

October Newsletter



Keithcot Farm

Children's
Centre

for Early Childhood
Development and Parenting



Government
of South Australia

The staff for Term 4, 2022 include

- **Anne Whittleston** (Director: Education + Care)
- **Jen Reid** (Assistant Director)
- **Nathan McGuinness** (Community Development Coordinator)
- **Tamara Hall** (Speech Pathologist)
- **Sarah Harry** (Occupational Therapist)
- **Roshni Amroliwala** (Early Childhood Teacher)
- **Michelle Cullen** (Early Childhood Teacher)
- **Lisa Edwards** (Early Childhood Teacher)
- **Adrienne Hicks** (Educator)
- **Magdaline Saredakis** (Educator)
- **Amanda Smith** (Educator)
- **Lisa Chalmers** (Educator)
- **Jess Maher** (Educator)
- **Lisa Mildrum** (Educator)
- **Jodie Murray** (Educator)
- **Andrea Randell** (Educator)
- **Julia Tilley** (Educator)
- **Iona Angely** (Educator)
- **Yogini Patel** (Educator)
- **Rinjani Bonavidi** (Educator)
- **Noella Saad** (Educator)
- **Kelly McDonald** (Educator)
- **Nobuko Nakajima** (Educator)
- **Jo Oliver** (Cook / Educator)
- **Mayuko Mulholland** (Educator/ Cook support)
- **Zahra** (Educator)
- **Cathy Mazzarolo** (Admin Officer)
- **Kylie Webster** (Finance Officer)
- **Simon Costello** (Grounds person)

Curriculum

The Department for Education has developed a new quality model and a range of resources purposefully designed for the unique context of prior to school settings.

The preschool quality model is an opportunity to be clear about what we are aiming for in the Early Years and the support needed to embed high quality teaching and learning.

- It connects the ongoing work with new initiatives under the Early Learning Strategy
- It emphasises the important work we do to offer quality programs for children
- It demonstrates the key interaction between leadership, quality teaching and learning and improvement planning

It shows the improvements in the system that will support us to achieve high quality outcomes for all children.

On Wednesday 2 November, we will have a visit from **Warrawong Wildlife Sanctuary**. This will



follow up on our inquiry – Looking at Animal Habitats and our Booked Based Program –

“Tiddalick” where we will have the opportunity to experience firsthand many Australian animals.

No Department for Education Preschool on Monday 14 November

Our core Educators from **across our site** will spend the day monitoring the progress of our 2022 Prior to School Quality Improvement Plans (PQIP's) and planning our 2023 PQIP's.

Long Day Care will be available to families who have children with a regular LDC booking each Monday. Please confirm with Cathy your booking.



Many thanks to Doug, Ken and other volunteers from Holden Hill Men's Shed for building our fabulous new Mud Kitchen! Special thanks to Nathan (CDC) for coordinating this outstanding community project.

Better start...

2023 Fees

On 26 September our Governing Councils reviewed and updated 2023 Fees.

Fees for 2023 are as follows:

Long Day Care	\$127 / day
Preschool	\$480/year
Lunch and Afternoon Care (in conjunction with Preschool)	\$65
Before Preschool Care	\$24
After Preschool Care	\$30
Between Session Care (in conjunction with Preschool)	\$20

We have 2 Governing Councils

1. Preschool and Early Childhood Development and Parenting.
2. Childcare.

Membership of both Governing Councils consist of parents community members elected at the Annual General Meeting and the staff leadership team.

Annual General Meeting

Our **2022 Annual General Meeting** is planned for

Tuesday 13 December @ 6.30pm.

We are delighted that the Minister for Education (Blair Boyer) will be available to join us for part of this special meeting. Reports will be available outlining accomplishments achieved at the Children's Centre through 2022.



Role of the Governing Councils

- ✚ To support the implementation and management of the integrated Long Day Care; Department for Education Preschool Program; Allied Health and Community Development Programs.
- ✚ To develop and review policies and directions which will ensure a supportive learning environment for all children and their families.
- ✚ To identify strategic directions in the form of a Preschool Quality Improvement Plan (PQIP) and a Childcare Quality Improvement Plan along with the Centre Leadership team.
- ✚ To use human resources flexibly, effectively and efficiently.
- ✚ To raise funds to enable the purchase of resources and the maintenance of facilities
- ✚ To work collaboratively with Community Groups to strengthen community partnerships.

Governing Council meetings are both informal and informative and an opportunity for you to have a positive, productive say in the future directions of your child's Children's Centre. The Governing Councils meet apx. every 6 weeks via a ZOOM online platform.

Sun Safety

Sunscreen must be applied by parents/ caregivers to all exposed skin **before** arrival at the Centre. Our Educators will reapply sunscreen through the day in line with the current Cancer Council recommendations when the UV Rating is 3 or above.

If you do not want your child to receive sunscreen- please put your request in writing and it will be filed with your child's confidential documentation.

Please do not send children with exposed shoulders/ backs. These children will be asked to put on a t-shirt or will be required to spend all day inside as sunscreen alone is not an acceptable means of protection for these body parts during the hot summer months.

Please ensure your child has a **named broad brimmed hat** with no drawstring or toggles.

Please provide a named cup in your child's bag. Our Educators ensure that all children have a drink of water with fruit in the morning and in the afternoon as well as a drinks of water and milk at lunch time. We ensure that fresh water is easily accessible for children to independently access using **their own cups.**

Community Development

Nature Play Event: in conjunction with Tea Tree Gully Council Thursday 13 October @ Bentley Reserve. The link to this event is on our Face Book page and the TTGC website.

Being with Baby: begins again on October 25 on Tuesday's 10-11.30am

Infant Massage: This program will run Friday afternoons from 12:30 until 2pm.

Play in the Park: with Sarah (Occupational Therapist) and Nathan 10 – 11.30am:

1. Tuesday 18 October **Nature Play** at Hope Valley Reservoir
2. Wednesday 9 November **Stories** at Carisbrooke.
3. Friday 25 November **Active Play** at Golden Fields.
4. Tuesday 13 December **Pancakes** at Illaryie reserve.

Parent information sessions: 4 workshops for parents/carer's this term. More information will be provided very soon.

1. Toileting – October 20.
2. Sleep – October 27.
3. Separation Anxiety – November 24
4. First Aid – November 30.

PJ Story Night: will be back this term – date is to be advised.

Sing and Grow: is a new music program that we are trialling this term on Wednesday mornings from 19 October until 7 December.

Food Bank: Mobile food truck is going to be at Wynn Vale Oval on Thursday's 10-11am. Referrals can be obtained from Nathan.

Customer Feedback

We all expect quality and expert care and teaching for children in order that they achieve their potential.

We also recognise that at times things may go wrong.

If you have a concern or a complaint, we want you to let us know.

It's important to learn from mistakes or misunderstandings so that we can improve your child's experience and learning, and also improve processes where possible.

A complaint may be made by a parent if they think that the Children's Centre has, for example:

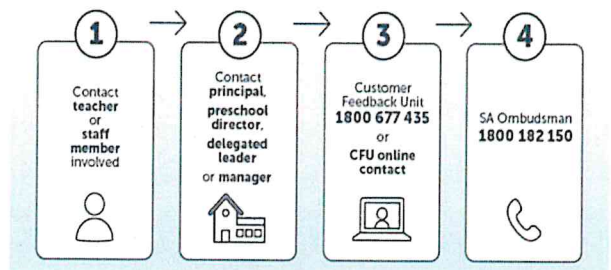
- ✚ done something wrong
- ✚ failed to do something it should have done
- ✚ acted unfairly or impolitely.

Your concern or complaint may be about:

- ✚ the type, level or quality of services
- ✚ the behaviour and decisions of staff
- ✚ a policy, procedure or practice.

Sometimes a complaint is about something we have to do because of State or Federal law. In such cases we are able to talk to you about the matter and help you understand the requirements and why they exist.

1. The first step in working through a complaint is to talk to your child's Primary Educator.



2. Contact Anne Whittleston (Director: Education + Care) Anne.whittleston916@schools.sa.edu.au
3. Contact Customer Feedback Unit 1800 677 435
4. Contact SA Ombudsman 1800 182 150

Save the Date! Family Christmas Celebration

Tuesday 6 December @ 6.30pm.

At the Dame Roma Mitchell Centre at Golden Grove High School.

More details of this event will be sent home soon.



In the Long Day Care Setting we are focussing on promoting strategies to support Children's Oral Language Development through the development of the "Tiny Talkers" Project.

The "Tiny Talkers" project has involved:

- ★ Educators reflecting on the Communication skills of all children from "before first word users" to children speaking in sentences.
- ★ Tamara (Speech Pathologist) & Jess (Educator) preparing & sharing information with Educators to support the use of strategies / tips to promote oral language development during everyday interactions, activities & play.
- ★ Educators focussing on using a particular strategy (e.g. 'Serve & Return') and then building on these strategies to more specific language stimulation strategies (e.g. 'echo & add') during everyday interactions & play.
- ★ Strategy Poster displays throughout the centre.

How can you be involved?

- ★ From term 4 you will see a "Tiny Talkers" display at the sign in desk. Here we will be sharing tips & strategy "Postcards" for you to take – if you would like to try some of the strategies during everyday activities & play with your child.
- ★ "Tiny Talker" tips and strategies are ways of interacting & talking with children to support oral language development.

If you wish to know more about the "Tiny Talkers" Project, any of the Strategies or have any questions or concerns regarding your child's communication development please speak with your child's Primary Educator.