

Preschool Context Statement

Updated: March 2018

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 37 kindergarten children plus up to 8 Occasional Care places
Currently staffed for up to 33 children to attend each kindergarten session
- 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 8.30-3.15 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.
- Full Day / Lunch care is part of our Kindergarten program Mondays to Thursdays.
- Transition /Information sessions
As part of the transition process, children attend two sessions in term 4. Parents are invited to stay for one of these sessions. Parents receive their enrolment package at an information evening in Term 3
- 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

Our Vision

To provide a quality early childhood education and care service to the community.

Our Purpose

To deliver a quality play based program in a stimulating and nurturing environment, where children can develop dispositions for life long learning.

Our focus

- Delivering an Integrated kindergarten program with Occasional Care
- Supporting children's wellbeing, health and safety and a strong sense of belonging.
- Supporting children's thinking and problem solving skills
- Building reciprocal and respectful relationships with children, parents and the wider community
- To provide a stimulating play environment
- Strategically work on the improvement priorities in our Quality Improvement Plan

3. Curriculum

- Guided by the Early Years Learning Framework

Core Values

- Respect
- Open Communication
- Collaboration – flexibility, acceptance, cooperation
- Inclusivity – tolerance, respect , empathy
- Spirit of Inquiry – curiosity, wonder, self-direction, research, reflection and evaluation

Specific curriculum approaches

- Learning through Play
- Reflective practice. Currently using the RRR Active Learning Environment Scale to inform our STEM Inquiry Project
- Holistic approach. Valuing the whole child.
- Responsiveness. Responding to children’s strengths and interests.
- Intentional teaching. Deliberate thoughtful and purposeful.
- Learning environment. Provide a rich challenging environment with opportunities for learning, thinking and collaboration.
- Continuity of Learning. Support successful transition into and from kindergarten.
- Inclusivity. To provide an inclusive program that engages all children, respects and values diversity.

4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff profile
 - Director 1.0
 - Teacher 1.2
 - Occasional Care ECW2 0.6
 - ECW 1.4 (this can fluctuate depending on attendance figures)
- Performance Management Program
 - Staff meet with the Director twice a year to review, plan and implement identified goals from the Quality Improvement Plan and Personal Development Plans and to receive feedback
- 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.

- We have links with other providers including Cora Barclay Centre and Women’s and Children’s Hospital.
- From time to time OT students from Uni SA work with small groups of children.
- Incursions with visiting performers.

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, storeroom, paint-washing sink, and Occasional Care has its own separate room and remodelled kitchen area [2017]. The kindergarten is air conditioned throughout. At the moment the grounds consist of a new swing area, play platform, large covered sand pit area, mud kitchen, water pump, "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 was extensively painted in 2017.
- Capacity
45 children per day
Currently staffed for up to up to 33 children to attend per session
7 Occasional Care children attend per session
- Centre Ownership
DECD owned facility
- Access for children and staff with disabilities
Yes, ramps and handrails 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 incomes
- Parent and community involvement in preschool
Participation in Governing Council
Parent/Teacher interviews
Parent participation in excursions
Parents are invited to share their interests
Occasional 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 –Walkerville Primary School, North Adelaide Primary School, Nailsworth Primary School, Prospect 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)

7. Further Comments

- We are part of the Adelaide Prospect Partnership.
- We meet twice a term with other kindergarten directors
- Our teachers and ECWs participate in partnership hub groups as part of their professional development
- We work with local school principals and teachers to plan transition and share our practice.