



CONTEXT STATEMENT

McKellar Stewart Kindergarten

Updated: 2021

Centre number: 4632

1. General information

- **Preschool Director:** Julie May
- **Location and Postal address:** 17a Regent Place Kensington. 5068
- **Dept. for Ed Partnership:** Central East. Partnership Portfolio: Felixstowe 1.
- **Geographical location:** 4km East from GPO (km)
- **Telephone number:** 8431 6565 Fax number: 8364 6873
- **Preschool website address:** www.mckellarkgn.sa.edu.au.
- **Preschool e-mail address:** mckellar.kgn709@schools.sa.edu.au
- **Enrolment:** 55 children across 4 days.
- Stand-alone preschool.
- **Programs** operating at the preschool:
 - Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children:
 - Play group: Fridays 10am to 12 noon.
 - Associated Programs: Positive Parenting sessions.
 - Full Day Program: Mon/Tues OR Wed/Thurs: 8.30 to 4pm
 - Bilingual Support – DE criteria applies
 - Preschool Support-- DE criteria applies

The Kindergarten's policies are developed by DE with our site specific policies underpinned by Dept. for Education policies and in line with the National Standards and the Education and care services National Regulations.

2. Centre Priorities

Centre priorities focus on improving children's Wellbeing and Engagement in Learning through developing children's learning dispositions. We are constantly planning for improvement, guided by learning theories focussed on developing children's growth mindsets, creative thinking and powerful learning dispositions. A focus on developing children's ability to learn together and from each other is implemented through collaborative learning groups focussed on an inquiry project. Our priorities are reported each year through a Quality Improvement Plan. QIP.

3. Curriculum

We believe that children develop the positive dispositions to support their learning from an early age, towards becoming engaged lifelong learners.

We plan and evaluate children's learning based on the Early Years Learning Framework and the National Quality Framework and the Dept for Education Preschool Numeracy and Literacy Indicators. As a staff team we implement a cycle of learning for the individual child as well as the group as a collaborative learning community. Learning with and from others builds children's sense of themselves as a competent and capable learner. Children have a strong voice in planning and evaluating their learning. We report regularly on individual and group learning and welcome and value the input of families and our community.

Please view our **Philosophy Statement** for more information about teaching and learning at kindergarten.

4. Centre Based Staff

- Full time Director.
- Two half-time Teachers
- Half-time ECW
- Performance Development Program: For all staff as per DE guidelines.
- Access to special support staff: Bilingual and support services as required.

5. Centre Facilities Buildings and grounds.

- Both the building and outdoor play area have been purpose designed and built and provide a delightful environment for children's learning. Strong community support has resulted in continual improvement of the site. The centre is situated next door to an enclosed park and has well shaded grounds.
- Capacity and staffing : 55 children across the week
- Centre is owned by the Govt Dept. for Education.
- Access for children and staff with disabilities: There is a concrete ramp and a disabled toilet.

6. Local Community

- General characteristics: The centre is embedded in a wonderful community. There is a blend of older residents, young families and new arrival families.

We have a number of parents currently studying. Our families represent a wide variety of cultural backgrounds with many of our children speaking a second language.

- Parent and community involvement in the preschool: We are well supported with parent involvement through the Governing Council and curriculum. We are visible in our local community with regular walks and nature play in local parks, visits to local schools and aged care residents as well as participating in the Norwood Christmas Pageant.
- Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool: Marryatville Primary school is our main feeder school however children also transfer to Norwood Primary and other private schools. We visit each one with the children before they commence school.
- Other local care and educational facilities: This area is densely populated with preschools, schools, childcare centres and creches.
Before and after kindy care is available at the Marryatville Primary OSHC program. It is a short walk from M S Kindergarten with OSHC workers.
- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities: The area around McKellar Stewart Kindergarten is primarily residential with shopping facilities along Norwood Parade and Kensington Road.
- Other local facilities, eg medical, sporting, social, cultural, recreational: There are a number of sporting/recreational facilities nearby, with many of our children attending either local swimming, gymnastics, sporting, dance and music classes.
- Accessibility: on regular bus routes from the city of Adelaide.
- Local Government: Norwood, Payneham, St Peters Council.

7. Further Comments

- Our site has been assessed as Exceeding the National Quality Standards.