

PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 03/17

Centre number: 6646

Centre name: Roxby Downs Kindergarten

1. General information

- Centre name : Roxby Downs Kindergarten
- Centre number : 6646
- Preschool Director : Brenda Murray
- Postal address : P.O Box 162, Roxby Downs, SA, 5725
- Location address : Richardson Place, Roxby Downs, SA, 5725
- Telephone number : 08 8671 0455
- Fax number : 08 8671 1021
- e-mail address : dl.6646.roxykgn@schools.sa.edu.au
- Partnership : Far North Partnership
- Geographical location – i.e. road distance from GPO (km) : 560 km (Olympic Dam – Adelaide)
- Enrolment/Attendance : Term 1, 2018, 97 eligible enrolments
- Co-located/stand-alone : stand – alone
- Programs operating
 - ⊞ Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children
 - : Operates Monday – Friday. We have 2 kindergarten groups – Red group and Blue Group. Blue group attends Mondays and Tuesdays 8.15am – 3.15pm. Red group attends on Thursdays and Fridays 8.15am – 3.15pm. Each group also can access 5 full day catchups on specified Wednesdays during terms 1, 2 and 3.
 - ⊞ Bilingual Support : Support is available for children from language backgrounds other than English through the Preschool Bilingual Support programme.
 - ⊞ Preschool Support : Preschool Support / Early Intervention hours are provided on a needs basis, funded through the Preschool Support program and our

Site Global budget. Negotiated Education Plans, where required, are established in collaboration with parents, centre staff, the DECD Special Educator & other relevant agencies.

General characteristics: Roxby Downs is an “industrial suburb / mining town” positioned in an isolated country location. It is not a rural town. The community is characterised by its youth, high disposable income and job opportunities.

Many families come from overseas, interstate and locally, with many in the early years from the Eyre Peninsula. The opal mining town of Andamooka is 35 kms away.

Children come from a variety of backgrounds – Industrial (mining), Agricultural (farming), city (urban) and city (industrial), resulting in a varied population with some transiency. There are a group of residents who call Roxby Downs home and many more who stay from months to a few years. The challenges presented by the transience in this community are largely overcome by the relative youth and resilience of the population, having to establish themselves in a new community without extended families and acquaintances. The community is young and vibrant.

2. Key Centre Policies

Implementing our Quality Improvement Plan (QIP)

The centre is currently exceeding the national quality standard in all seven areas. Areas identified for continued improvement during 2018/19 include:

- *Improving educator knowledge of the Preschool Indicators of Literacy and Numeracy and a greater STEM focus*
- *Improving communication about the educational program with families*
- *Revising our Statement of Philosophy to reflect views and beliefs of new staff, families and children*
- *Ongoing professional development and critical reflection to identify areas for improvement and articulate learning to others*
- *Intentional planning for explicit learning through routines, small and large group experiences*
- *Support families with knowledge and skills to promote oral language at home*

Improving children’s literacy: specifically children’s oral language skills through our participation in the oral language project.

3. Curriculum

Framework used - *Belonging, Being & Becoming*: the Early Years Learning Framework for Australia

Belonging, Being and Becoming is the national early learning framework for children from birth to five years. The framework outlines principles and practices that underpin

the kindergarten's philosophy and educational pedagogy. Through the framework's themes of belonging, being and becoming and the five learning goals, our educators work alongside children in developing:

- a strong sense of their identity and wellbeing;
- connections with and contributions to their world;
- confidence and involvement in their learning; and
- effective communication skills.

At Roxby Downs Kindergarten we honour the importance of each child's belonging, being and becoming. We honour the importance of:

Belonging within a family, community and culture

Being 3, 4 or 5 years old

Becoming a confident learner and contributor to Australian society.

We report on the children's individual learning through an end of year 'Statement of Learning' that highlights individual achievement towards meeting the EYLF learning outcomes as well as Site Plan targets

• **Core Values**

: Kindergarten is a safe place for children to learn about themselves, others and the world, and where learning can be fun, meaningful, exciting and engaging.

• **Specific curriculum approaches**

: Play based pedagogy is used where children learn through meaningful opportunities to play and engage with high quality materials, skilled educators, and other children.

: Curriculum is based upon individual children's strengths, ideas, interests and challenges.

: Learning Stories are used to document children's learning, dispositions, and to contribute to the planning and assessment of curriculum.

: Key curriculum questions to be explored with the children are also used as a source of curriculum and provocations for learning are designed for both individuals and groups of children