

PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 04/2016

Centre number: 3649

Centre name: Mary Bywaters Kindergarten

1. General information

- Preschool Director
:Janet Buxton
- Postal address
:54 Corn St. Old Reynella 5161
- Location address
:54 Corn St. Old Reynella 5161
- DECD Partnership
:Panalatinga
- Road distance from GPO (km)
:22 kms
- Telephone number
:8381 2904
- Fax number
:8322 8749

- Preschool website address:
: www.marybywakgn.sa.edu.au
- Preschool e-mail address;
: dl.3649.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au
- Enrolment/Attendance
2016 Enrolments 71, Average Daily Attendance (from data collection) 67
Attendance pattern:
GROUP 1 – ‘Gum Nuts’ Up to 33 children in 2016
Monday and Tuesday 8.30am – 3.00pm plus 4 alternate Fridays for 5 hours
8.30am - 1.30pm starting in week one of term.

GROUP 2 – ‘Desert Peas’ Up to 39 children in 2016
Wednesday and Thursday 8.30am – 3.00pm plus 4 alternate Fridays for 5
hours 8.30am-1.30pm starting in week 2 of term.
- Co-located/stand-alone:
Stand-alone
- Programs operating at the preschool
 - ❖ Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children
 - ❖ Associated Programs: Early entry when places are available
 - ❖ Full Day Program
 - ❖ Bilingual support when needed. Not currently in place
 - ❖ Preschool support for identified children

2. Key Centre Policies

- Centre Priorities – refer to the Quality Improvement Plan
- Priority of Access Policy

3. Curriculum

- Framework used: ‘The Early Years Learning Framework of Australia’: Belonging Being and Becoming
- Core Values
- Specific curriculum approaches - Early Childhood pedagogy
- Joint programmes/special curriculum projects

4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff Profile
Staff for 2016 4.0 FTE: Preschool Director (Band A1) 1.0, Preschool Teacher (Step 9) 1.0, ECW1 1.0, ECW1 0.5, Universal Access Preschool Teacher 0.5.
- Performance Management Program:
Each educator prepares a Professional Development Plan and meets with the Preschool Director in Term 1. They meet again in Term 3 to review progress and make further plans.
- Access to support staff is through DECD Support Services at Noarlunga Regional Office:
We refer children to Speech Pathologist, Psychologist, Special Educator

5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds:
The original Kindergarten service opened in 1947 in the Methodist Sunday School Hall in Peach St, Reynella. The current building was opened in 1973, and now comprises a large activity room, a carpeted room and a small withdrawal room, an office and a small kitchen. The outdoor space has 2 areas, one at the same level as the building, and a larger area on a higher level. There is lawn, shady trees, vegetable garden, young fruit trees, climbing area and cubby house, with further areas for exploration.
- Capacity:
: 45 children per session
- Centre ownership:
: DECD
- Access for children and staff with disabilities:
: There are no steps through the gate or into the building, making them easily accessible. The gate and entrance doors will accommodate a wheelchair or double pram. There are steps and a ramp to the upper part of the outdoor area.

6. Local Community

- General characteristics:
: A high percentage of families in the community have one or two parents working either full or part time. Main language is English. There are a small number of families for whom English is a second language.
- Parent and community involvement in the preschool:

: Parents and grandparents volunteer to provide support eg, organisational tasks, excursion support, fundraising, Governing Council membership, gardening help. Centre management decisions are made in conjunction with our Governing Council.

- Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool:
: Children from this kindergarten go to a large number of schools. In 2015, about 40% went to Reynella Primary School, with the remainder going to 28 government and non-government schools. A small number of children transfer to a non-government school at the beginning of Term 3.
- Other local care and educational facilities:
: Our centre works closely with 2 local child care centres. Kindy Patch Reynella and Edge Kids Life, both of which bring and collect children to enable them to attend our preschool program.
- Local Government:
: City of Onkaparinga

7. Further Comments

- Partnership arrangements with other groups:
: This kindergarten is part of the Panalatinga Partnership.
: We participate in the Panalatinga Preschool Cluster and the NRM Early Start group.
: The local Country Women's Association use the Centre twice a month for evening meetings.
: We take the children to visit the local nursing home twice each term.