Preschool Context Statement

Centre number: 4604

Centre name: Banksia Park Kindergarten

1. General information

- Centre name: Banksia Park Kindergarten
- Centre number: 4604
- Preschool Director: Elspeth McKinnon
  - Postal address: 11 Spring Crescent Banksia Park 5091
- Location address: 11 Spring Crescent Banksia Park 5091
- Telephone number: 82630487
- Fax number: 83954056
- E-mail address: admin@banksiapkgn.sa.edu.au
- DECS Region: Adelaide North Region
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km): 20km
- Enrolment/Attendance: Average: 35 sessional pre-school children
- Co-located/stand-alone: Stand alone (adjacent Banksia Park Primary)
- Programs operating
  - Pre Entry: This program is for children the term prior to commencing sessional kindergarten.
  - Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children
    The kindergarten is open two full days a week i.e. Tuesdays and Wednesdays 9.00 – 3.00 p.m and a half day on Thursdays
Lunch/Full Day Program:
Lunch care program is offered on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

- **Playgroup**
  Playgroup is held on Friday Mornings 9.00 -11.30 a.m. - . The playgroup is run by parents and currently has 1 co ordinator. attending regularly. The Playgroup is a member of the Playgroup association.

- **Preschool Support**
  The number of children receiving pre-school support has varied during the last 2 years. Currently 4 children receive pre-school support due to speech and language and behavioural learning issues.

2. **Key Centre Policies**

- Our mission goal: at the end of their time in kindergarten children will have a positive disposition to learn, have developed self-confidence and have the ability to question, problem solve and communicate effectively.

- **Our current Direction**
  1) Continue strong partnerships with local feeder school staff, and children’s families: Each child has an Individual Learning Plan based on parent information about their child’s learning, and staff observations based on Early Years Learning Framework pedagogy and outcomes.
  2) Develop respect and care for each other, and our environment (this includes our immediate pre-school and outside of pre-school environment. We are continuing to maintain and develop our relatively expansive outdoor learning environment. We are also a partner to Banksia Park School’s Community Garden. We have an ongoing focus and tradition of extending children’s learning through the wider community e.g. excursions, visitors and accessing learning resources (through e.g. nature education Centre, KESAB)
  3) Literacy Focus: Comprehension through oral language: i.e.; phonological awareness development; understanding and retelling narratives and stories; levels of questioning; inferencing: We use TROLL for assessment and evaluation purposes.

We continue to build strong learning links with the local primary school Banksia Park.

3. **Curriculum**

- Framework used: The Early Years Framework for Australia. (since the beginning of 2010). The staff team plans and reviews children’s learning and program on a weekly basis.

- **Core Values:**
  - Play, Creativity, Respect, Self worth.
• Specific curriculum approaches
  : Play-based curriculum; We view children’s ‘Learning Stories’ as an important tool for recording and evaluating children’s activities and curriculum outcomes

4. **Centre Based Staff**
• Staff Profile
  : Director: Permanent teacher: status contract director.
  Teacher: Permanent 2011. ECW: Permanent status

5. **Centre Facilities**
• Buildings and grounds
  : The building (built 1978) is spacious, light and well maintained. Outside area is large and includes a sensory garden. The sandpit has a large shade structure.
• Centre Ownership
  : DECS owned
• Access for children and staff with disabilities
  : Ramp at the back door

6. **Local Community (intended for country preschools)**
• General characteristics: (eg. types of work available, languages usually spoken at home, local developments). Mainly 2 parent families with one or both parents working in either full time or part time employment situations.
• Parent and community involvement in the preschool
  : Highly supportive and involved parent community:
• Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool
  : Main feeder schools include Banksia Park School and St. David’s School.
• Other local care and educational facilities, eg child care, schools, OSHC
  : Approximately 5 children attend OSHC program after pre-school sessions.
• Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
• Other local facilities, eg medical, sporting, social, cultural, recreational
  : A range of highly accessible services.
• Availability of staff housing
  : N/A
• Accessibility to Adelaide and relevant major centres, including public transport and its availability, frequency and cost (especially by air), road quality:
  : Highly accessible.
• Local Government body (name, phone number), availability of publications describing the local area (with source, cost), characteristics, level of involvement
  City of Tea Tree Gully Council

7. Further Comments

The kindergarten is continuing to strengthen its partnership with Banksia Park Primary School. Through accessing the school computers, visiting the library and termly visits to the Reception/Year 1 classes.