



Flinders Children's Centre and Tji Tji Wiltja Preschool

122 Tassie St, Port Augusta - Ph. 8642 2067

Meeting place for teaching, learning and play for the whole family



PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 2023

Centre number: 6617

Centre name: **Flinders Children's Centre**

Welcome

The Flinders Children's Centre is a Department for Education site. With a strong focus on high quality programs, nature play and child lead learning. We have an embedded research based learning program with a strong focus on child voice.

Tji Tji Wiltja is an Aboriginal 3 year old program funded by the Commonwealth Government. Tji Tji Wiltja amalgamated with the Flinders Children's Centre in 2000.

Contact Information

Director:

Phone: (08) 8642 2067

Fax: (08) 8642 6646

Address: 122 Tassie Street

PORT AUGUSTA SA 5700

Region: Far North and Aboriginal Lands

E-mail:

1. General information

Preschool Director: Kerry Moosha
Postal address: 122 Tassie Street
PORT AUGUSTA SA 5700

Partnership:

Port Augusta and Quorn Partnership

Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km)

Telephone number: 86 422067

Fax number: 86 426646

Preschool website address:

Preschool e-mail address:

kindy.director@flinderscc.sa.edu.au

Enrolment/Attendance

We average 70 enrolment over the year and this is our centre capacity.

Co-located/stand-alone

Stand-alone

Programs operating at the preschool

Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children

Session Times:

Children aged four years and above are entitled to attend the preschool program for the equivalent of up to five sessions of Pre-school per week for up to four terms.

- ⊞ Children who are Aboriginal or under the Guardianship of the Minister for Families and Communities are entitled to attend up to four preschool sessions per week from three years of age.
- ⊞ Extended enrolment may be offered when it is agreed that extra time will advantage a child educationally.

- ⊞ Our preschool sessions operate Monday to Thursday. A lunch program is provided. We offer two options for attendance for families to choose from.

3 year olds

Monday/ Tuesday- full days: 8.45am – 2.45pm

Or

Monday/Wednesday- full days

4 year olds or older

Monday/Tuesday- full days

Or

Wednesday/ Thursday- full days

8.45am – 2.45pm

Thursday Session: 8:45am – 11.45pm, for 4 year olds only

Associated Programs: Tji Tji Wiltja Aboriginal 3 Year old program.

- ⊞ Lunch/Full Day Program
- ⊞ Preschool Support
- ⊞ Bus service

2. Key Centre Policies

Learning Dispositions/ Literacy / Numeracy/ Reggio Emilia Prototype Site Pedagogical Documentation/Nature Play

Pedagogical Statement

OUR DEFINITION:

"Learning occurs all the time and the most important influence on what children learn are the

Responses of us as educators. We lead children through a journey of self- discovery and Exploration, one that will develop each individual to their full potential".

WE BELIEVE ABORIGINAL STUDENTS LEARN BEST BY:

- Linking learning to prior knowledge-family, environment, experiences
- Multi-sensory approach to learning factoring in strong visual clues to support communication for example, what to do? How to do it? And show the end product
- Relating socially as they learn, working in groups with peers, strong relationships with staff, allowing peers to be role models
- Reinforcing culturally appropriate practices, promoting culture through language, stories and songs.

THE STAFF:

- Have a good understanding of the community
- Share the passion families have for the care, wellbeing and success of their children as learners
- Communicate effectively between home and preschool - communication in an easy

- understood way
- Link other agencies with the preschool program, especially health agencies, routine health checks, and support for individual needs.

3. Curriculum

Early Years Learning Framework

Respect, Reflect, Relate

Preschool indicators-Literacy and Numeracy

Talk, Play, Read

Special Curriculum approaches:

Reggio Emilia influences- voice of child strong in learning programmes, strong sense of belonging, identity and connections

Respect for the child

The use of pedagogical documentation for assessment and to ensure child- agency

Parent Information

The staff recognise and value parents as the first and foremost educators and always work in partnership with parents to develop appropriate programs that are relevant to the learning Needs of all children.

We have a strong Governing Council parent group and always invite new parents to become members.

The staff create a warm, welcoming, safe and nurturing environment and provide an active Play based learning environment that accommodates and embraces differences.

We provide teaching and learning experiences that focus strongly on Literacy, Numeracy, Engagement, Wellbeing and building positive relationships.

Our Curriculum is guided by the Early Years Learning Framework (ELYF) – Belonging, Being and Becoming. Our program and assessment and reporting practices reflect the five Learning outcomes;

- 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

We provide a play based curriculum that is age appropriate and includes explicit teaching opportunities. We have a strong Art/Creativity focus, music and strong literacy focus - Oral language & pre-reading & pre-writing/ Strong numeracy focus – A focus on Number sense and Nature play principles. The use of Pedagogical Documentation for formative assessment and to ensure child-agency

The Centre provides a nutritional program daily that incorporates breakfast, snack time and lunch with a focus on "Healthy Eating".

We provide a bus service daily for those families who need support with transportation, to pick children up from home and drop children off at home when their session is finished.

What Your Child needs to bring:

- Healthy lunch is encouraged, if families are providing their children with a packed lunch
- Change of clothing
- Nappies or pull ups- if required

Resources Available to Children:

- Literacy/Numeracy kits are readily available to parents to borrow
 - Books are also available in our take home library
 - Our door is always open to support in any way we can.
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- Core Values

 - Specific curriculum approaches

 - Joint programmes/special curriculum projects

4. Centre Based Staff

Staff Profile

Staff consist of:

1.0 Director
1.0 Aboriginal Family Literacy Strategy Teacher
1.0 Teacher
1.0 Early Childhood Educator
1.0 Support Worker

Tji Tji Wiltja Staff:

0.6 Early Childhood Educator
1.0 Aboriginal Family Liaison Educator
Bus Driver
Gardener

- **Access to special support staff**

We have access to a yearly visit from Hearing Australia and follow up consultation. Health services to support families and identified learning needs of the children.

United Care Wesley

Departmental support and special education services

- **Other**

Our Liasion Educational worker can support you with accessing any additional services you require.

5. Centre Facilities

- We have had multiple extensions and recent upgrades to our centre. Our equipment is up to date and meets all required safety requirements.

Our preschool grounds are very lush with sensory gardens, Fruit trees and vegetable gardens which the families and children are involved in caring for and harvesting and sharing produce through home and centre cooking experiences.