



Kensington Gardens Preschool

Information for Families

...a community of connected and confident lifelong learners

Preschool

Children in South Australia are entitled to 15 hours of Preschool a week. Children at this Preschool attend 2 full days each week.

Monday to Thursday 8.15 am– 3.45 pm

Cost: \$230.00 per term

Playgroup Friday 10.00 a.m.– 11.30 am

Cost: \$30 a family and \$35 for families with more than one child

Educational Fees are set by the Governing Council and are essential to assist with payment of extra staffing, the cleaner, telephone, electricity and water bills, the cost of consumable materials such as paint, papers etc. and the purchasing of new resources. **Fund-raising is incorporated into our educational fee as are all materials and equipment, excursion / incursion costs AND the year's Kindy Photos.**

Families are invoiced within the first two weeks of each term. Please place your fees, (with invoice slip), into an envelope with your child's name on the outside into the parent communication tin located near the kitchen. You may also use internet banking. Sorry, we are unable to accept credit card payment at this site.

Curriculum

The CURRICULUM is based on Belonging Being and Becoming The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia EYLF

The outcomes for this age group are as follows:

- ◇ Children have a strong sense of identity
- ◇ Children are connected with and contribute to their world
- ◇ Children have a strong sense of wellbeing
- ◇ Children are confident and involved learners
- ◇ Children are effective communicators

Staff

Director and Teacher

Catherine Honeychurch

Teachers

Libby Kranz and Olympia Gerovasilis

Early Childhood workers

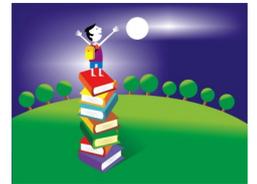
Linda Simmons and Mahnoor Ahmed

Allison Cutten (volunteer)

Philosophy

KGPS offers children a safe, friendly and challenging environment. Children actively engage in authentic, hands-on play experiences and our beautiful outdoor environment and surrounds allows children to connect with and learn from nature on a daily basis. Our environment is set up carefully so that children can be in charge of their own learning – independent, self-reliant and encouraged to explore and investigate. Equal use is made of the indoor and outdoor environment.

We view children as a competent and capable learners who come to us from their family with a wealth of knowledge, experiences and ideas. Our connections with the wider community and with the natural world give children the opportunity to create new understandings, develop their sense of belonging and citizenship.



Our long term investigations- projects- build children's self-belief about their own identity as a learner able to overcome challenges, ask questions, work with others and find solutions to any problems. Children learn through play in an environment that gives them daily access to clay, paint, drawing materials, woodwork and collage. Oral language is developed through opportunities to express ideas and engage in collaborative learning in its many forms. The arts are celebrated including dramatic play and drama, music and dance which are seen as vital ways of learning and expressing oneself. We support the participation of all the kindergarten community in becoming confident life-long learners through developing skills for 'succeeding and learning' in the 21st Century.

Documentation of children's learning is evaluated every week and guide opportunities and possibilities for future experiences. We continually seek parent's input into the program. Weekly program planning sessions incorporate individual children's learning and we note their strengths, and plan for their future progress. The visible learning improvement cycle, Learning Stories and photographic stories are a large part of our documentation and evidence.



Guidelines

✓Your child needs to bring a bag that is easy to open and close, a spare set of named clothes and a pillow for rest time

✓A named hat for outdoor play. Please put sun block on your child at home before session. We reapply after lunch.

✓This preschool is Nut Free. We promote nutritional eating habits in a safe and supportive environment. We believe that early childhood is an important time for establishing lifelong, healthy eating habits.

✓ For snacks and lunch we suggest a piece of fruit, vegetables, sandwiches or cheese. We provide filtered water at all times. Please be sure that your child can open and close their lunch box, drink containers and smaller containers. We promote 'nude food' and discourage the use of plastic food wrap.

✓Children are supported by educators and parents to keep their snack in their bag and place their lunch in the lunch containers provided.

✓Parents and children sign in and out each day.

✓Please dress your child in comfortable and appropriate clothing for climbing. Footwear needs to be safe and enable children to be able to run, hop and climb. Getting dirty is part of preschool life, and while smocks are provided, they are not always effective. Please wear "dirt/paint friendly" clothing that you do not care about! It is the difference between a child becoming an **active participant** or a **passive on-looker**.

✓Each child has a named pocket for newsletters, notes, receipts etc. Most information is sent via email.

✓If a child is unwell prior to kindergarten, we ask that they be kept at home. This includes children with contagious or infectious diseases including head-lice, diarrhoea, vomiting, conjunctivitis and raised temperature.

Thankyou!



Governing Council

The Preschool is managed by a parent and staff Governing Council. The Governing Council under guidance and support from the Director, are responsible for the Preschool's budget and finances, maintenance of the building, equipment, garden and grounds, ensuring that the children have a safe and healthy environment in which to learn.

The Council consists of the following positions:

Chairperson

Vice Chairperson

Minutes Secretary

Social Co-ordinator

General Council Members

Becoming a member is a great way of having an active role in your child's kindergarten and a way of getting to know other parents and staff. No experience is necessary and your comments, suggestions, concerns and ideas are always welcome. Meetings are organised, twice a term, and everyone is welcome to attend. Parents can also join throughout the year.

Transitions

Children from this preschool transition to a range of schools both public and private. Educators at this site liaise with local schools to ensure transitions are supported and smooth. A Learning Statement is written and with parents permission is sent to your child's Reception teacher. Visits from Reception teachers occur throughout the year and are highly valued and supported by our preschool.

Support Services

The following support services are provided by the Department for Education -DFE

Speech Pathology Psychologist Social Worker
Special Educators Bi-lingual Support

There is a DECD Dental clinic located on the Magill Primary School campus .

If your child has specific needs these will be discussed with the Director and appropriate referrals will be suggested. Depending on needs, children will be allotted some time with a preschool support worker on an individual basis or within a small group environment.

We encourage families to get involved in the program at this preschool. You can participate in our day to day activities and in making decisions via our Governing Council.

**Contact the Director-Catherine Honeychurch
for more information**

Phone: 08 8331 8068 Mob: 0422216221

430 The Parade

Kensington Gardens 5068

Email: dl.4627.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au

or visit

www.kensingtonpre.sa.edu.au

Our **Healthy Eating Policy** is that children bring healthy snacks that support their learning and bodies such as fresh fruit, vegetables, or cheese or a combination of these for snack. We do not insist a child eat if a child tells us that they are not hungry although we always encourage. Cold filtered water is always available to drink. Children can bring their own named water bottle, (with water only please). Please do not send other packaged drinks.

We encourage healthy lunches in a lunch box that can be independently opened. Please supply enough healthy food for your child's appetite and needs. Good choices of food include fruit, vegetables, sandwiches, wraps, sushi, rice, noodles or a salad. Finger food works well and we ensure all children wash their hands before eating.

Please do not send any nuts. This includes peanut paste, muesli bars and nutella due to severe nut allergies.



Cakes, sweet biscuits and lollies should be reserved for home unless home made with no icing, chocolate or nuts.



Healthy lunch box ideas + zero waste
(remember an ice brick to keep lunches cool)



The Nude Food dilemma– some suggestions to help busy parents!

From NRM Education- The following is an extract of an article that Mel Farugia a parent at St Catherine's School and member of the school Sustainability Committee wrote for their school newsletter.

Let's face it... making lunches for our kids can be hard work. We want to buy nutritional food for our kids to thrive. But how does this encourage us to prepare nude food, plastic-free school lunches?

Plastic once created, never goes away! Some plastics break down into tiny pieces, but never disappear. Some can be recycled once or twice, but ultimately all plastic is destined for landfill and our oceans. Conversely other resources like glass and metal can be continually recycled. Much of our marine wildlife now consume plastic fragments thinking that it is food, and then die. Fish caught for human consumption have been found with bellies full of plastic that leach toxic chemicals. Then we eat them! Ok, so you get the concern here.

Here are some hints:

Seek out raw fruits and vegies in the supermarket that are easy to chop and place straight into lunchboxes. Think rainbow food... carrots, capsicum, snow peas, cucumber. Avoid the processed/package snack aisle in the supermarket altogether if you can.

My kids love fresh olive bread with butter from the bakery cupboards in Foodland. These loaves are wrapped in a small slip of paper with zero plastic.

Popping corn can be bought from bulk food stores and then popped in a popcorn maker. The popcorn can then be put in paper bags for recesses.

Cheese are a big part of our family diet too. Although cheese is difficult to buy without plastic, try to buy large quantities to save on packaging

Once you have browsed bulk food stores and have realised how much is on offer, pick your favourites and bake once a week for recess snacks, pop them in the freezer and another tick box done.

Remember beeswax wraps for plastic free lunches. They are fabulous for bulky wraps loaded with salad. Just wipe them down with cold water and a cloth or use a natural spray n wipe solution.

Happy lunch making! How hard can it be? Mel