

PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 2/3/2016

Centre number: 2612

Centre name: Elizabeth East Preschool

1. General information

- Centre name
:Elizabeth East Preschool
- Centre number
:2612
- Preschool Director
:Elzbieta Koczwar
- Postal address
:PO Box 3068; Elizabeth East. 5112
- Location address
:90 Hornet Crescent, Elizabeth East, 5112
- Telephone number
:8255 7384
- Fax number
:8287 6683
- e-mail address
:dl.2612.leaders@schools.sa. edu.au
- DECD- Elizabeth Partnership
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km)
:Approximately 26 kms
- Co-located/stand-alone
:Elizabeth East preschool is a stand-alone centre.
- Programs operating
 - ❖ Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children
 - Mon- Thurs all day session 8:45am-2:45pm
 - Mon-Thurs am 8:45-11:45.
 - Mon Thurs pm 11:45 – 2:45
 - ❖ Occasional Care (indicate whether funded or unfunded)
 - Occasional care/emergency care (funded),
 - Tuesday morning either 8:45 to 11:30 or

Wednesday afternoon 12:00 to 2-45.

Lunch/Full Day Program

Lunchcare is offered as a part of the sessional kindergarten program

❖ Bilingual Support

: Available

❖ Preschool Support

: On an individual and cluster basis.

2. Key Centre Policies

- Centre Priorities/Statement of Purpose

: comprehension- levels of questioning and reasoning skills

Numeracy focus- number understanding and patterning

Assessment/reporting as specified by DECD

Quality assurance processes (performance management focus)

Literacy kits are available for families to borrow.

3. Curriculum

- Centre Priorities/Statement of Purpose.

: The curriculum supports children's learning and development through play and exploration with a range of developmentally appropriate activities and expectations. It fosters the development of the individual child's life skills, competencies, interests and independence. We value the partnership with families, and the sharing of information for the child's development. The provision of an inclusive curriculum acknowledges the value of diversity. We cater for all children including special right children such as Broad Spectrum Austistic Disorder, Down's syndrome, and Cerebral Palsy. We receive DECD funding to support a cluster group (average of 3 children) with learning difficulties.

The centre has used the DECD Early Intervention and Attendance Grant to respond to the need for the children. Health checks (hearing and vision) for children are conducted at the centre.

- ◆ Quality Improvement Plan.

The centre has developed a plan to support children in their learning and developmental journey. The children's wellbeing, early literacy and attendance at the kindergarten are the main priority at present. Children are encouraged to use problem-solving skills through modelling and direct teaching for conflict resolution and interaction with peers. Oral language is a focus using a variety of language opportunities daily and verbal interactions to support and encourage all children to express themselves succinctly and clearly. We also have a focus on regular

attendance at the centre to promote positive self esteem and an interest in learning.

Our Early Years Literacy plan revolves around children's oral literacy and their use of language to encourage self-esteem and self-help skills.

4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff Profile

:The centre currently has 2.5 permanent staff :

Director – Full-time

Teacher – Full-time

ECW- Part time

Access to special support staff

:The centre works with DECD Support Services (speech, psychology, social worker, special educator). We work closely with NOVITA, AUTISM SA & Disability SA to provide support for children in need (speech, psychology, occupational therapy).

5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds

:The well maintained better brick building is about 50 years old.

The interior of the centre has been updated with modern office facilities and storage spaces. The acoustic materials to absorb noise have been very effective in reducing noise levels in indoor learning environment. New child aesthetic furniture, an information technology hub area and interactive whiteboard have enhanced children's involvement in learning. The verandah is enclosed with plastic awnings to provide an all-weather area under cover.

Our outdoor area supports children's gross motor development and provides opportunities for social interactions. The garden has recently been redesigned and sculptured, planted with shrubs and colourful flowering annuals. A large range of equipment is utilised daily to improve co-ordination and body movement through space.

Capacity

30 children per session

We currently have between 44-48 children enrolled, with families accessing 2 full days kindergarten session. Our sessions average up to 27 children

Centre Ownership

:DECD

- Access for children and staff with disabilities
:There is a flat path to the front door with no steps inside the building, therefore ensuring accessibility for all (ie walkers, frames, prams, wheelchairs). However, the centre does not have disabled toilets.
- Other
:The Management Committee of the centre meets twice per term. The committee is active in fundraising and planning educational experiences for their children including excursions for (parent and a child 1:1) and other excursions and visiting performances.
The staff and committee have worked closely and cooperatively to achieve many goals and projects. The centre is well equipped and maintained. We continually review equipment to upgrade and add where desirable and necessary.
There have not been any sub-committees operating, as the general parent group work effectively on any matters that arise.

6. Local Community (intended for country preschools)

- General characteristics: (eg. types of work available, languages usually spoken at home, local developments)
:The Elizabeth East Preschool is a full time centre situated in the suburb of Elizabeth East and Hillbank.
The parents range from the middle class, 2 income parents to the lower socio- economic, single parent families, blended families and children in extended family care.
- Parent and community involvement in the preschool
:Care givers and grandparents are very much part of some children's routines. Irregular attendance does have an impact on children's learning and we support families to access as much preschool as possible.
We cater for a small number of children coming from families with different cultures.
- Occasional Care
The centre supports additional occasional care program on Tuesdays (am) and Wednesdays (pm).
- Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool
:We liaise with the local state and independent schools, in particular Elizabeth East Primary School and St Thomas More Catholic School. The main feeder schools are Elizabeth East Primary, South Downs Primary, Thomas More School, Trinity College and St Mary Magdalene's.
- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
:The Elizabeth City Centre is situated within walking distance of the preschool. The DECD offices, at Elizabeth House are approximately 5 minutes away by car. There is a small shopping centre, including a supermarket, fast food outlet and post office next to the centre.

- Other local facilities, eg medical, sporting, social, cultural, recreational
:There is a Community House opposite the preschool that provides a variety of services, such as playgroup, craft, counselling, exercise sessions etc. for families.