



Parks
Children's
Centre
for Early Childhood
Development and Parenting



PARKS CHILDREN'S CENTRE PRESCHOOL

Information Booklet for

Parent's/Caregivers



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Our Philosophy:

We believe that all children have the right to belong, learn and develop lifelong skills in a supportive, safe, nurturing, respectful environment. We will best achieve this by working in partnership with families and other agencies and by providing a curriculum that is relevant, engaging and fun!

(For the full philosophy statement please see the policy folder or ask a staff member)

Our Staff:

Dianne Krieg – Director and Nominated Supervisor.

Dianne has a Bachelor in Early Childhood Education

Felicia (Flick) Rasheed – IPP Teacher and Certified Supervisor.

Flick has a Bachelor of Arts, Graduate Diploma Education (primary) and Graduate Certificate in Disabilities Studies (autism)

Lauren Luce – Teacher.

Lauren has a Bachelor in Early Childhood Education

Leah McDonnell – Teacher.

Leah has a Bachelor in Early Childhood Education

Rae McGrath – IPP Early Childhood Educator/Occasional Care Co-ordinator and Certified Supervisor

Rae has a Diploma in Children's Services

Sinh Nguyen – Bilingual/Early Childhood Educator

Sinh has a Diploma in Children's Services

Priya Sriram- Bilingual/Early Childhood Educator

Priya has a Certificate 3 in Children's Services

Sharon Brandt – Early Childhood Educator

Sharon has a Certificate 3 in Children's Services

Marisa Reveruzzi – Early Childhood Educator

Marisa has a Certificate 3 in Children's services

Karina Dodds – Administration

Carlye Bowden – Community Development Co-ordinator

Carlye has a Bachelor of Applied Science, Recreation, Planning and Management

Tracy Power – Family Services Coordinator

Tracy has a Bachelor in Social Work

Bee-Lan See – Speech pathologist

Bee-Lan has a Masters in Speech pathology

Sarah Seekamp – Occupational Therapist

Sarah has a Bachelor of Applied Science Occupational Therapy (B app Sc OT) and A Bachelor of Health Science Research (Honours)

OUR PRESCHOOL IN CONTEXT

Our service provider is the Department for Education and Child Development (DECD). We are part of the Inner West Region of DECD. The Regional Director is located at the Flinders Park District Office and can be contacted on 84167333. Further information about DECD programmes and services is available on the web at www.decs.sa.gov.au.

Our service is regulated under The National Quality Standard.

Details of our regulatory authority are below:

Education and Early Childhood Services Registration and Standards Board of South Australia

Website: www.eecrsb.sa.gov.au

E-mail: ECSB.NationalQualityFramework@sa.gov.au

GPO Box 1811

ADELAIDE SA 5001

Phone: 8226 0077 1800 882 413 (toll free)

National Quality Standard (NQS)

Every centre in Australia is accredited regularly against the NQS. Currently we are rated as **Exceeding**.

This assessment is against the following:

- Educational programme and practice
- Children's health and safety
- Physical environment
- Staffing arrangements
- Relationships with children
- Collaborative partnerships with families and communities
- Leadership and service management

Curriculum

Our curriculum is responsive, engaging and fun for children. We are inclusive of all children and build on each child's prior learning with relevant, interesting activities. We work in partnership with families and other professionals to achieve the best outcomes for each child.

Children's assessment is mapped against the learning outcomes in our curriculum document called, The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia. Those outcomes are below:

- 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

Assessment and Reporting

We regularly review children's learning during their time with us. This is largely based on our observations of them, information from families, interviews and samples of their work. Family interviews with staff are conducted at the end of terms one and three. A statement of learning is compiled for each child at the end of their preschool year, which is sent to their school. The most valuable form of feedback is the incidental exchange of information between families and teachers. As such, we encourage you to keep us up to date with things you know about your child.

PROGRAMS AVAILABLE AT THE PARKS CHILDREN'S CENTRE (PCC):

Preschool

For eligible 4 year olds

Occasional Care

Children aged three months to 4 years.

Inclusive Preschool Programme

A preschool programme to support children with additional needs.

Playgroups

Monday, Thursday and Friday

School Transition

Let us know what school your child will be attending when they finish preschool. We will support your child with this transition as best we can.

WEEKLY PROGRAM

	Mornings	Afternoons
Monday	Preschool 8:40am	Preschool 3:20pm
Tuesday	Preschool 8:40am Occasional Care 8:45am to 11:45am	Preschool 3:20pm Occasional Care 12:30pm to 3.30pm
Wednesday	Preschool 8:40am to 12pm	Occasional care 12:30pm-3:30pm
Thursday	Preschool 8:40am Occasional Care 8:45am-11:45am	Preschool 3:20pm Occasional Care 12:30pm-3:30pm
Friday	Preschool 8:40am Occasional Care 8:45am to 11:45am	Preschool 3:20pm

Fees and Payments

Term fees are set by the Governing Council. These enable us to resource our programmes. Current fees are \$200 per year for preschool. Preschool fees should be paid to the Director or Karina during the first 4 weeks of the year. Upon payment of preschool fees, your child will receive a t-shirt and hat.

Occasional Care fees are \$5.00 per session. This reduces to \$1.50 per session with a concession card.

Occasional Care fees are paid per term.

Playgroups are a gold coin donation.

SERVICES AVAILABLE AT PCC

Support Services

The DECD support services available through the centre include speech pathology, child psychology, and bilingual assistants.

We also have programs for everyone in our Community space, which include, playgroups, English class for women and Parenting courses.

IMPORTANT GENERAL INFORMATION

Session Times

Please note drop off and pick up times. If you are going to be late please telephone to let us know. If someone other than the usual carer is to collect your child please advise us. Any person we have not met before will need to bring in identification with them.

Attendance:

Continuity is important. It is beneficial for your child's social and emotional development and establishes a good routine in readiness for school.

Allergies/Medical Conditions:

It is vital that staff are notified of all allergies your child has. A medical plan must be in place before enrolment.

Snack and Lunch Food

We follow the DECD guidelines and promote healthy eating to all children. Please provide snacks such as fruit, vegetables, bread, rice, cheese, pasta, meat or yogurt for snack and lunch. Families should also note that we are a **NUT FREE** centre. We provide fresh water. If you send drinks from home please provide water only. As we are richly multicultural we encourage families to provide culturally appropriate lunches.

Sun Smart Policy

PCC is a Sun Smart Centre so children must wear a hat for outdoor play. Please provide sun smart clothes for your child, eg tops with sleeves. Please apply sunscreen before arrival and then the staff will reapply sunscreen in readiness for afternoon sessions.

Clothing

PCC is a play based centre so all clothing should be comfortable and practical for active and sometimes messy play. Footwear should be closed and comfortable so children can actively run, climb and jump. No thongs please. PLEASE NAME ALL BELONGINGS CLEARLY.

Messy Play

PCC provides smocks for messy activities. Despite this the children often get wet or messy. When they are having fun this sometimes cannot be avoided. Accordingly, all families should provide a spare set of clothes for children daily in the children's bags.

Child Absences

Please notify us if your child will be absent. You must tell us if your child has a contagious illness such as chicken pox, measles, mumps, skin complaints or head lice so that we can notify other families.

Illness at Preschool

Children who are unwell at preschool will be cared for until a parent or emergency contact person can collect them. We expect you to keep your children at home if they have fresh colds or gastric illnesses. We know that children always say they "want to go to preschool", but they must be kept at home if unwell so they can recover quickly and other children aren't exposed to infections.

First Aid and Accidents

You will be notified if your child has an accident at preschool that requires first aid. If further medical treatment is required families or emergency contacts will be telephoned. In more serious emergencies an ambulance will be called immediately. All staff have first aid training

Communication

Good communication is essential between families and the centre. We hope that you will be comfortable in approaching us with any concerns you may have. If you would like to see any of us for an extended period please contact us for a suitable time. Please check your child's information pocket daily for any notices or newsletters.

Term Dates

School term dates for 2018 are:

- Term one Monday 29th January to Friday 13th April
- Term two Monday 30th April to Friday 6th July
- Term three Monday 23rd July to 28th September
- Term four Monday 15th October to 14th December

Advance term dates are available on the DECD website.

Updates of Personal Information

Please keep us up to date in relation to such things as changes to telephone numbers, email addresses, emergency contacts and newly discovered allergies.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

Parents can be involved in the following ways:

Governing Council

All DECD preschools are managed by a volunteer management committee comprising President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and members.

The governing council is responsible for internal financial management, fundraising and helping make decisions about facilities and resources that affect your child.

Helping out

We encourage your involvement in the centre as much as possible. Your children love to see you helping out. Please feel free to join us for a coffee and a chat. You can spend some time playing with your child, reading to small groups, supporting fundraising events, assisting with end of session clean-ups and any other way in which you would like to help. Your involvement will make our centre a better place.

Special events

During the year we will hold special events for your child and family. Your help and attendance is greatly appreciated.

Parker (pictured on the front page)

Parker is our reading mascot who reminds us all to read, sing, dance, sing and talk everyday with our children. You will see him at our Centre as well as in the community.

We hope you and your child have an enjoyable, fun time at our Centre!