

Preschool Context Statement

Updated: March 2017

Centre Number: 5631

Centre Name: Lucy Morice Kindergarten

1. General Information

- Centre Name
Lucy Morice Kindergarten
- Centre Number
5631
- Preschool director
- Ros / Wright Lisa Ringwood
- Postal address
80 Sussex Street, North Adelaide, 5006
- Phone number
82672742
- Fax number
82676249
- Email address
dl5631.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au
- DECD Region
East Adelaide
- Road distance from GPO (km)
2 km
- Enrolment/attendance
Capacity of 76 in kindergarten plus 8 Occasional Care places
- Co-located/stand alone
Stand alone
- Programs operating
Sessional kindergarten – 15 hours per week, delivered as 30 hours per fortnight
Attendance patterns offered:
2 x full days Monday & Tuesday 8.30-3.3.15 PLUS alternate Friday mornings 8.30-11.30
OR
2 x full days Wednesday & Thursday 8.30-3.15 PLUS alternate Friday mornings 8.30-11.30

Occasional Care Program

6 sessions (funded) per week for 2-4 year olds (not accessing any other DECD service)

Bilingual support

As required

Preschool support

Preschool support is allocated following a referral and assessment from Regional staff (e.g. disability Coordinator, Speech Therapist and Psychologist). Allocation of hours within the region is based on a priority of children's needs, and subject to funding.

- Local Management

The responsibility of kindergarten management rests with the Director, supported by Governing Council and staff. An Annual General Meeting is held each year, where committee members are nominated and appointed. The kindergarten contracts the services of an accountant and participates in the DECD yearly audit.

2. Key Centre Policies

- Integrated kindergarten program with Occasional Care
- Provision of quality play based program
- A focus on children's wellbeing and a strong sense of belonging.
- Building strong relationships with parent and wider community
- Improvement of the play environment area as the "third teacher"

3. Curriculum

- Early Years Learning Framework
- Core Values
 - Learning
 - Communication
 - Collaboration – flexibility, acceptance, cooperation
 - Inclusivity – tolerance, resourcefulness, respect and confidence
 - Spirit of Inquiry – curiosity, wonder, self-direction, research, evaluation and independence
- Specific curriculum approaches
 - To develop strong learners for life
 - Encourage children to investigate, imagine and explore through play
 - To create a positive, safe and challenging learning environment
 - To create a continuous and collaborative learning partnership between staff, children, families and local schools
 - To provide an inclusive program that engages all children
 - Transition programs to school. Reception teacher/s often visit kindergarten to meet those children starting school in the following term
 - Transition statements prepared for children leaving to attend school
 - Kindergarten maintains its involvement in a Hub group meeting of local kindergartens and schools, once a term

4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff profile
 - Director 1.0
 - Teacher 1.0
 - Occasional Care ECW2 0.6
 - ECW2 1.0 (this can fluctuate depending on attendance figures)
 - Lunch Care ECW1 funded by the kindergarten
- Performance Management Program
 - Staff met with the Director twice a year to review, plan and implement identified goals from the Quality Improvement Plan and Personal Development Plans
- Access to special support staff
 - Referrals to DECD and private providers are sought in consultation with parents and staff. All referrals are subject to parent consent

5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds

The building dates back to 1935, as a purpose built kindergarten/ child care facility. It is an open plan design, light and airy with a large bay window. The centre has an office, mat area, store room, paint washing sink, store room and Occasional Care has its own separate room and kitchen area. The kindergarten is air conditioned throughout. At the moment the grounds consist of a new swing area, play platform, large covered sand pit area, water pump, quiet "fairy" garden nook, a solid cubby house and a climbing tree. The old cedar tree provides charm and ample shade and a young golden elm helps completely shade the northern outside area. The outdoor verandah area will be painted this year.
- Capacity

76 children per day
16 Occasional Care children per day
- Centre Ownership

DECD owned facility
- Access for children and staff with disabilities

Yes, ramps available

6. Local Community

- Comprises of children and families from various cultures, the majority of parents are professional or self-employed with many households having 2 outcomes
- Parent and community involvement in preschool
 - Participation in Governing Council
 - Parent/Teacher interviews
 - Parent participation in excursions
 - Parents are invited to share their interests
 - Parents assist with the preparation of curriculum materials as well as working bees
 - We provide support for work experience students from a range of local high schools

- Schools to which children generally transfer
 - DECD feeder primary schools can include – North Adelaide Primary School, Walkerville Primary School, and Nailsworth Primary School
 - Private feeder primary schools can include – St Monica’s, Rosary, Blackfriars, Christian Brothers College, St Peters and Prince Alfred College
 - Other local care and educational facilities
 - Prospect Community Childcare Centre, Anglicare Childcare Centre, Walkerville Pre-kindy, Mackinnon Parade Childcare Centre
 - Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
 - Other local facilities
 - Glover Street playground is a short walk from the kindergarten. The Women’s and Children’s Hospital is at the end of Melbourne Street and many ovals and open areas surround the kindergarten within walking distance
 - Accessibility to Adelaide
 - Via public transport via Melbourne Street (Stop 4)