PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Centre number: 5640
Centre name: Pennington Kindergarten

1. General information
   - Preschool Director – Melissa Gobell
   - Location address – 15a Northgate Street, Pennington 5013
   - Inner West Partnership
   - Geographical location – Pennington Kindergarten is co-located alongside Pennington Junior Primary School approximately 10kms from Adelaide GPO.
   - Telephone number – (08) 82681200
   - Fax number – (08) 82689588
   - Preschool e-mail address – dl.5640.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au

Enrolment/Attendance
Approximately 42 children are enrolled in sessional Kindergarten and approximately 48 families utilise Occasional Care. Currently, approximately one third of the children speak Vietnamese or a language other than English. Vietnamese, Somali, Tagalog, Malayalam, Tamil, Urdu, Punjabi are all spoken at the Kindergarten (with the support of Bilingual Staff). The Kindergarten also reflects the diverse family structures living in the community. Whilst the majority of families would have 2 parents living in a household, a significant number of families are headed by single parents, and a number of families have more unique family structures (eg, grandparents as the main carers of children, children spending time between 2/3 homes, etc).
**Co-located/stand-alone**

Pennington Kindergarten is co-located alongside Pennington Junior Primary School and works closely with both the Pennington Junior Primary and Primary Schools.

Programs operating at the preschool

- Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children -
  Mon-Thurs mornings 8.45am-11.45am
  Mon-Thur afternoons 11.45am-2.45pm
  Children are encouraged to attend 2 full days and 1 half day session to make up their 15 hours per week of preschool.

- Occasional Care (funded) for children aged 2-4 years
  Tues-Thur 8.45am-11.30am and 12.00pm-2.45pm

- Bilingual Support - currently provided in Vietnamese. Other languages supported on a needs basis.

- Preschool Support – accessed on a needs basis

2. **Key Centre Policies**

See sites Policy Folder for specific site policies or DECD website as needed.

3. **Curriculum**

The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia

- It is a framework of principles, practices and outcomes that builds our curriculum
- 5 Learning Outcomes
  - Children have a strong sense of identity
  - Children are connected with and contribute to their world
  - Children have a strong sense of well being
  - Children are confident and involved learners
  - Children are effective communicators

This document encompasses all children birth to school age

We value learning through play as the most important way children learn. It is a context for learning through which children organise and make sense of their social worlds, as they engage actively with people, objects and representations.

The types of play we encourage:

- sensory
- symbolic
- explorative
- projective
- physical
- role play
- creative
- dramatic play
These ways of playing are both child initiated and explicit teaching.

4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff Profile
Currently 4 staff members are employed at the Kindergarten including:

Fulltime Director

Fulltime Teacher

Early Childhood Worker/Preschool Support Worker- as needed when numbers permit

Part-time Occasional Care Worker

Other staff involved with the Kindergarten include: Bilingual Support worker

5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
The Kindergarten is located in a building that was originally designed as a child care centre, with a number of playrooms, bathrooms and storage areas. The outdoor garden area has also been designed to create spaces in which children can freely explore and features gum trees and native and vegetable gardens. The kindergarten is fully accessible for children and adults with disabilities.