



PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 2019

Centre number: 6617

Centre name: Flinders Children's Centre and Tji Tji Wiltja
Preschool

1. General information

Preschool Director: Kerry Moosha

Postal address: 122 Tassie Street, Port Augusta, SA, 5700

Location address: 122 Tassie Street, Port Augusta, SA, 5700

DECD Region: Port Augusta Partnership

Telephone number: 86422067

Fax number: 86426646

- Preschool website address: flinderscc.sa.edu.au
- Preschool e-mail address: Kerry.moosha795@school.sa.edu.au

Enrolment/Attendance: 60 eligible enrollments

Co-located/**stand-alone**

Programs operating at the preschool

- v Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children
 - **Four year olds** are entitled to 15 hours of Kindergarten
Two full day sessions and Thursday half day session
Monday/Tuesday/ Wednesday 8:45 - 2:45
Thursday 8:45 - 11:45

- **Three year olds** are entitled to 12 hours of Kindergarten
Two full days
Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday 8:45 - 2:45
- v Lunch/Full Day Program
- v Bilingual Support
- v Preschool Support
- v Bus service

2. Key Centre Policies

Centre Priorities

- Improve Children's achievement levels in Literacy and Numeracy
- Improve attendance rates
- Improve learning opportunities through stimulating and engaging learning environments.
- High quality education through intentional teaching
- Nature Play and Reggio Emilia approach.
- Sustainable learning and wellbeing.
- High expectations of all children.

3. Curriculum

Framework used

- Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF)
- Belonging, Being and Becoming (BBB)
- Respect, Reflect & Relate (RRR)

Core Values

- To provide high quality teaching and learning programs where each child is encouraged and supported to reach their full potential.
- To develop positive partnerships with families and the community.
- To work as a collaborative team that is reflective and committed to improving service delivery.

Specific curriculum approaches

- Provision of a play based curriculum that is age appropriate and includes intentional teaching opportunities.
- Plan, implement and evaluate programs in place.
- Assess and report on children's learning and development.
- Communicate with parents/caregivers regarding their children's progress.
- Staff to develop their own learning to enhance their work in early childhood education.
- Multi modal approach to book based learning.

Joint programmes/special curriculum projects

- Transition Program: A transition to school policy has been established for Port Augusta preschools and primary schools.
- Pika Wiya Health Service Inc: Provides a child hearing health program to the centre each term. The screening includes otoscope, tympanogram and audiology.
- Itchy Emu: Working with the preschool to combat headlice.
- Child and Youth Health: Screenings are organised for children accessing the centre. The health checks are conducted at the centre. Appointment times and the distribution of a questionnaire are organised by the director. Child Health Team from Flinders Terrace Health Centre work closely with the staff to outline individual children's programs and provide training and development.

4. Centre Based Staff

Staff Profile

- Director (1.0)
- Aboriginal Family Literacy Strategies Teacher (1.0)
- Teacher (1.0)
- Universal access teacher (0.4)
- ECW (1.0)

Performance Management Program

- Staff are responsible for completing their own Performance and Development Plan by the end of term 1. Plan jointly agreed to by staff member and director. Mid cycle review organised term 3. At the end of term 4 the plan is finalised.

Access to special support staff

- Special Educator: Works in partnership with early childhood staff and parents to support the inclusion of children with additional needs within the centre.
- Hearing Impairment Services: Teacher consultants provide a collaborative consultancy service.
- Speech Pathology Services: Speech pathologists provide a support service to help meet the needs of children with communication difficulties. Guidance Services and Early Childhood Psychologists: Guidance officers and registered

psychologists provide an educational psychological service for staff to cater more effectively for the academic, social and emotional needs of children.

- Interagency Student Behaviour Management Services: Student management team members support preschool staff in working with children with behavioural difficulties.
- Port Augusta has a Child Health Team accessible through Flinders Terrace Health Centre: speech pathologist, occupational therapist, physiotherapist and dietician. Other services available include Paediatrician, Child Development Unit, Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service and Child and Youth Health.

5. Centre Facilities

Buildings and grounds

- The centre's building consists of the following areas: staff and children toilet area, change room, kitchen, office, storerooms and large main area.
- The outdoor area consists of three sheds, bike track, outdoor decking, and beautiful view of the Flinders Ranges, swings, climbing structures, seating, sun shades, sensory garden, homecorner, lawn area, tree house, cubby house, sandpit, mud kitchen and mud pit, dry creek, chicken hut, turtle enclosure, bush kindy, vegetable garden, herb garden, bush tucker area and garden areas.
- The centre is aesthetically pleasing, with well-established grounds and facilities.
- Capacity: 55 children
- Centre Ownership: The centre is occupying council land.

6. Local Community (intended for country preschools)

General characteristics:

- Flinders Children's Centre is located in the city of Port Augusta. There is great diversity in the cultural backgrounds of people within the local community with differing socio-economic and family structures. These influences impact on our centre and thus we implement programs and structures accordingly. Currently approximately 99% of enrolments within the centre are Indigenous children.

Parent and community involvement in the preschool

- The centre's Governing Council consists of a group of parents who meet approximately once per month to make decisions related to the operation of the centre such as finance, fundraising, the purchase of new equipment/resources, building upgrades and maintenance. The centre promotes parent and community involvement in the following activities:
 - * Community visitors to the centre
 - * Family bush kindy excursions
 - * Elders from the wider Indigenous community are invited into the centre
 - * Promote local community events
 - * Encourage parental involvement into the centre's program

- * Organise family events such as family nights
- * Emergency services incursions.

Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool

- Our feeder schools are Port Augusta West, Caritas College, Willsden Primary School, Carlton Primary School, Stirling, North Primary School, Augusta Park Primary School and Flinders View Primary School.
- Other local care and educational facilities, eg child care, schools, OSHC
- Child Care Centres: Port Augusta Child Care Centre
- Preschools: Port Augusta West C.S.C, Augusta Park Children's Centre, Willsden C.S.C, and Stirling North C.S.C.
- Primary Schools: Augusta Park P.S, Flinders View P.S, Port Augusta West P.S, Carlton P.S, Stirling North P.S and Willsden P.S.
- Port Augusta Secondary School: Seaview Campus and Stirling Campus.
- Combined Primary and Secondary: Port Augusta School of the Air.
- Catholic School: Caritas College (reception to year 12).
- Port Augusta Special School.
- Child Parent Centre: Located at Flinders View P.S.
- Family Day Care.
- Out of School Hours Care Service (including vacation care).
- RICE (Remote and Isolated Children's Exercise).

Early Learning Program.

- Early Years Parenting Centre

Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities

- Port Augusta has a wide variety of shopping facilities available including speciality stores, clothing, hardware, furniture, home accessories and food stores. There is a main shopping centre situated on Commercial Road.
- Other local facilities, eg medical, sporting, social, cultural, recreational
- Hospital, police station, Flinders Terrace Health Centre, council, church services, library, outdoor swimming pool, shopping centres, parks, playgrounds, cinema, Flying Doctor Base and tourism attractions (Arid Lands, Curdnatta Art Centre, Flinders Rangers and Wadlata).
- Port Augusta has a wide range of sporting club activities.

Availability of staff housing: Yes

Accessibility to Adelaide and relevant major centres, including public transport and its availability, frequency and cost (especially by air), road quality Air service: Sharp Airlines provide a passenger service to and from Adelaide on a daily basis. Premier Stateliner Coach Group provides passenger and parcel services daily to and from Adelaide.

Local Government body

- Corporation of Port Augusta Phone number: 8641 9100/Fax: 8641 0357
- Email: admin@portaugusta.sa.gov.au

Internet: www.portaugusta.sa.gov.au.

7. Further Comments

Flinders Children's Centre runs in conjunction with Tji Tji Wiltja Preschool within the same site. Tji Tji Wiltja is a commonwealth funded program for 3-year-old Aboriginal children. Tji Tji Wiltja aims to help close the gap by working in partnerships with families, with a strong focus on literacy and numeracy, health and wellbeing and developing strong early foundations for positive engagement and attendance.