

ALDINGA BEACH CHILDREN'S CENTRE CONTEXT STATEMENT

CENTRE NUMBER:

CENTRE NAME: Aldinga Beach Children's Centre

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Preschool Director

Postal address: Quinliven Road, Aldinga Beach 5173

Location address:

DECS Region: Southern

Geographical location – i.e. road distance from GPO (km) 45kms

Telephone number: (08) 8556 5060

Fax number: (08) 85565810

CHILDREN'S CENTRE OPENING

The Aldinga Beach Children's Centre will open in term 2 2014.

The Director will be appointed to start term 1 2014. This will enable the Director to establish the Children's Centre in preparation for opening in term 2.

CHILDREN'S CENTRE VISION

From its beginning, the staff, Governing Council and the Partnerships Group have conceptualized a vision for the Children's Centre that connects early learning (0-4 year olds) with school learning in a flow on effect; a seamless and integrated approach that has the child and the family at the centre.

Our vision views the Children's Centre as an integral part of the school, providing specialized care and education birth to 5. This partnership will be strengthened through the connection with the junior primary (R-2) children, staff and leadership.

In the broader scope, each sub-school (early years, primary and middle years) is connected (with the Children's Centre) by a learning philosophy that encompasses continuous curriculum B to Year 7, with each sub-school having its own targeted leadership, programs and curriculum outcomes (specific to the developmental needs of its student cohort.)

CHILDREN'S CENTRE LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE

The Director will have a fulltime Responsibility

for continuity of learning into Reception

Pedagogical oversight birth to Reception

Line management of preschool, Occasional Care, Community Development

Coordinator and Family Services Coordinator

Leadership for cross agency and community partnerships related to the Children's Centre

The Director will have a non-teaching role and be accountable to the Principal and this will enable extended leadership across preschool to Reception.

Within this model there will be one Governing Council for the whole site (managing two constitutions).

In ensuring seamless service provision, services that can connect with existing site structures will be sought. This can include: financial, grounds and facilities, cleaning, utilities management and some administration/ HR functions.

The Director will oversee other governance structures within the Children's Centre ensuring that multiple partners are able to contribute to the overall direction of the integrated service provision.

The Children's Centre Leadership Team meetings will involve program leaders, including the Community Development Coordinator, Family Services Coordinator and Allied Health. This group will be responsible for leading policy development and review and in determining strategic directions for learning and wellbeing.

The Director will work within a shared leadership capacity with other site leaders (Principal, Deputy Principal, Senior Leaders and Counsellor etc.) to provide leadership and management in the delivery of quality educational programs for children

CO-LOCATED/STANDALONE

Aldinga Beach Children's Centre is co-located with Aldinga Beach B-7 School.

PROGRAMS OPERATING AT THE PRE SCHOOL

Preschool program

Universal access preschool: children can access 15 hours of preschool a week

DECD Special Services: psychologist, speech pathologist, social worker, Disabilities, Child, Adolescent and Family Health Services (CAFHS)

A range of programs targeting children and families 0-8years

SESSIONAL PRESCHOOL FOR ELIGIBLE CHILDREN

Sessional kindergarten for eligible children-up to 4 terms for children who are 4 years of age before the 1st of May

Aboriginal children and children under guardianship of the Minister are eligible to attend sessional kindergarten from 3 years of age.

OCCASIONAL CARE

Funded Occasional care will operate.

2. KEY CENTRE POLICIES

CHILDREN'S CENTRE PHILOSOPHY

The Aldinga Beach

Children's Centre is committed to developing safe, connected and adaptable communities and families that (confidently) build on strengths and diversity to meet family's needs, aspirations and challenges.

The

Aldinga Beach Children's Centre approach is based on the following principles:

- The needs of children are paramount.
- The strengths of children and families will be built on.
- Parents will have the opportunity to engage in their own and their children's learning.
- Utilising community resources to build community capacity.
- A welcoming family friendly environment will facilitate lifelong learning for all.
- Responsiveness to immediate and anticipated community needs will guide service design and delivery in partnership with parents, community and agencies.
- Services will be integrated into a cohesive partnership structure and service model.
- Continuous reflection on progress and continuous improvement of services will ensure best practice.
- Aboriginal culture and cultural diversity are respected and valued.
- Empowering community members to be involved in the Centre's decision making processes.

CURRICULUM

Framework used:

The National Early Years Framework -

Being, Belonging and Becoming
The Australian Curriculum

CENTRE BASED STAFF PROFILE

(still to be determined)

A Director PSD4 will lead the Centre
Registered Early Childhood teachers
Registered Early Childhood Workers
Occasional Care Early Childhood Workers

Universal preschool staffing teacher and ECW

Community Development Coordinator
 Family Services Coordinator Admin Officer
 Allied health: speech and OT

5. CENTRE FACILITIES

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

The Centre is a new centre positioned on the south/western side of the junior primary oval with access via Greenlees Parade and Evans Street.

It has been architecturally designed by Kilpatrick Architecture and built by Cox Constructions. The facility is state of the art with a modern design, floor plan and furnishings which embrace the Reggio Emilio philosophy.

Particular features include a piazza at the hub of the Centre which provides a meeting place for families with comfortable seating, natural light and smells of coffee and food from an open kitchen accessible from the piazza and the main preschool indoor area.

Eye catching floor coverings around a beach side theme encompass a photographic image of the ocean and sand at Aldinga Beach.

The external playing space provides for self-initiated, exploratory learning in natural play areas and linked to the environment. Creative spaces encompass tunnels, a ship wreck, sandpit with sail canopies, water play, undulating mounds, different surfaces, centred garden areas, (some built up for wheelchair access), shaded areas, sensory plants, shrubbery and established trees.

The Children's Centre vision in linking the Centre with the school will have access via gates from the playground area and a landscaped path and shade area providing dual access.

LOCAL COMMUNITY

We envisage that the children who enrol in the preschool will in the main attend Aldinga Beach B-7 School.

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL AND SHOPPING CENTRE

Aldinga has a shopping Centre which is growing and a large Medical Centre There are a variety of Sporting Clubs and the Community Centre runs day and evening courses for adults as well as children.

A range of services are available to families: the Aldinga Library, Centrecare, Salvation Army, Aldinga Community Centre, The Volt, Police Station, GP Plus, Medical Centre, Communities for Children, Uniting Communities,

ACCESSIBILITY

A bus service connects Aldinga to Sellicks, Moana, Seaford and Noarlunga. The train service from Noarlunga is currently being extended to Seaford. Aldinga is a part of the City of Onkaparinga.