



PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 16/8/13

Centre number: 4668

Centre name: The John Francis Clark Memorial Kindergarten

1. General information

- Preschool Director :Mrs Heather Fuss
- Postal address: 2 Roder Crt St Agnes SA 5097
- Location address: Enter via Ardtornish Primary School on Saarinen Ave, St Agnes
- DECD Region: Northern Adelaide
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km): Tea Tree Gully 15km
- Telephone number: (08) 8264 9828
- Fax number: (08) 8395 3601
- Preschool website address: <http://www.johnfranciskgn.sa.edu.au>
- Preschool e-mail address: heather.fuss794@schools.sa.edu.au
- Enrolment/Attendance
Enrolments vary each year – between 40 and 65 for the last 5 years. In 2013, our enrolments are 41 in term 3. Attendance is good, being around

4 less than enrolments per term.

- Co-located/stand-alone

We are a stand alone kindergarten, and we are adjacent to Ardtornish Primary School. This is our main “feeder” school.

- Programs operating at the preschool

- ⊞ Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children– The centre is full time, offering four sessions per week to each child, Monday to Thursday, A.M Session 8.30 – 11.30 P.M. Session 12.00 – 3.00
- ⊞ Lunch/Full Day Program- Full days are offered to eligible children Monday to Thursday, a \$5 fee is charged per lunch care.
- ⊞ Bilingual Support – Applied for as needed.
- ⊞ Preschool Support – DECD support applied for as needed. Early intervention support funded by the site.

2. Key Centre Policies

- Centre Priorities/Statement of Purpose

Our vision is for a high quality and an accountable preschool education service, staffed with professional, friendly and caring people working in partnership with the local families to provide a program which addresses the learning needs of all children.

Our goal is the provision of a safe environment in which children can grow and learn. The centre develops and provides a play-based curriculum incorporating the developmental progress of the individual. We enhance individual potential while recognising current skill levels and prior learning. Children develop a love of learning through taking pleasure in play experiences through our provision of programmes.

Our priorities for 2013 are oral language and comprehension, making learning visible and a smooth transition to becoming a childrens centre.

3. Curriculum

- Framework used: Belonging, Being & Becoming (The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia)

- Core Values

Responsibility, trust, respect and caring.

All staff engage in writing observations using individual focus children. These observations and children's term 1 or term 4 assessments are discussed with staff during staff meetings. These observations help set the direction of the children's learning and planning for Belonging, Being and Becoming curriculum framework.

- Specific curriculum approaches

Our Curriculum is Belonging, Being and Becoming, which is designed to be supported by 5 learning areas. These areas include:

- 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

- Joint programmes/special curriculum projects

The director engages in cluster meetings twice a term and tri-cluster meetings once a term working with school principals and other kindergarten directors on joint projects/issues in relation to learning, outcomes and leadership. The director also attends meetings on a termly basis with other Preschool Directors in the Northern District. The preschool collaborates with Ardtornish Primary School to ensure positive

outcomes for children during transition to school and to provide children with opportunities for cross age learning groups.

4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff Profile
1.0 Director, 0.5 Teacher, 0.5 Early Childhood Worker
We also have 2 part-time ECWs for Early intervention and Support, 1 part time ECW for administration support and 1 part time ECW for finance support. In preparation for becoming a childrens centre we also have a 1.0 Community Development Coordinator.
- Performance Management Program
The Director reports to the Assistant Regional Director, and the teachers meet with the Director twice a year.
- Access to Special Support Staff
Preschool and bilingual support are accessed as needed.

5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
The Kindergarten is currently located in the Ardtornish primary school hall. We moved in at the beginning of 2013. As part of the transition to childrens centre a new builing is being constracted on the site of the old Kindy facilities.
- Capacity (per session) 30
- Centre Ownership DECD
- Access for children and staff with disabilities Full access

6. Local Community (intended for country preschools)

- General characteristics
Predominantly English speaking backgrounds
- Parent and community involvement in the preschool
There is an active governing council that meets twice a term to organise fundraising, facilities maintenance and purchase priorities. We have two Tea Tree Gully councillors as resrepresentatives as well.

- Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool
Ardtornish Primary School, St David's Parish School and Good Shepherd Lutheran School.
- Other local care and educational facilities,
Children can access Ardtornish Out of School Hours Care, before and after kindergarten. This needs to be negotiated with the school.
On the school grounds is a Playgroup building where an independent Playgroup is offered 3 days a week.
- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
There are local shopping and business areas. The preschool is approximately 1 km from Tea Tree Plaza, The Modbury Hospital and the TAFE at Tea Tree Gully. The bus interchange at Tea Tree Plaza is less than 1 km away.
- Other local facilities
Yes
- Availability of staff housing
No
- Accessibility
Close to Obhan, Tea Tree Plaza bus terminal. On bus routes for Tea Tree Plaza and the city.
- Local Government
Tea Tree Gully Council