



PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 09/07/2021

Centre number: 3697

Centre name: Port Elliot Kindergarten

1. General information

- Preschool Director: Sarah Mack
- Postal address: 5 Wright Street, Port Elliot S.A. 5213
- Location address: as above
- DECD Partnership: Fleurieu
- Geographical location: Port Elliot
- Telephone number: 8554 2962
- Preschool website address: www.ptelliotkgn.sa.edu.au
- Preschool e-mail address: dl.3697.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au
- Enrolment/Attendance: between 50 and 65 children 2018 – 2021, capped at 70.
- stand-alone preschool located next door to Port Elliot Primary School.
- Programs operating at the preschool
 - ⊗ Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children
 - ⊗ Term 4 Transition playgroup for children the year prior to their eligible preschool year.
 - ⊗ Preschool Support

2. Key Centre Policies

- Centre Priorities/Statement of Purpose

At Port Elliot Kindergarten we want children to be enthusiastic about coming to a place where they can find friends, connect with caring educators and feel like they belong to a community. We want children to develop confidence in who they are, believe in their unique capabilities and express themselves authentically. We want Port Elliot Kindergarten to be remembered as a warm and welcoming place that allowed children to be and helped them to become.

We believe:

- Every child is a unique individual who is competent and capable.
- Equity for all must be maintained.
- We believe that the principles of friendship, harmony, difference, respect, acceptance and understanding are the foundations for reconciliation.
- Play is the best mode for learning and development.
- All developmental domains are equally important for holistic growth.
- Parents are children's first and most influential educators.
- Building connections with our wider community, especially Ngarrindjeri people and culture is vital.
- Developing sustainable practices with children will help protect the future of the natural environment.
- Educators are co-learners with children.

Therefore we

- Provide open-ended active learning environments that promote inclusivity, cultivate a deep sense of belonging and ensure all children are supported to participate in learning that is meaningful, fun and challenging.
- Work in partnership with all families through open and constructive communication, being flexible and responsive to their ideas and contexts.
- Promote reconciliation by building relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, learning about the past and current realities of our shared national history and embedding First Nations perspectives throughout the curriculum.
- Work closely with Port Elliot Primary School to ensure smooth transition to school.
- Develop and build on children's connection with the natural environment.
- Critically reflect on our practice as educators, working together to build a culture of innovation, excellence and lifelong learning.

3. Curriculum

- Framework used:
 - Early Years Learning Framework

- South Australian Indicators of Literacy and Numeracy
- South Australian Preschool Guidebooks for Literacy and Numeracy
- Reflect, Respect, Relate

4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff Profile
 - 1.0FTE Site Director (split 0.8FTE and 0.2FTE between 2 staff members)
 - 1.0FTE Teacher (split 2 x 0.5FTE between 2 staff members)
 - 0.4FTE Universal Access + 0.1FTE 2020 EA (combined for 1 staff member)
 - 1.0FTE Early Childhood Worker
 - 0.8FTE Early Childhood Worker
- Performance Management Program: To ensure educators are accountable for their own learning and continue to deepen their understandings around relevant and contextual teaching strategies and professional development opportunities, twice yearly (Term 1 and Term 3/4) staff engage in self-reflective PD meetings with the site Leader. Following on from discussions and reflective of agreements made written feedback is given to each Educator, within a timely manner.
- Access to special support staff: Support staffing allocated when deemed most appropriate in supporting children with additional rights.

5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds: Port Elliot Kindergarten is located in the residential area of Port Elliot, next door to Port Elliot Primary School. Our kindergarten offers a holistic and authentic program supportive of children developing lifelong learning disposition through a playful and multi-sensory environment. The learning environment enacts as the third teacher, providing invitations for exploration, discovery, enchantment and creativity.
- Capacity: 35 per session
- Centre Ownership: South Australian Department for Education
- Access for children and staff with disabilities: Port Elliot Kindergarten has disabled access and toileting facilitating for staff and children

6. Local Community (intended for country preschools)

- General characteristics: all trades and professions are represented in the broader Fleurieu community. Predominantly English spoken in homes.
- Parent and community involvement in the preschool: Governing Council, attending excursions, cooking/cleaning and helping out around the site.
- Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool: Port Elliot Primary School, Goolwa Primary School, Encounter Lutheran College.
- Other local care and educational facilities: Port Elliot Primary School, Port Elliot OSCH
- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities: The City of Victor Harbor is 15 minutes away and has all major services available including a hospital with a 24hr emergency department and shopping centres supporting major stores.
- Other local facilities: Showgrounds, Oval, Medical Centre and Pharmacy
- Availability of staff housing: housing available for rent or purchase in Port Elliot and surrounding towns.
- Accessibility: Adelaide is 70-80 minutes away by car. Public Bus service operates daily.
- Local Government: Governed by Alexandrina Council

7. Further Comments

- Partnership arrangements with other groups: Our kindergarten is a part of Adelaide Western Shores Partnership and is a government funded site. Our involvement in the partnership provides us with opportunities to engage and work in collaboration with our local public kindergartens and primary schools and high schools.