PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Centre number: 2651
Centre name: Para Hills West Preschool

1. General information

- Preschool Director: Kerry Wood
- Postal address: 69 Kesters Road, Para Hills West, 5096
- DECD Region: Northern Adelaide (NAR)
- Geographical location – 17kms North of Adelaide
- Telephone number (08) 8349 5160
- Fax number (08) 8359 4257
- Preschool website address: www.parahillspre.sa.edu.au
- Preschool e-mail address: dl.2651.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au
- Enrolment/Attendance: Sessional (eligible year) average enrolments for the last 5 years are around 48 children with attendance of around 40 children
- Co-located/stand-alone
  - Stand alone
- Programs operating at the preschool
  - Pre Entry – 1 session per week (as places available) integrated within the preschool sessions for one term prior to commencement of full time preschool. Limited provision for early entry places in accordance with DECD guidelines. 2013 the pre-entry program may not consist of one session per week due to availability of places and may be less frequent.
Sessional Kindergarten for children in their eligible preschool year – morning, afternoon sessions and full day (2 sessions combined) are available (Monday to Thursday) and a morning session only on a Friday. The organisation of sessions to make the 5 session entitlement (15 hours per week average) is flexible.

Occasional Care – N/A

Extended Care – N/A

Lunch/Full Day Program: Monday - Thursday for children attending sessional preschool

Bilingual Support – provided as required

Preschool Support – provided as required and according to the needs of the children. The amount of preschool support varies each year according to the needs of the children.

2. **Key Centre Policies**

- The preschool has a range of policies in place to ensure compliance with national and local standards and to support high quality practice and provision.
- The preschool has a Quality Improvement Plan and a Site Improvement Plan that are updated at least annually.

3. **Curriculum**

- Framework used: The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia: Belonging, Being and Becoming (DEEWR, Commonwealth of Australia, 2009)

- Core Values: Care, Respect, Equity and Tolerance
The preschool has a Statement of Philosophy that identifies the curriculum values, approaches, pedagogy of the preschool and states a commitment to:
- Play based and active learning for all children
- Inclusivity
- Respect and equity
- Opportunities for children to explore, enquire, engage, develop and learn
- Focus on positive relationships
- Care and respect for self, others and the environment
- Child protection and promotion of protective behaviours
- Partnership with parents and families

The preschool uses the Reflect, Respect and Relate document as a focus for evaluating the provision at the preschool and to focus on children’s wellbeing and involvement in learning.

The preschool also implements the Child Protection Curriculum for South Australia.

4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff Profile
  - Director: PSD1: 1.0
  - 2 Teachers. 1 x 0.6, 1 x 0.4
  - 2 part time ECWs (currently on casual contracts, specialising in support for special educational needs, admin, lunch care and bilingual support)

- Performance Management Program
  - Ongoing informal discussions, staff meetings and a formal Performance and Development process with all staff with reference to the Professional Standards for Teachers, Code of Ethics and state, regional and site priorities.
  - Each staff member is responsible for meeting personal and site goals through reflection, discussion, training and development. The process is facilitated by the Director.

- Access to special support staff
  - Preschool support staff and bilingual support are accessed as required and appropriate. The preschool liaises regularly with government and non-government agencies to support the individual needs of children.

5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
  - The preschool is a stand alone purpose built preschool with outdoor learning provision to the front. The building and grounds are in a generally good condition with investment occurring to ensure ongoing maintenance.
• Capacity: 30 children per session

• Centre Ownership: DECD

• Access for children and staff with disabilities: pathways and access routes are flat. Double doors to preschool entrance. Disabled access to toilet.

• Other: Bus stop and car parking to the front of the preschool.
6. **Local Community** (intended for country preschools)

- General characteristics:
  
  Diverse socio-economic and cultural community  
  (Para Hills West Preschool is a Category One site on the SES disadvantage index)

- Parent and community involvement in the preschool
  
  A small group of parents are actively involved in the Governing Council and we have a couple of regular parent volunteers

- Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool
  
  The main feeder schools are Para Hills West, East Para, Para Hills Schools although in 2012 children also transferred to Mawson Lakes, Pooraka, St Francis Xavier, Keithcott, Salisbury Heights, Wynn Vale, Fairview Park, Brahma Lodge, Mark Oliphant College, St Pauls College, North Ingle, Trinity Gardens, St Thomas Moore, Tyndale, Craigmore Christian schools.

- Other local care and educational facilities,
  
  Kesters Road Childcare Centre is located next to the preschool and can be accessed via a shared gate  
  The preschool operates a ‘Stay and Play’/ playgroup every Friday 11.50am-1.30pm (term time only)

- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
  
  There is a small block of shops next to the Childcare Centre including a deli and fast food outlet. There is a shopping centre, fuel garage and industrial / commercial units in close proximity to the preschool.

- Other local facilities
  
  Dental and medical centres, a sporting ground, reserve and social/ community club are within walking distance of the preschool.

- Availability of staff housing
  
  *N/A*

- Accessibility
  
  There is a bus stop immediately outside the preschool on Kesters Road and the site is located close to major roads in to the city.

- Local Government
  
  The City of Salisbury