



PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 2016

Centre number: 5639

Centre name: Penneshaw Kindergarten

1. General information

- Preschool Director
Kristie Werner
- Postal address
Howard Drive Penneshaw 5222
- Location address
Howard Drive Penneshaw
- DECD Partnership
Kangaroo Island Education Partnership
- Geographical location
Kangaroo Island
180 km south of Adelaide across Backstairs Passage
Adjacent to the school site
- Telephone number
85531555
- Fax number
85531555
- Preschool website address:
www.penneshawpre.sa.edu.au
- Preschool e-mail address
dl.5639.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au
- Enrolment/Attendance

	Enrolment	Attendance
2012	10	83.2%
2013	10	89.2%
2014	4	77%
2015	6	83%
2016	17	

- Co-located/stand-alone
stand-alone kindergarten
- Programs operating at the preschool
 - ⌘ Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children
 - ⌘ Childcare – operated by Kangaroo Island Children’s Services at the Penneshaw Kindergarten Site
 - ⌘ Associated Programs
 - ⌘ Lunch/Full Day Program
 - ⌘ Preschool Support

2. Key Centre Policies

- Centre Philosophy

At the Penneshaw Kindergarten we believe children are competent, capable and unique individuals who bring a wealth of knowledge, skills and ideas to our kindergarten. We aim to provide a safe, nurturing and welcoming environment in which children’s ideas and interests are listened to, valued and built upon, to guide our learning journey.

Our program is guided by the Early Years Learning Framework of Australia, ‘Belonging, Being, Becoming’ which outlines best practice and reflects contemporary early childhood research and theory. Educators support children to work towards the learning outcomes:

- Children have a strong sense of identity
- Children are connected with and contribute to their world
- Children have a strong sense of wellbeing
- Children are confident and involved learners
- Children are effective communicators

We believe children’s learning is complex, dynamic and holistic with play providing the perfect context for learning. Children’s play is supported by a rich, flexible learning environment which promotes curiosity, exploration, creativity and resourcefulness. We strive to provide authentic experiences through which children can connect with their environment and each other. Educators play a crucial role in children’s learning through creating an environment full of learning potential and interacting within children’s play to promote fairness, problem solving, experimentation and reflective thinking. We acknowledge the importance of dispositions for learning and therefore plan to develop children’s confidence, independence, persistence, resilience and a positive mindset towards taking on challenges.

We value relationships with children, families, staff and the wider community. We recognise parents as their child's first educators and aim to develop trusting, respectful partnerships with all families making them feel welcome and valuing their input and feedback. We strive to make connections with the wider community to share skills, resources and to access services to support children, families and educators.

We value a happy, friendly, learning environment in which the skills and knowledge of educators are valued and utilised. We aim to promote a culture of self-reflection and continual improvement.

Updated: 2014/15

3. Curriculum

- Framework used: Early Years Learning Framework (refer to philosophy above)

4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff Profile
.5 Director (PSD1)
.4 ECW (ECW1)
(Increasing to .6 Director, .6 ECW with Universal Access Funding)
- Performance Management Program
- Access to special support staff
Support Services are available through referral to DECD Support Services. The site is also supported by Parenting KI, Child and Youth Health and Country Health SA.
- Other
A finance officer is employed by the Governing Council.

5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
The Penneshaw Kindergarten was opened in 1986 on a site adjacent to the school and looks out over Backstairs Passage. The preschool building has an architectural layout of interesting angles providing three open areas for children to play. There is also an administration office area, a kitchen, storeroom and indoor toilet and baby change table facilities. There are

verandas on the front and back of the building providing extra shelter for outdoor activities. The outdoor area is shaded by a large pergola.

There are two storage sheds on the grounds, which provide storage for outdoor play equipment. The grounds provide an adventurous environment for children to explore. A 'pathway of discovery' was added in 2014.

- Capacity (per session)
21
- Centre Ownership
DECD
- Access for children and staff with disabilities
Ramp access

6. Local Community (intended for country preschools)

- General characteristics:
Penneshaw is the main port on Kangaroo Island. Tourism, farming and community services are the main employers.
- Parent and community involvement in the preschool
Parent and community participation is encouraged and valued. Parents and community members are involved on the governing council, sharing their skills as part of the curriculum, and helping out with centre upkeep
- Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool
Kangaroo Island Community Education – Penneshaw Campus
- Other local care and educational facilities,
Kangaroo Island Children's Services offers long day care at the Penneshaw Kindergarten Site. Playgroup, run by Parenting KI, operates once a month.
- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
Shopping facilities and businesses in Penneshaw include: a business centre with banking and postal facilities, a supermarket, a chemist depot, gift shop, hotel and bottle shop, several take away food outlets/cafes, and a beauty salon.
- Other local facilities
Several sporting clubs and facilities are available in Penneshaw including tennis, football, netball, basketball and golf. A skate park is also located in the town. The pristine environment offers recreational activities including fishing, boating and bushwalking.

- Availability of staff housing
Government housing is available in Penneshaw however demand for this housing exceeds supply.
- Accessibility
Transport to the mainland is costly. The Sealink ferry sails several times a day to the mainland with connecting bus travel to Adelaide available with some crossings. An airport is located in Kingscote with daily flights to Adelaide.
- Local Government
Kangaroo Island Council
43 Dauncey Street Kingscote
www.kangarooisland.sa.gov.au
(08) 8553 4500

7. Further Comments

- Penneshaw Kindergarten works closely with Kangaroo Island Children's Services and Kangaroo Island Community education early years team. We also have strong connections with community groups and local support services.