PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Centre number: 4645
Centre name: Oakbank Kindergarten

1. General information

- Preschool Director  Sharon Miller
- Postal address  P.O. Box 845
- Location address  214 Onkaparinga Valley Road Oakbank, SA 5243
- DECD Partnership  Heysen Partnership

Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO  32 km

- Telephone number  8388 4141
- Fax number  8398 0082
- Preschool website address:  www.oakbankgn.sa.edu.au
- Preschool e-mail address: dl.4645.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au
- Enrolment/Attendance:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Enrolments</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
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<td>2012</td>
<td>1 – 22</td>
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<td>1-21</td>
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<td>2- 22</td>
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Term 3 – 24
Term 4 – 23
Term 2-20
Term 4-19

2013
Enrolments
Term 1 – 30
Term 2 – 28
Term 3 – 18
Term 4 – 17
Attendance
Term 1 - 26
Term 2 - 24

2014
Term 1 – 28
Term 2 – 26
Term 3 – 25
Term 4 -
• Stand-alone

• Programs operating at the preschool
  ❖ Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children
    Tuesday 9-3, Wednesday 9-3, Thursday 9-12
  ❖ Occasional Care / unfunded – is under consideration
  ❖ Associated Programs
    Pre-Entry Term 4
  ❖ Lunch/Full Day Program
    Tuesday and Wednesday
  ❖ Bilingual Support
    When required and approved by DECD
  ❖ Preschool Support
    When required and funded by Support Services
    DECD

2. Key Centre Policies
• Centre Priorities/Statement of Purpose
  Oakbank Kindergarten places high emphasis on:-
  • Children learning through play.
  • Using the Early Years Learning framework to guide practise.
• Using a cycle of learning involving children’s interests, staff observations and explicit teaching which is reflective, questions and plans the next step in the learning cycle.
• Children being unique, capable, competent, active and involved learners.
• Nurturing family values and shared information to meet the needs of individual children through collaborative planning.
• Encouraging safe risk taking and exploration within our well maintained and natural grounds.
• Honest and positive communication to build trusting relationships.

3. Curriculum
• Framework used: Early Years Learning Framework
• Core Values:-
  • positive wellbeing and confidence,
  • honesty, respect, empathy thoughtfulness, and kindness,
  • inclusion and coexistence,
  • creative thinking, expression and an opportunity to dream,
  • curiosity and inquisitiveness,
  • building relationships,
  • identity, independence, and empowerment,
  • physical skills,
  • Developmentally appropriate learning and expectations.
  • sensory play such as touching, moving, listening, smelling, hearing and seeing
• Specific curriculum approaches
  • Playful learning
  • Explicit teaching
  • Mandated teaching
  • Individual interests and planned goals
Joint programmes/special curriculum projects
  - Group interest
  - Project work

4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff Profile
  Director .5
  Teacher .5

- Performance Management Program
  - Twice yearly meeting with goals and reflections

- Access to special support staff
  Support Staff are approved and financed through Support Service

- Other
  Employed by Governing Council Finance Officer 2.5 hours per week (term time only)

5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
  Oakbank Kindergarten is situated beside the Oakbank Community Playground and nestled within picturesque grounds which include well established deciduous trees, moss rocks partly surrounding the large sandpit beside native plants. Many new to the Centre are surprised and delighted with the size of the outdoor area and the natural environment in which children can develop their physical skills, imagination and social relationships. The building was built as the original Oakbank Primary School over 150 years ago and has character with its high ceilings and interesting layout.

- Capacity (per session): 22

- Centre Ownership: Department of Education and Child Development

- Access for children and staff with disabilities:
  There are a number of wide doorways within the centre and the paving around the building is level, however, toilet area restricted to able bodied children and staff. The grounds are built on a slope.

- Other
6. **Local Community** (intended for country preschools)

- **General characteristics:**
  Oakbank Kindergarten is situated on the Onkaparinga Valley Road with easy access to the South Eastern Freeway. The townships are surrounded by farm land. Predominately English speaking families reside in the Adelaide Hills.

- **Parent and community involvement in the preschool**
  Parents are involved in the kindergarten through Governing Council and through other voluntary work sought by the centre. The kindergarten participates in the community through annual involvement in planting native grasses and bushes in the local playground. Links with the local Oakbank Area School include shared visits with planned activities supporting children’s and student’s learning.

- **Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool**
  Children attending Oakbank Kindergarten enrol in a number of local government and public schools depending on the current cohort of children and where they live. Current enrolments reflect Woodside Primary School, Oakbank Area School and Hills Christian Community School.

- **Other local care and educational facilities,**
  Goodstart Early Learning Oakbank share kindergarten aged children between services.

- **Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities**
  Mount Barker would be the largest township with all services / conveniences required for any family.

- **Other local facilities**
  The township of Oakbank offers some facilities such as a Community Playground, Fodder Store / Post Office, Pizza Bar and Cafe, Chiropracter Oakbank Hotel and the Oakbank Area School. Balhannah has 3 shopping hubs which include medical / dental/ pharmacy / Vet. / fodder shop / beauty salon / Mitre 10 / bakeries and more.

- **Availability of staff housing**
  There is the availability of homes to rent or purchase either locally or within a 15 to 20 minute drive

- **Accessibility**
  Public transport is available to Adelaide or local townships by bus.

- **Local Government**
  Adelaide Hills Council
7. **Further Comments**

- Partnership arrangements with other groups
- Oakbank Kindergarten and Oakbank Goodstart Early Learning share children. The children are transferred between sites to access the kindergarten program and childcare facility.