



PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: Nov 2012

Centre number: 6537

Centre name: Nararacoorte North Kindergarten

1. General information

- Preschool Director - Jillian Wight
- Postal address - 39 Park Terrace, Naracoorte, 5271
- Location address – 39 Park Terrace, Naracoorte 5271
- DECD Region – Limestone Coast
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km) 345 km's South of Adelaide
- Telephone number - (08)87621581
- Fax number – (08) 87623392
- Preschool website address: www.naracoortekgn.sa.edu.au
- Preschool e-mail address - Jillian.Wight872@schools.sa.edu.au

Enrolment/Attendance **Table 1: Enrolments by Term**

Enrolment by Term				
Year	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2010	70	66	56	55
2011	62	64	58	54
2012	48	58	59	65

Table 2: Attendance Percentages 2010 - 2012

Attendance Percentage				
Year	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2010 Centre	95.7	98.5	94.6	92.7
2011 Centre	95.2	96.9	94.8	101.9
2012 Centre	100.0	89.7	89.8	
2010 State	88.8	90.3	88.0	88.2
2011 State	89.9	89.1	88.4	89.6
2012 State	87.4	85.9	84.4	

- Our Children are regular attenders with attendance ranging between 89% & 95%
- Co-located/stand-alone Co- located with the Naracoorte Child Day Care Centre - a 35 place centre
- **Programs operating at the preschool**
 - ❖ Pre Entry
 - ❖ Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children Under Universal Access we offer a 4 & ½ day week or a 5 day fortnight
A ½ day session: 8.45 am to 11.45am. Currently Monday through to Friday
Fullday sessions: 8.45 am to 3.15pm. Monday through to Thursday
 - ❖ Bus Program Children can access the DECD School Bus System (if seats are available). The buses stop at the nearby Naracoorte Primary School where they are met by a Kindergarten Staff member.
 - ❖ Extended Care
 - ❖ Lunch/Full Day Program – Monday to Thursday
 - ❖ Bilingual Support
 - ❖ Preschool Support

2. Key Centre Policies

- **Statement of Purpose**

Our Core business is to provide a high quality, child focused educational and care program to all Children. Our centre is welcoming, friendly & inviting. It provides safe & interesting environment for active, engaged learners. We recognize Families as being prime educators and encourage and welcome their participation

- **Centre Priorities**

- Well being
- Literacy & Numeracy
- Engagement

3. Curriculum

- Framework used: Early Years Learning Frame Work - Belonging Being and Becoming & Protective Behaviours Programs
- Core Values - We value respect, trust, honesty, independence, creativity, engagement, curiosity & critical thinking, cooperation & collaboration & individual growth
- Specific curriculum approaches – We use the EYLF document as well as observations, & information from the families to further develop programmes for individual children. The program is based on Individual needs, their strengths and interests. Programs are monitored , evaluated and recorded regularly. Quality Teaching practices & interactions support children’s individual pathways, their development, life skills, social skills, competencies & attitudes. There is a strong focus on Numeracy and Literacy. There is also a strong relationship with families and the community.
- Joint programmes/special curriculum projects – We have a strong partnership with the Naracoorte Primary School Reception Classes. The program has a literacy and Numeracy focus. The Kindergarten Children visit the reception class 1 week and this is reciprocated the next week
- Planned Transition Programs are organized for Children due to commence to all Schools.
- Currently we have a very exciting project happening between the Child care Centre & the Kindergarten. We are working towards an Integrated Model approach to the services. This is self initiated and although we have had some support from the Department, it is self funded. A small reference group including the Directors have been working together to achieve this positive outcome

4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff Profile

Jillian Wight - Permanent 1.0 - Director

Sandra Williamson – Permanent - 1.0 Teacher

Meg Thomson - Contract 0.6 Early Childhood Worker plus 6 ½ hour Universal Access

Beth Drew - 13 hours Universal Access

Bethany Collins - 6 ½ hours Universal Access

Melissa Assen - 10 hour Preschool Support & 3 hours Bilingual Support

- Performance Management Program - Yes
- Access to special support staff - We have regular and ongoing contact with the DECD Support Services, including Disability Coordinator, Speech Pathologist, Hearing Impairment Services as well as an Early Childhood Psychologist. We are also well supported by the South East Regional Community Health Service (SERCHS), including Occupational Therapist, Dietetics, Physiotherapist, Speech Pathologist and the Child Development Unit (CDU) We also have access to other Support Services from Adelaide including Townsend House Visual Impairment Service. Other services are also available

5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
The Naracoorte North Kindergarten was built as a Co-located Centre – with the Childcare centre in 1978 and the extended in 1988. It has a very interesting natural outdoor learning environment which they can safely explore as it fosters imaginative and creative play. The Play ground has many shady deciduous trees, pathways, a large covered sandpit which has just been upgraded and pet run's. There is also a large undercover Pergola area which has recently been furnished with blinds. This area can now be used throughout the year. The Kindergarten is adjacent to the Naracoorte Primary School and the Sporting Complex. To the east of the Kindergarten there are natural Parklands and walking trails.

- Capacity (per session) - 44
- Centre Ownership - DECD
- Access for children and staff with disabilities -Yes
- Other – Children can access the DECD School Buses which also includes a Town Bus if they live within a 5 kms radius. Although the Kindergartens in Naracoorte are not zoned – the Schools are.
- The Kindergarten have a contract Cleaner and Gardener

6. Local Community (intended for country preschools)

- General characteristics:
Naracoorte is a large country town, which is set in the heart to the Padthaway, Coonawarra & rattonbully Wine Districts. The surrounding farming community are involved in cropping, sheep and cattle. The Vine yards provide seasonal work for many people and there is also a large Meat works. The Kindergarten provides services for families within the local township as well as the surrounding districts and Victorian families, often involving extensive travel. This impacts on the way we offer our sessions to the families, including full day sessions requiring a lunch program. Naracoorte North Kindergarten is one of two Kindergartens in Naracoorte. Our families are now coming from a more diverse socioeconomic background. There is a small Aboriginal population and a growing transient & non English speaking or English as a second language population including Vietnamese, Chinese and Filipino Families. These Families access employment in the vineyards, meatworks and on the Farms. We continue to provide services for Children with additional needs.

Parent & Community involvement in the Pre School – We are fortunate to have a very involved parent community. Families are invited to participate in the programmes offered at the Kindergarten and take time to spend with their Children. Play group is a very popular program and involves 7 families per session. These sessions run Monday through to Thursday am (9.30 am to 11.00am). Playgroup is also offered during the afternoons from 1.00pm to 2.30pm if needed. The Governing Council meet monthly and is a very focused group of Parents ensuring the needs of the Kindergarten are met. Through out the year we hold several social functions which are always well supported.

- Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool – Naracoorte Primary is our primary 'Feeder School' Children also access the Naracoorte South Primary School, Sunrise Christian School, Frances Primary School,

Apsley, Edenhope. 2 Children have transitioned to Kingston (S E) & McDonald Park (Mt Gambier) during the past year.

- Other local care and educational facilities, - There are 2 Child care Centres one of which is colocated. another Kindergarten, 3 Primary Schools, (including a private Sunrise Christian School), Occasional Care, Family Day Care, OSHC & a High School
- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities – Naracoorte has 2 large supermarkets IGA & Woolworths as well as an Asian Supermarket. Naracoorte has a large shopping centre with an excellent variety of shops and businesses. There are Coffee Shops, Restaurants Hotels and Motels. Mini Jumbuck employs many people and is an International Business which produces woollen Products.

Refer to the Naracoorte Lucindale Council Website

www.naracoortelucindale.sa.gov.au

- Other local facilities – Sport is a very important part of social life in Naracoorte. This includes football, soccer, netball, basketball, hockey and tennis. The swimming lake is very popular during the summer months. There are 2 Medical Clinics, a Hospital, Community Health Service, Physio Clinic, Dental Clinic, 2 Chiropractic Clinics a Podiatrist. An Early Intervention Swim Program & a Veterinary Clinic Naracoorte is fortunate to be well serviced by many visiting Specialists.

Refer to the Naracoorte Lucindale Website

www.naracoortelucindale.sa.gov.au

- Availability of staff housing– Houses are available for rent or purchase Refer to the web sites
www.elders.com.au/southeast
www.naracoortfn.com.au
www.ottosons.com.au
www.salrealestate.com.au

Accessibility – Naracoorte is situated 345 kms south of Adelaide, 450 kms north east of Melbourne & 100kms north of Mt Gambier. Mt Gambier has an Air Service and Naracoorte is serviced by a Bus Service THE Premier Stateliner Coach Service www.premierstateliner.com.au

- Local Government - Naracoorte Lucindale Council, DeGaris Place
(08) 87601100 www.naracoortelucindale.sa.gov.au
Mitch Williams MP State Member for MacKillop (08)87621211

7. Further Comments

- Partnership arrangements with other groups

We work closely with local community groups, including the Naracoorte Lucindale Council, Community Health and Intervention Services. Including the Early Intervention Swim Program. The Director is involved in regular meetings with the Limestone Coast Leaders and also a Principals Hub which meets twice a term. We have a close working relationship with the Child care Centre and the adjacent Naracoorte Primary School.