Framework used:

Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) Programming and planning are based on the 5 learning outcomes of the EYLF.
Preschool Numeracy and Literacy indicators
Child Protection curriculum

Core Values

To provide a high quality teaching and learning programs where each child is encouraged and supported to reach their full potential.

Specific curriculum approaches

Provision of a play based curriculum that is age appropriate and includes intentional teaching.
Regular reporting on individual children's progress
Communicate with parents/caregivers regarding their child/children's progress.

4. Centre Based Staff

Staff Profile

Director (1.0), Teacher (1.0), Universal Access Teacher (0.4) and Early Childhood worker (0.8). Additional staffing employed due to funding and special programs.

Performance Management Program

Educators are responsible for completing their own Performance and Development plan by the end of term 1. Plan discussed and jointly agreed to by the Educator and the Preschool Director.

Access to special support staff-

Disabilities Co-ordinator- works in partnership with centre staff and parents to support the inclusion of children with additional needs.

Hearing impairment Services-Teacher consultants provide a consultancy service.

Speech Pathology Services- Speech Pathologists conduct assessments and provide programmes to help meet the needs of children with communication difficulties.

Early Childhood Psychologist Services – Provide an educational psychology service to support staff in meeting the academic, social and emotional needs of children.

Interagency Student Behaviour Management Services – Provide support for staff in working with children with behavioural challenges.

Child Health Team – Based at the Flinder's Terrace Health Centre, including a speech pathologist, occupational therapist, physiotherapist and dietician.

Other support services – Child Development Unit, Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services and Child and Youth Health

5. Centre Facilities

Buildings and grounds

We are co-located with the Stirling North Primary School.

It consists of the following areas – staff and children's toilet area (suitable for 45 children), kitchen, Director's office, teacher/ECW Office, Intervention room, storeroom, large mat area with an Interactive White board and large indoor area. A veranda and pergola provide extra shade and covered play areas outside.

Covered sand pit, cubby house, climbing structure, swings, lawn area and bark chip area.

The grounds are newly established with a continual development to improve the outdoor area.

Capacity- 45,

Access for children and staff with disabilities

Suitable ramp and double doors at the main back entrance.

There is a disabled toilet and changing facilities.

6. Local Community (intended for country preschools)

General characteristics:

Approx. 75% of children enrolled reside in Stirling North, while the remaining 25% reside in Port Augusta.

Most families have one or two adults involved in employment, either full time or part time in Stirling North or Port Augusta. Unemployment affects a small minority of families.

A small proportion of families have one parent working in remote places (e.g. Roxby Downs) on rotational shift arrangements.

A small number of Aboriginal families reside in the Stirling North area.

Although located close to Port Augusta, Stirling North retains its own community identity. The township has a general store/service station/post office.

Stirling North also has a Primary School which caters for children from Reception to Year 7. Children travel in to Port Augusta to access high school programmes and there are both town and school buses available

Parent and community involvement in the preschool

The Centre has an active and committed Governing Council consisting of a group of parents who meet twice each term with the preschool director. This group aims to be representative of the broader preschool community and assists with decisions relating to finance, site upgrades, the purchase of new equipment and maintenance. All families are welcome to participate in Governing Council meetings.

The Centre also encourages parent and community involvement in a number of ways including; stay and play time each morning, inviting community visitors in to the Centre, promoting local community events, encouraging families to become actively involved in the learning programme and organising family nights and special events.

Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool

Most of the children who attend this preschool go to the Stirling North Primary School with only a small percentage enrolling in Primary Schools within Port Augusta.

Other local care and educational facilities

There are 4 other DECS preschools, 6 primary schools and 1 special school located in Port Augusta. Special classes are housed at Port Augusta West Primary School and Augusta Park Primary School. There are two Child Care Centres situated within Port Augusta and Family Day Care providers are located in both Stirling North and Port Augusta. OSHC is available at Port Augusta West Primary School

Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities

Stirling North has its own post office, local supermarket and petrol station. The local hotel is the "Traveller's Rest". The services offered in Port Augusta are regularly used by the residents of Stirling North.

Other local facilities, e.g. medical, sporting, social, cultural, recreational

The facilities within Port Augusta area are used by the residents of Stirling North, including sporting, recreational, commercial, industrial and shopping facilities.

Availability of staff housing

While there is no staff housing in Stirling North, housing can be provided within Port Augusta subject to availability.

Accessibility to Adelaide

Port Augusta has both regular flight and bus services to and from Adelaide.

Local Government

Corporation of Port Augusta

4 Mackay Street, Port Augusta SA 5700

Phone; 8641 9100 Fax: 8641 0357

Email: admin@portaugusta.sa.gov.au

Internet: www.portaugusta.sa.gov.au

7. Further Comments

Partnership arrangements with other groups

Partnership/incorporation arrangements with other groups

This is one of 5 preschools in Port Augusta that operate collaboratively at a cluster level on common strategic directions and to address specific issues and provide collegiate support. To facilitate this, the directors meet twice a term. Preschool Directors also participate in Principal/Director cluster meetings held twice a term.

The preschool has a close working relationship with Stirling North Primary School. Together the school and preschool ensure there is a positive transitional program that includes 3-transition visit, additional small group work with a staff member common to both sites and at least one excursion to the primary school a term. Both sites regularly communicate and collaborate for the benefit of enrolled

children. The preschool is able to borrow resources and equipment from the Stirling North Primary School and use their facilities, such as their library.