



PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 04/17

Centre number: 6672

Centre name: Saddleworth Early Learning Centre

1. General information

- Preschool Director
Fiona Mosey
- Postal address
7 Saddle Road, Saddleworth SA 5413
- Location address
7 Saddle Road, Saddleworth SA 5413
- DECD Partnership
Lower Mid North
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km)
105kms
- Telephone number
88474245
- Fax number
88474387
- Preschool website address:
www.saddleworthelc.sa.edu.au
- Preschool e-mail address
dl.6672.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au
- Enrolment/Attendance
Currently 13 eligible preschool enrolments
Projected enrolment for 2018 is 12 children
- Co-located/stand-alone
Co-located with Saddleworth Primary School but operates as a stand-alone preschool
- Programs operating at the preschool

∞ Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children

- ⌘ Occasional Care (unfunded and when numbers permit)
- ⌘ Associated Programs – pre-entry, early entry, playgroup
- ⌘ Lunch/Full Day Program
- ⌘ Preschool Support – for eligible children

2. Key Centre Policies

- Centre Priorities/Statement of Purpose

Our core business is to provide care, education and support for preschool aged children in an environment where staff, families, community and other services work together in a mutually supportive way.

2017 goals:

- Wellbeing:
 - * To support children's, staff and families' mental health.
 - * Relationships between educators and children are of the highest quality.
- Literacy and Numeracy:
 - * To improve children's oral language skills.
 - * To improve numeracy outcomes for all children.
 - * To communicate children's literacy and numeracy development to families.
- Sustainability:
 - * Children become environmentally aware and responsible.

3. Curriculum

- Framework used: Early Years Learning Framework
- Core Values – Honesty, respect, happiness, trust, fun, learning
- Specific curriculum approaches
 - Early Intervention programs have been developed to support children.

- Joint programmes/special curriculum projects
Links with main feeder schools – Saddleworth, Manoora, Auburn

4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff Profile
0.6 Director
0.5 permanent ECW
- Performance Management Program
All staff are involved in regular Performance Review meetings
- Access to special support staff
A Preschool Support Worker is employed to assist the Early Intervention and Preschool Support programs
- Other
The Director's role includes that of teacher, manager and leader of the site

5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
The building is a 17 year old transportable offering excellent and flexible space options. The grounds are a key feature of the kindergarten offering natural spaces for play.
- Capacity (per session)
28
- Centre Ownership
DECD
- Access for children and staff with disabilities
Available at the rear of the building. Toilet facilities also available.
- Other

6. Local Community (intended for country preschools)

- General characteristics:

Country kindergarten servicing Saddleworth, Manoora, Auburn, Marrabel and surrounding districts.

The children come from a range of geographical situations – rural, isolated and urban.

Diverse family structures including two parent and single families.

Majority of families are Anglo/Australian with a very small percentage from other cultural backgrounds.

Wide range of family occupations from farming to small business with a small percentage of unemployed parents.

Some families travel 10-25kms to access the kindergarten.
- Parent and community involvement in the preschool

The kindergarten is managed by a group of volunteer parents who are elected annually to the Governing Council. With the Director, they are responsible for the financial management of the kindergarten as well as fund raising, maintenance of buildings, policy making, budget implementation and asset management.

Parent and community involvement is welcome and sought at all times.
- Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool

Most children continue their education at either Saddleworth Primary School, Auburn Primary School or Manoora Primary School.

A small percentage continue their education at Riverton PS, St John's, Eudunda and St Joseph's, Clare.
- Other local care and educational facilities,

Family Day Care is available in Saddleworth and Rural Care in Riverton.
- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities

Any light industry in the area is associated with the farming needs of the community.

Shopping facilities offer the basic essentials eg Supermarket with post Office and Banking Agencies, butcher, pharmacy and roadhouse.
- Other local facilities

Medical facilities in Riverton, Clare and Gawler.

Sporting clubs in the community include tennis, football, netball, golf, lawn bowls and basketball.

Lions is an active service club in the area.

Country Women's Association is an active group with younger membership.

Public libraries – Saddleworth, Riverton, Auburn, Manoora and Clare.
- Availability of staff housing

There are limited opportunities for rental accommodation in Saddleworth, however the availability of properties for purchase is greater.

There is a newly completed housing development for low income families. Accommodation can be acquired in the wider district.

- Accessibility
Saddleworth is approximately 30 minutes from Clare and 1.5 hours from Adelaide CBD.
Public transport (bus) to and from Adelaide is available.
- Local Government
Clare and Gilbert Valley Council.

7. Further Comments

- Partnership arrangements with other groups
Playgroup is held each Thursday mornings.