

PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Centre number: 6519

Centre name: Keith War Memorial Community Kindergarten and Childcare Centre

1. General information

- Director: Penny Cook
- Postal address: PO Box 23, KEITH SA 5267
- Location address: 1 Anzac Terrace, KEITH SA 5267
- DfE Partnership: Tatiara
- Geographical location: Keith Town Centre, 230km south-east of Adelaide
- Telephone number: (08) 87551348
- Centre mobile: 0427 390 057
- Email-address: dl.6519_leaders@schools.sa.edu.au
- Integrated site including preschool, long day care, before & after kindy care, after school care & vacation care programs



2. Philosophy....

We value

First nation people

past, present and future- **therefore** we will respectfully include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history and culture in the curriculum and environment

Children live in families and communities –**therefore** we will nurture the relationships children already have whilst at KWMCKCC

Families as children's first educators- **therefore** we will build positive partnerships to support children's physical, cultural, emotional and cognitive growth and development

Children's dignity and wellbeing at the centre of all our decisions – **therefore** we will respect and honour children through quality relationships and interactions

Children as competent learners –**therefore** we will keep abreast of contemporary research to ensure children have optimum learning experiences

Nature and the outdoors supporting emotional learning and development- **therefore** we will plan for the outdoor learning environment

A cohesive staff team – **therefore** we will communicate effectively

Play as the major vehicle for children’s learning, and the **environment** as a 3rd teacher –**therefore** we will offer open ended invitations for children to explore, wonder, experiment, communicate and engage in

Children’s agency in their learning- **therefore** we will co construct learning with children

Sustainability –**therefore** we will plan for the sustainability of the services and the environment

Updated June – 2021

3. Curriculum

- Frameworks used: Early Years Learning Frame ‘Belonging Being and Becoming’ and ‘My Time, Our Place.’
- Core Values: Building on learning dispositions of curiosity, collaboration, persistence, risk taking and exploration through a play based curriculum. Learning is first concrete, next symbolic, then abstract.

4. Centre Based Staff

The staff team comprises DfE staff and childcare staff employed directly by the Centre. There are currently 17 staff members including relief staff. The warranted DfE staffing is 1.0 director and .6 teacher.

5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds: the service is an integrated preschool and childcare located in a renovated building at the end of the main street in Keith. The centre is set on large grounds with a wonderful outdoor learning environment.

- Capacity: the service is approved to provide education and care for a maximum of 62 children at any given time.
- Centre ownership: the centre is community based and not -for –profit.
- Access for children and staff with disabilities: the service has facilities and access for children, staff and adults with disabilities.

6. Local Community

- General characteristics: Keith is a small rural farming community with a population of approximately 1300. Local industries include Lucerne Seed production and Timber Truss plant.
- Parent and community involvement in the preschool: Governing council and specialised groups as needed.
- Destination schools: Keith Area School
- Other Local Facilities: hospital, sports and recreations facility and numerous community groups
- Accessibility: comfortable 2-3 hour drive from Adelaide on the Dukes Highway. Daily bus service also available.
- Local Government: Tatiara District Council

Session times for preschool: Each week: Monday & Tuesday (8.30am-3.15pm), plus 2 Wednesday's per term in weeks 6 and 8 (8.30am -3.15pm). There is also an extra Wednesday in week 4 of term 4.