PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Centre number: 2601

Centre name: Angaston Kindergarten

1. General information

- Preschool Director – Steve Valentine
- Postal address - 16 Newcastle Street, Angaston, 5353
- Location address - 16 Newcastle Street, Angaston, 5353
- DECD Region – Barossa Region
- Geographical location – 85km road distance from GPO
- Telephone number – 08 8564 2330
- Fax number - 08 85642141
- Preschool website address: www.angastonkgn.sa.edu.au
- Preschool e-mail address - kindy.director@angastonkgn.sa.edu.au
- Enrolment/Attendance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>Term 2</th>
<th>Term 3</th>
<th>Term 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
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<td>60</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>55</td>
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<td>52</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>45</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Table 2: Attendance Percentages 2010 – 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>Term 2</th>
<th>Term 3</th>
<th>Term 4</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>2012 Centre</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>2012 State</td>
<td>87.4</td>
<td>85.9</td>
<td>84.4</td>
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**Co-located/stand-alone**

Angaston Kindergarten is located adjacent Angaston Primary School. Angaston Kindergarten has a collaborative relationship with Angaston Primary School which provides for positive transitions for children attending Angaston Primary School.

- Programs operating at the preschool

**Pre Entry** - For staff to deliver a high quality teaching and learning program it is vital that we maintain recommended child/teacher ratios in line with the standards outlined in the National Quality Framework. Therefore, our ability to provide a pre-entry program is determined by current enrolments on a term by term basis.

**Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children** - Universal Access of 15 hours per week of Kindergarten for eligible children currently accessed through two full days and one half day per week. Full day program Monday to Thursday, half day Friday (AM).

**Lunch/Full Day Program** - Lunch care available for children attending full days. Please be advised there is an additional charge for lunch care.

**Preschool Support** - A “Learning Through Play” program currently operates at the site on Mondays: 10am – 11:30pm. This playgroup is offered to children or carer/s with a learning difficulty/disability. It is staffed by two Early Childhood Workers. Contact Early Childhood Intervention Consultant **Tina Dunks** Ph: 08 8565 7027

**Bilingual Support** – The Department of Education and Child Development provide funding to support children with English as a second language. The site can apply for bilingual support for individual children; however, support in the child’s dilect is determined by the availability of a support person within the region.
2. Key Centre Policies

- Centre Priorities/Statement of Purpose

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.

We acknowledge the uniqueness of every child and family within our culturally diverse community, and commit to building our cultural competence within the kindergarten community and beyond.

We acknowledge Australia’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and will celebrate and embed their cultural richness into the teaching and learning at our site. In particular, we respectfully acknowledge the traditional lands of the Peramangk people on which Angaston Kindergarten stands and strive to build our knowledge of and connection with Peramangk people past and present.

3. Curriculum

- Framework used

Angaston Kindergarten uses the mandated National Curriculum – The Early Years Learning Framework and associated support documents to underpin teaching and learning. The mandated Child Protection Curriculum is embedded into daily practise and is implemented through intentional teaching and intentional teaching opportunities.

You Can Do It - We use the ‘You Can Do It’ learner wellbeing program to support children’s learning. This program uses five puppets to introduce the key elements that underpin the program. The characters; Gabby Get Along, Oscar Organisation, Pete Persistence, Connie Confidence and Ricky Resilience, are age appropriate representations of the Keys to Successful Learning used in Program Achieve (Primary School). This program is all about developing strong foundations for learning achievement and social/emotional well-being. These characters and the associated language feature prominently in the children’s daily experience at kindy.

The important foundations introduced in the program help develop the positive dispositions children need to be successful life long learners.
• Core Values
We believe learner wellbeing is enhanced when;
  ➢ children feel safe, secure and valued
  ➢ children develop positive mutually respectful relationships with educators and peers
  ➢ children experience fun and enjoyment while learning,
  ➢ positive relationships between staff and families are fostered,
  ➢ a curriculum which is; highly engaging, innovative, challenging, relevant to each child’s life experience is implemented.
Therefore we;
  ➢ consider the individual needs of every child and their families
  ➢ provide a supportive, positive and engaging learning environment.

4. Centre Based Staff
• Staff Profile
Currently 1 Director (full time), 1 permanent .5 (2 and a half days) teacher, 1 contract .5 teacher, 1 permanent .5 ECW, Additional ECW time is used to provide lunch care and support for children with additional needs; currently 2 contract ECW’s share this role.
• Performance Management Program
All staff participate in ongoing formal and informal Performance Development as outlined in the associated DECD policies.

• Access to special support staff
Special support staff are accessed through the Regional Support Team for eligible children.

5. Centre Facilities
• Buildings and grounds
Angaston Kindergarten was built in 2005 and opened for use in Term 4 of that year. The community provided additional outdoor space which allows for a larger native garden and play area. A large sandpit with a water course, a vegetable garden and a dramatic play area are included in this area. The grounds have shade structures to provide for access to this area year round. The Outdoor area is a priority area for improvement over 2013 – 2014 to;
  ➢ address compacted soil and stunted plant growth on western slope
  ➢ further develop natural play spaces and improve the general aesthetic appeal of outdoor environment.
• **Capacity (per session)**
The preschool can accommodate 45 children per session.

• **Centre Ownership**
Angaston Kindergarten is owned by DECD

• **Access for children and staff with disabilities**
The centre is accessible for people with disabilities.

**6. Local Community (intended for country preschools)**

• **General characteristics:**
Angaston is a country town with a population of 3,000 people on the eastern edge of the Barossa Valley. Approximately half of the children attending the kindergarten come from out-lying areas, many from farming properties. Many families use some form of care – Community Child Care, Private Child Care or Family Day Care as well as informal child care with friends and relatives. A large number of family members are employed in the wine industry in the Barossa Region.

• **Parent and community involvement in the preschool**
Developing strong links with families and a building a sense of belonging to the kindergarten community is a site focus. Positive relationships with families have resulted in support for the provision of facilities and a high quality, relevant and diverse program with positive outcomes for children. The Governing Council is made up of parent and community members and generally consists of up to 8 members.

• **Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool**
The majority of children at Angaston Kindergarten transition to Angaston Primary School. Other Primary schools accessed by families are; Truro PS; Keyneton PS; Light Pass PS; Nuriootpa PS; Good Shepherd Lutheran School; Redeemer Lutheran School and Tanunda PS / Tanunda Special Unit.

• **Other local care and educational facilities**
Angaston Child Care Centre, Angaston Community OSHC

• **Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities**
Local shops include; supermarket, post office, butcher, bakery, newsagent and gift stores, florist, a growing restaurant / cafe culture, hardware store. Wineries and associated industries surround the area.
• Other local facilities
Medical Centre, physiotherapist, oval with football and netball club, physiotherapist.

• Availability of staff housing
Staff housing is not available. Rental accommodation and house sales subject to availability.

• Accessibility
Angaston is located approximately 1.5 hours drive from Adelaide. The nearest rail transport is at Gawler. Buses run daily to Adelaide via Tanunda.

• Local Government
Angaston is part of the Barossa District Council.

7. Further Comments
• Partnership arrangements with other groups
Angaston Kindergarten has a close relationship with Angaston Primary School. Between 9am and 9:30am the junior primary classes at Angaston Primary run a play-based program called PALS (Partnership, Acceptance, Learning, Sharing). Currently five children from the primary school visit our kindergarten for the half hour and five kindergarten children have the opportunity to visit the Junior Primary Unit to join in this fun play-based learning program.

A priority for 2013-2014 is to develop a Professional Learning Community between Angaston Kindergarten and Angaston Primary and other educational sites in the wider Barossa Region.