CENTRE NUMBER: 5669

CENTRE NAME: SOMERTON PARK KINDERGARTEN

GENERAL INFORMATION

Preschool Director
: Mrs Marie Cullen

Location/Postal address
: 3 Grantham rd Somerton Park 5044

Telephone number: 08) 82961503  Fax number: 08) 83771672

Email address: info@somertonkgn.sa.edu.au
Preschool website address: somerton kgn.sa.edu.au

DECS Partnership: Holdfast Partnership comprising of:

Somerton Park kindergarten  Oaklands Estate kindergarten
Ballara Park kindergarten  Warradale Kindergarten
Dunbar Terrace kindergarten  Dover kindergarten
Baden Pattinson kindergarten  Seacliff kindergarten
St Leonards Primary school  Warradale Primary school
Glenelg Primary school.  Brighton Primary School
Parinag Park Primary school

Brighton Secondary School

Educationa Director: Deb Graham.
Early Childhood leader: Petra Passon
**Geographical location**

We are in a beachside location approximately 12km from the Adelaide GPO.

**Enrolment/Attendance:**

Currently we have 65 children attending the kindergarten. Our numbers follow a trend within the area of 60-68 children per year. Like all surrounding kindergartens we are coping with an increase in demand due to the number of families with young children moving in to the area. In South Australia children can commence kindergarten in the year that they turn 4 by April 30th.

**Somerton Park kindergarten is a stand alone kindergarten**

**Programs operating at the kindergarten:**

Daily kindergarten. All children are offered 15 hours of preschool. These configure as 2 full days each week from 8.30-3.15 and 1 alternate Friday morning from 8.30-11.30. This gives all of our children access to 30 hours of preschool within a fortnight.

At Somerton Park children attend in 2 groups.

Group A will attend 2 full days (Monday and Tuesday 8.30-3.15) and Friday morning from 8.30-11.30am on weeks 1, 3, 5, 7, 9.

Group B will attend for 2 full days (Wednesday and Thursday 8.30-3.15) and Friday mornings from 8.30-11.30 on weeks 2, 4, 6, 8, 10.

The children are offered the sessions on the basis of where they will attend school so that there is continuity in friendships as they move to school.

**Play group.**

Playgroup is currently available from 11.30-1.30pm on Fridays from week 1-9. The group is led by Julieann Sutton, our coordinator, and parents are asked to assist with setting up and packing away. All families are welcome.

**Bilingual Support:**

Support for children with English as a second language is provided through DECD

**Preschool Support.**

Through DECD we have access to Disability coordinators, Speech Pathologists, Psychologists, Social Workers, Special Educators and Aboriginal Educators. The centre also funds extra support time for children as deemed necessary.

The centre employs a **Financial officer** for 2 hours per week to attend to all of the financial management tasks of the kindergarten.

The centre also employs an **Administration officer** who undertakes a number of administration tasks in the kindergarten for 5 hours per week. She is also our Occupational Health and Safety representative.
Key Centre Policies: Our grievance policy can be found on this website. All other policies regarding the operation of the service can be found via a link on our website to DECD policies. The centre has a number of procedures which are site specific.

- Emergency
- Excursion policy
- Fee policy
- First aid and health
- Health and hygiene
- Healthy eating
- Weather
- Priority of Access
- Sun smart
Curriculum
OUR VALUES.

Respect
Caring
Trust
Sustainability
Courage
Inclusivity
Integrity.

These values guide our everyday interactions with staff, families, children our employer and the wider community.

Our Philosophy

Our educators understand that individual development proceeds at different rates within the context of family community and culture.

Human development is complex and varied.

We believe that young children are strong and capable.

Our educators acknowledge the role of play in promoting learning for the whole child. Play significantly influences children’s social, emotional, physical, intellectual and creative growth.

The role of educators in children’s play is to be responsive to every child’s needs, skills and interests by providing a stimulating and fun filled environment.

We believe that outcomes for children are best achieved when parents, carers, educators and children are all involved in planning for learning. We value the creation of a partnership in which children’s ideas, family’s aspirations and educator’s knowledge all have a respected place.

As educators of young children we believe we have an active and significant role in ensuring children experience wonder in their world. We will provide children with many opportunities to develop skills, knowledge and dispositions connected to their environment and their community.

We believe that the development and maintaining of relationships amongst parents, carers, children and educators underpins the life of our centre.

Our educators aim to create a learning environment where children laugh, play, have fun and where children can be children.
Our core business is education through play.

Our educational programme is based on the principles and practices of the Early Years Learning Framework. We are also using the Reflect, Respect, Relate document to enhance our understandings about young children.

There are 5 Learning Outcomes for the Early Years Framework. They are:

- 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.

To achieve our vision for children we place great importance on developing relationships with our families and the children. We promote learning through play based experiences which are balanced with intentional teaching opportunities and following children’s interests.

We create a culture of acceptance and support for all, through planned and unplanned experiences and a focus on the development of life skills - tolerance, persistence, resilience, confidence, mutual respect and empathy.

We enjoy music and singing and this creates wonderful opportunities for fun and creativity as well as enhancing children’s literacy.

Educating for sustainability is strength in our curriculum and the children have many opportunities to engage in gardening, recycling and connecting with nature. The kindergarten has been involved in the Healthy Eating/Physical Activity programme. The kindergarten won an award from the Department of Environment (NRM) in 2011 for excellence in “Educating for Sustainability approach.”

CODES OF PRACTICE

Somerton Park Kindergarten acknowledges that it operates within legal requirements of the Education and Children’s Services Act Regulations, DECD policies, NQF regulations and the Industrial Awards

Centre Based Staff Profile

Director 1.0
Teacher 1.0
2 early childhood workers both working .5
Playgroup coordinator.1
Finance officer .
Administration officer.

Performance Management Programme
All staff are involved in a review process twice yearly
Centre Facilities

Buildings and grounds
The kindergarten is situated in a well established seaside suburb. It has very large trees which provide a shaded environment and a natural play area for the children to enjoy. The building is approximately 70 years old and has been well maintained.

Centre Ownership - Holdfast Bay Council

Access for children and staff with disabilities.
The centre has flat surfaces and is accessible for children and staff with disabilities. There is no disabled toilet.

Local Community

Parent and community involvement in the preschool
A Governing Council made up of interested parents is elected each year in November to assist in the management of the kindergarten. This group are also responsible with the staff for organising various parent meetings each year.

Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool:
Paringa Park Primary school
Glenelg Primary school
St Mary's Memorial school
Brighton Primary school

Other local care and educational facilities.
There are a number of, child care centres and schools with OHSC programmes nearby.

Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
The area is well served with public transport and is close to Glenelg, Brighton and marion shopping centre for shopping and services. Medical services are also nearby.

Accessibility
The service is easily reached by buses which travel on Brighton road and King George Avenue. These buses can connect to the train service at Brighton and to the Tram at Glenelg.

Local Government
Holdfast Bay Council

Further Comments

Partnership arrangements with other groups
The kindergarten is located close to Brighton Secondary School and is involved with programmes at the school as needs arise.
The kindergarten also supports the training of early childhood educators by offering places to Uni SA for students to undertake their practicum.