

Welcome



Angaston Kindergarten

INFORMATION BOOKLET

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Government
of South Australia

Department for Education
and Child Development

Philosophy Statement

We acknowledge that each child is unique, belonging to a family within our culturally diverse community and that we are all on a learning journey together.

All children have the right to quality education in a safe, nurturing and stimulating environment. We respect children as capable, competent and active learners, believing that 'Play is the natural way that children learn' (Respect, Reflect Relate, pg.50) and is the foundation for life-long learning.

We respectfully acknowledge the traditional lands of the Peramangk People and continually strive to build and share our knowledge of and connection with the Peramangk People past and present.

At Angaston Kindergarten we believe that all children have the right to reach their full potential as learners. We provide a child centred learning environment where children's interests and natural curiosity become the template for learning and drives curriculum development and future learning experiences. We believe play is central to young children's learning, and provides an authentic means for children to develop positive dispositions towards learning. We provide a highly engaging environment in which children have the opportunity to learn through play-based experiences while developing a strong sense of self and belonging.

STAFF

Director:

Cathy Bury

Teachers:

**Sabina Frahn
Sherryl Whitehead**

Early Childhood Workers:

**Anne Clarke
Robyn Knights
Di Birchard**

Finance Officer

Darlene Morrish

Admission Policy

This kindergarten is supported by the State Government Department of Education and Child Development [DECD]. All children that turn 4 by the 30th of April in any given year are entitled to 15hours of kindergarten per week for the four terms before they start school.

Weekly Timetable

Kindergarten sessions:

Morning Session - Monday to Thursday - 9am to 12pm.
[5th session]

Full day sessions - Monday/Tuesday 9am to 3pm
or Wednesday/Thursday 9am to 3pm

If you arrive early, please remain with your child until 9am. Please phone the centre if you are unavoidably late for pick-up, so we can reassure your child.

2017 School Term Dates

Term 1	30 Jan.	-	13 April
Term 2	1 May	-	7 July
Term 3	24 July	-	29 September
Term 4	15 October	-	14 December

Programmes Offered

Sessional Kindergarten

This is for children that turn 4 by the 30th of April in any given year - 15hrs per week pending approval for Universal Access, for four terms before starting school.

Emergency Care

We will care for your enrolled child in an emergency during kindergarten times. [9am until 3pm] All families required to supply Emergency Contacts who will be contacted if parent delayed.

Playgroup

We currently have a Playgroup available at the Kindergarten during school term times from 9am until 10.30am on Fridays. This is a valuable program offering learning experiences for young children in a safe welcoming environment.

Occasional Care

We do not have the facilities to offer this, but Occasional Care is available at some services please contact Department for Education and Children's Services.

Special Services such as speech therapists and psychologists can be accessed through DECD

Child And Youth Health Service Check

All children have a comprehensive health check organised through the kindergarten before they go to school, unless their parents request otherwise.

Amenities and Payments

Term Costs are:

Per term ~ \$120.00

Payment options:

Cash or personal cheque direct to Angaston Kindergarten. Please place monies in an envelope and deposit in the white payment box provided. Direct debit (BSB and account details will be provided on fee invoice). The treasurer will place a receipt for your payment in your pigeon hole.

Please make payment within the first week or two of each term.

If you require a payment plan please arrange an appointment with the Director. All arrangements are strictly confidential.

Fortnightly direct payments from Centrelink can be arranged through centrapay. Forms are available please see staff.

Funding

DECD provide the building and pay for a base level of staffing. They also provide some base funding which is determined by the numbers of children who attend.

The centre pays for water, electricity, cleaners, council rates, phone and equipment out of the fees payed by parents, so please support us!

A management group known as The Governing Council, made up of parents, staff and interested people, manage the centre and make decisions about aspects of the program and funds management. In order to provide extra resources **fundraising is necessary**. Your help support and ideas are most welcome.

Kindergarten Governing Council

The Governing Council is made up of interested parents working for the benefit of all children at the kindergarten.

Some of the roles, responsibilities and advantages include;

- ❖ organising and running fundraising activities
- ❖ supporting the children and staff in curriculum delivery & development
- ❖ encouraging parent involvement
- ❖ maintenance work on the building and grounds
- ❖ attending meetings to keep informed of the latest developments in Early Childhood Education
- ❖ having valuable and valued input into the kindergarten's curriculum and other areas of its day to day running.

The Governing Council members, Kindergarten Director, and staff members meet twice per term and welcome the involvement of **all** parents. This is for the benefit of ALL children who attend but can only achieve maximum effectiveness with the support of all families. New Governing Council elected at the beginning of each year at our AGM.

The 2017 Governing Council Office Bearers are:

Chairperson:

Treasurer:

Secretary:

Fundraising Coordinator:

We have 1 sub-Committee that may take your interest
- Fundraising

A.G.M.- Held in week three of term one each Year.

We warmly welcome families who would like to offer suggestions and support to the kindergarten Governing Council. The meetings we have are fun and a social way to meet other parents.

Meetings are currently held on Tuesday week 2 and week 7 each term at 7:00pm at the kindergarten.

All parents / caregivers are welcome at all meetings.

Other Ways You Can Help

Talk with the staff if you have ideas and would like to be involved.

Involvement with the children:

- ❖ read a story
- ❖ demonstrate a craft
- ❖ play a musical instrument
- ❖ help with some gardening
- ❖ cook with small groups of children
- ❖ work with the children on the computer
- ❖ help on excursions
- ❖ give a talk - to children or parents

CARING 4 KINDY PROGRAM

We believe the money we receive from government funding, fees and fundraising is best spent on resources, staff and equipment to enhance teaching and learning for all children at Angaston Kindergarten.

The Caring 4 Kindy program enables parents to help the kindy in many and varied ways from washing and cleaning up after kindy sessions to gardening and preparing resources for the curriculum.

It is an expectation that all parents will participate in the Caring 4 Kindy program so please see the brochure and our Caring 4 Kindy board to see how you can help.

We enjoy having parents come in to share their child's Kindy experience with them and their friends. By sharing your skills and time with both your child and their Kindergarten, everybody benefits. If you have ideas or skills you would like to share, please speak to the staff as you will be most welcome.

The value of your participation can't be overstated.

Program and Curriculum

Our program and curriculum delivery is informed by; children's interests and opportune experiences and events under the umbrella of The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia: Belonging, Being & Becoming. Fundamental to the Framework are five Learning Outcomes designed to capture the integrated and complex learning and development of all children across the birth to five age range.

The outcomes are;

- ❖ 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.

Our program provides children with the opportunity to;

- ❖ self-direct their learning
- ❖ have the freedom to manage their time
- ❖ interact with peers and staff who value the importance of learning through play
- ❖ have time for uninterrupted and self-selected experiences
- ❖ be active, curious, quiet and reflective.

Angaston Kindergarten Core Business

At Angaston Kindergarten we aspire to provide a high quality teaching and learning environment where all children have the opportunity to reach their full potential as learners.

We are committed to;

- ❖ fostering positive relationships and interactions between parents, staff, children and the broader community
- ❖ supporting children to develop positive dispositions towards learning
- ❖ providing a curriculum which considers each child's family context, interests, strengths and needs, based on the The Early Years Learning framework (EYLF)
- ❖ informing families of their child's progress against the learning outcomes outlined within EYLF.

inhibit children's creativity and imaginative play.

What Your Child Needs To Bring Each Day

1. A **named** kindergarten bag which is easy to open.
2. A **named** drink bottle filled **with water only** – placed in tray on arrival.
3. A **named** container for fruit / snack
4. A separate **named** lunch box if staying for lunch.

We are a Nut-Aware centre. Please do not pack any food items that are made from nuts or may contain traces of nuts. This includes muesli bars and *most packaged food items* (even savoury biscuits in the cheese dip packs). Please check the fine print. We appreciate your support in this.

Practical Clothing

Please send your child in washable, easy – care clothing suitable for active play. For safety and wellbeing we do not recommend long frilly dresses, awkward belts or buckles, overalls, long-trailing scarves, sashes, thongs or slippery soled shoes. These can inhibit children's play or cause accidents especially on the climbing equipment. It is also worth checking if your child can do up the studs/buttons on jeans as well. Sometimes they can have 'accidents' through not being able to undo them, and can become quite distressed. To ensure your child's safety at kindergarten tank tops or shoe-string straps are not considered Sun Safe clothing and are therefore inappropriate. Smocks are supplied. **Please name all clothing - even shoes!** We encourage children to play in the shade, wear hats and use UV cream in the sun. Please apply sunscreen to your child before you leave home.

Lost Property

We stress the importance of naming EVERYTHING your child brings to kindergarten. It gives us the chance to return items to your child. The lost property box is located near the children's lockers. *Please check it regularly.*

Kindergarten is a Weapon Free Zone

Please do not allow your child to bring weapons or Super-hero paraphernalia of any kind to kindergarten. Research shows that these objects can encourage inappropriate interactions with peers and can

Child Absences

Please phone the kindergarten if your child will be absent for any session as we are required to record attendance data.

Illness At Kindergarten

If children are unwell at kindergarten, they will be cared for until a parent or an emergency contact person can collect them. Children who are unwell must be kept home, especially if they have fresh colds (coloured discharge from nose), or contagious illnesses. Please see the '*Contagious Diseases List*'

Nutrition and Food Policy

Staff promote and model healthy eating habits and recommend that children bring only nutritious food such as: sandwiches & rolls, fruit, vegetables, cheese, dried fruit or savoury biscuits. *We discourage children bringing: roll-ups, lollies, cakes, sweet biscuits and muesli bars because of their high sugar content. Likewise chips or cheezels etc are discouraged because of their high salt and fat content.*

Snack Time and Lunch

In order to maximise periods of uninterrupted learning time we do not have a designated snack time. Instead children may choose to have a snack when they feel hungry. Staff give children regular reminders throughout the day and a table is permanently set up for eating at. Children do eat lunch together at a set time which supports social interactions and oral language development through conversation.

Sun Protection Policy

We have a sun protection policy for protection from UV rays which states that all children are required to wear a hat during outside play when UV rating is 3 or above. Staff and families will refer to the sites Sun Protection Policy for information on UV protection, ie no hat -no outside play, sunscreen applied. The UV Rating will be sought daily from the Bureau of Meteorology during Terms 2 & 3 to determine the requirement of hats and sunscreen. We suggest that a hat be left at the kindergarten. A Cancer Foundation recommended hat is available from the kindy for \$8.00. **Please apply sunscreen before your child arrives at kindy.**

Literacy Pack and Book Borrowing

Children are able to borrow literacy packs and library books weekly. Please place returns in the return box, where they will be

sorted throughout the day.

Communication

Regular communication is essential between parents and staff to support your child's progress at kindergarten. We hope you will feel comfortable approaching us with any ideas, thoughts, questions or areas of concern you may have about your child's kindergarten experience. We are more than happy to chat at any time. However, if you have a particular concern, please see the Director to make an appointment so you are able to talk without interruptions.

Kindergarten Books

Your child has a Learning Journey Folder. These folders are used to record your child's learning journey during their time at kindergarten. You are able to access your child's folder at any time. Staff insert Learning Stories and selected pieces of work which demonstrate your child's progress in relation to the outcomes outlined in The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia: Belonging, Being & Becoming. Children also have their own drawing book which stays at kindy but can be added to during the sessions.

Named Pigeon Holes

All notices, newsletters, receipts etc. will be placed in your personal pigeon hole. Please remember to check this weekly.

Newsletters

These are written regularly. They will inform you about curriculum information, meetings, important dates and other information pertaining to the kindergarten. We are hoping to email Newsletters to your chosen address. A hard copy can be organised if required.

Pick – Up Procedures

At the end of the session your child must be farewelled by the teacher. If you are leaving early for any reason, please make sure a staff member knows you are taking your child. If for any reason someone other than the enrolling parent collects the child it must be recorded on the sign in sheet. Don't forget to SIGN IN upon arrival / SIGN OUT when collecting your child.

Oral Language Development

We encourage children to be observant and we welcome items from nature – plants, insects etc. that your child can share with others. We discourage children from bringing small or precious toys which may become lost or damaged. We also welcome items your child may have made at home or any object which may support current learning.

COMMON INFECTIOUS DISEASES

DISEASE	PATIENT
Chicken Pox	7 days from the appearance of spots
Infectious Hepatitis	Excluded until medical certificate of recovery is produced. If this is not available readmit once symptoms have subsided
Measles	5 days from the appearance of rash or medical certificate of recovery is produced
Mumps	Excluded until fully recovered
Rubella (German measles)	5 days from appearance of rash
Streptococcal Infections (including - Scarlet Fever)	Excluded until appropriate medical treatment is given and a medical certificate of recovery is produced
Whooping Cough	2 weeks unless medical certificate of recovery is produced
Gastroenteritis (Vomiting/Diarrhoea)	24 hrs after last incident

COMMON SKIN INFECTIONS

DISEASE	PATIENT
Impetigo (School Sores)	Excluded until the sores have healed or are properly covered with a dressing, or until a medical certificate of treatment is produced
Ringworm (Tinea)	Not excluded if confined to part of the body which can be adequately covered
Scabies	Excluded until medical certificate of treatment is produced
Conjunctivitis	Excluded until discharge from eyes has ceased
Head Lice	Excluded until effective treatment has been carried out and the hair is free of nits

RECOMMENDED IMMUNISATION SCHEDULE

2 MONTHS	Whooping Cough, Diphtheria and Tetanus (TA) + Poliomyelitis, Hep. B
4 MONTHS	Whooping Cough, Diphtheria and Tetanus (TA) + Poliomyelitis, Hep. B
6 MONTHS	Whooping Cough, Diphtheria and Tetanus (TA) + Poliomyelitis
12 MONTHS	MMR + Meningococcal C
18 MONTHS	Chicken Pox
4 YEARS	Diphtheria and Tetanus (C.D.T) and Poliomyelitis. MMR

Visit www.immunise.health.gov.au for further information.