



# PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 02/12

**Centre number:** 5613

**Centre name:** Elizabeth O'Grady Kindergarten

## 1. General information

- Kindergarten Director
  - Kellie Holbrook
- Postal address
  - 6 Charles Sturt Avenue, Grange SA 5022
- DECD partnership
  - Western Adelaide Shores
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km)
  - 12km
- Telephone number
  - 8356 8035
- Fax number
  - 8355 0139
- Kindergarten website address:
  - [www.elizogradykgn.sa.edu.au](http://www.elizogradykgn.sa.edu.au)
- Kindergarten e-mail address
  - [dl.5613.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.5613.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au)
- Kindergarten face book page
  - <https://www.facebook.com/elizabethogradykindergarten>
- Enrolment/Attendance
  - Enrolments continue to be steady. Our enrolment cap is 76 children (our physical capacity is 44 children per session). Most children attend a minimum of two full days per week.
- Co-located/stand-alone
  - Stand alone Kindergarten
- Programs operating at the kindergarten
  - Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children  
Monday & Wednesday and Tuesday & Thursday groups.  
8.45am – 3.30pm plus alternate Fridays 8.45am-11.45am

- Occasional Care  
Unfunded- by special arrangement with staff for children already attending the centre.
- Lunch/Full Day Program  
Children bring lunch, fruit for snacks and a water bottle each day.
- Bilingual Support  
Available when required
- Preschool Support  
Speech pathologist, educational psychologist and disability support available for children with special needs

## 2. Key Centre Policies

Centre Priorities/Statement of Purpose:

- *Philosophy:*  
To maintain a caring, safe environment so that children can experience and enjoy learning within a play based curriculum, which supports the development of life skills, and values people in our richly diverse community.
- *Vision:*  
To provide quality teaching practices that supports the development of children's knowledge, life skills and attitudes.  
To provide a supportive partnership that is responsive to the needs of families and our community.  
We believe in...
- *Respecting each person as an individual* – valuing background, cultures and prior life experiences, acknowledging individual's rights, opinions, abilities and development.
- *Fostering caring and responsible behaviour* – modeling a commitment to the well being and development of each other, the community and the environment through promoting optimistic, positive language and behaviour, co-operation, sharing and positive relationships.
- *Encouraging the development of a strong self-esteem* - through providing opportunities for mastery of skills and success to build confidence, fostering self -motivation, self-discipline, independence, trust, accepting challenges, managing change, communication, assertion and a sense of belonging.
- *Guiding behaviour in a positive manner* – facilitating self control, making appropriate choices, encouraging negotiation and democracy, a non-violent and non-competitive environment and as global citizens – educating for acceptance of diversity and peace.
- *Developing a committed responsible professional staff team* – with defined goals and directions, a sound knowledge base, a commitment to personal growth, ongoing learning and evaluation and information sharing.
- *Working in partnership with parents and caregivers in establishing priorities for the centre, allocating funding and being involved in the programme* – supporting all families, establishing positive working relationships with two-way communication, assessment and reporting on children's progress and providing opportunities for discussion.

## 3. Curriculum

- Belonging, Being and Becoming (Early Years Learning Framework)
- Respect, Reflect and Relate
- Child Protection Curriculum
- **Literacy:** Collection of base line data using 'Levels of Questioning' and Preschool Screening Tool to ascertain 'at risk' children who are then involved

in early intervention programs to promote their language skills. Our curriculum focuses on the development of oral languages skills, phonological awareness skills, and knowledge of print

- **Mathematics/Numeracy:** we implement a mathematics program which has been developed from strategies devised as a result of the teaching staff taking part in training and development with the Primary Maths Association.
- **Environment;** Environmental Sustainability is a focus of the Kindergarten curriculum. Children participate in recycling programs and gardening experiences such as composting bins, worm farming, mulching and helping to care for our chickens. The children and staff take responsibility for caring for and maintaining the environment.
- **Core Values**
  - Respect
  - Resilience
  - Diversity
  - Co-operation
  - Friendship
- **Reporting to parents:** Parent /teacher meetings (children also welcome to attend) are conducted in terms 1 and 3. Each child has a folder for their work which can be viewed by parents at any time and goes home with children at the end of the year. At the end of term 4, each child receives a statement of learning which summarises their progress throughout their year at kindergarten with a focus on learning dispositions.

## 4. Centre Based Staff

- Director 1.0
- Teacher 1.0
- ECW 1.5
- Disability Support Staff and BiLingual Assistants as required
- Performance Management Program
  - Performance Management Program is undertaken regularly, with Training and Development encouraged for all staff which meet the key priorities of our Quality Improvement Plan and individual needs.
- Access to support staff for additional needs
  - Access through the Integrated Support Services team, which includes Preschool Support Workers, Psychologist, Speech Pathologist, Social workers and Bilingual Assistants when required

## 5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
  - Access to the centre is via a side gate, with playground located at the rear of the building. The centre has a spacious indoor learning area with several withdrawal rooms. The office and kitchen were upgraded in 2003 and the interior of the main room was upgraded in 2013. The children's

bathroom was upgraded in 2008. The outdoor learning area has been upgraded in stages since 2015.

- Physical Capacity
  - 44 children per session
- Centre Ownership
  - City of Charles Sturt Council. The site is leased by DECD from the council.
- Access for children and staff with disabilities
  - Yes

## **6. Local Community**

- Parent and community involvement in the kindergarten
  - Good parent participation and commitment to kindergarten and local community.
- Schools to which children generally transfer from this Kindergarten
  - Grange P. S, Fulham North P. S, Henley Beach P.S, Kidman Park P.S, Fulham Gardens P.S and Star of the Sea P.S.
- Other local care and educational facilities
  - Families access various child care centres in the local area – Kidman Park, Seaton, Queen Elizabeth Hospital. The kindergarten does not have any direct links with a child care centre.