PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Centre number: 2693
Centre name: Settlers Farm Campus Kindergarten

1. General information

- Preschool Director
  Paula Mulholland
- Postal address
  PO BOX 605 SALISBURY SOUTH 5106
- Location address
  2 Du Villars Street PARALOWIE 5108
- DECD Partnership
  Hollywood, Lakes and Gardens Partnership
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km)
  19 kms
- Telephone number
  (08) 8280 6188
- Fax number
  (08) 82806283
- Preschool website address:
  www.settlerspre.sa.edu.au
- Preschool e-mail address:
  dl.2693.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au
• Enrolment/Attendance

**2015:**
- 117 eligible preschool enrolments Term 1
- 119 eligible preschool enrolments Term 2
- 120 eligible preschool enrolments Term 3
- 120 eligible preschool enrolments Term 4

**2014:**
- 136 eligible preschool enrolments Term 1
- 143 eligible preschool enrolments Term 2
- 143 eligible preschool enrolments Term 3
- 142 eligible preschool enrolments Term 4

**2013:**
- 117 eligible preschool enrolments Term 1
- 125 eligible preschool enrolments Term 2
- 97 eligible preschool enrolments Term 3*
- 76 eligible preschool enrolments Term 4*

*Decrease of enrolments due to implementation of Same First Day Policy

• Co-located/stand-alone

: **Co-located** with Settlers Farm Campus R-7

This relationship is evolving and developing with the development of the birth to 13 years full service site. The school and kindergarten leadership structure embeds this,

Campus Leaders are working collaboratively to develop and establish a full service site that caters for the care and learning needs of students and their families, and ensures continuity of learning birth to 13.

Campus leadership comprises of -

~Principal
~Deputy Principal
~Director – Early childhood, birth – 5 years.

School Counsellor

: **Integrated** services

At Settlers Farm we strive to promote an integrated approach. Once per term a group of local early years’ service providers, including FDC and Community Health, meet.

• Programs operating at the preschool

ϖ Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children

Group 1: Monday/Tuesday 8.30am – 3.15pm
Alternate Wednesdays 8.30am – 11.30am

Group 2: Thursday/Friday 8.30am – 3.15pm
Alternate Wednesdays 8.30am – 11.30am
Lunch/Full Day Program
As above (incorporated into the 15 hours of preschool)

Bilingual Support
Bilingual assistants (BLA) are employed to support children in the kindergarten with a variety of languages including Khmer, Vietnamese, Dari, and Malayalam. The BLA’s support one session per week.

Preschool Support
Extra support is applied for when children are identified to meet criteria. Kindergarten staff meet regularly with specialist services to plan/review children’s progress. Campus staff meet prior to school intake to review plans to facilitate transition of preschool children to school and to support continuity of learning for children with special needs.

2. Key Centre Policies

- Centre Priorities/Statement of Purpose

Campus Vision
Settlers Farm Campus as a community works together to inspire our students to develop respectful relationships, be resilient and maximise their potential

Community Agreements
At Settlers we....
Share responsibility
Engage in learning
Target our personal best
Tell the truth
Lead by example
Encourage emotional & social wellbeing
Respect eachother
Support safety for everyone

Campus values
Respect
Responsibility
Personal Best
3. Curriculum

- Framework used:
  The Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) for Australia: Belonging, Being and Becoming.
  This is Australia’s first national Early Years Learning Framework for early childhood educators. The aim of this document is to extend and enrich children’s learning from birth to five years and through the transition to school.

- Core Values
  The Framework forms the foundation for ensuring that children in all early childhood education and care settings experience quality teaching and learning. It has a specific emphasis on play-based learning and recognises the importance of communication and language (including early literacy and numeracy) and social and emotional development. The Preschool indicators of numeracy and literacy are also implemented.

- Specific curriculum approaches
  Numeracy and Literacy are key focus areas for improvement of all learners. Staff also implement the ‘Description of early receptive and expressive language in preschool children’ screening tool to assess children’s understanding of expressive and receptive language.

- Joint programmes/special curriculum projects
  Provision of a smooth transition to school is a feature of Settlers Farm Campus R-7. Currently preschool children attend assemblies and special events. Throughout the year children also engage in visits to the playground, the resource centre, as well as engaging in a series of visits to classrooms prior to school entry. Older buddies are appointed to each new child to assist them in the playground.
  The Campus is committed to supporting school curriculum priorities in the preschool. Joint training and development is undertaken. Preschool representatives can attend any or all curriculum or interest groups held after hours at the school.

4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff Profile
  The centre is managed by the Director who has a 0.8 teaching responsibility. Current warranted staffing is 3.0 teachers, 2.0 ECW’s (one full time permanent ECW; and a full time ECW role shared with between two .5 permanent ECW’s). Universal Access Staffing are also employed (Teacher 0.8 and ECW 0.4).

- Performance Management Program
  The centre has a performance management policy in place.

- Access to special support staff
  Referrals can be made to DECD specialist support staff such as Speech Pathologist, Psychologist, Social Worker, and Special Educator. School
Deputy Principal for Special Needs has a birth-13 brief and systems support this in practice.

- Other
The Director is part of the Campus leadership team and attends the School Governing Council meetings. All kindergarten staff have the opportunity to attend School staff meetings. The kindergarten staff meeting occurs on a Monday afternoon from 3.30 to 4.30pm.

5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
The kindergarten relocated to its new, purpose designed building in September 2005. The indoor spaces are light and airy, with a number of withdrawl spaces for small group activity. There is a separate staff room. The adult toilet allows for wheelchair access. From the building, windows look towards a spacious verandah and outdoor learning area. Purpose built shade areas are provided over the swings and platform area. Children’s play spaces include a rubberised play surface and vegetable garden. In 2015, the Director’s office was renovated to enable more working space.

Playgroup is located in the Child Youth Health building adjacent to the kindergarten.

- Capacity (per session)
The centre is staffed for up to 66 children per session (full day) in attendance daily.

- Centre Ownership
DECD

- Access for children and staff with disabilities
Disability access was considered as part of the design (adult toilet allows for wheelchair provision). There is also car parking available in the staff car park.

- Other
The kindergarten has access to Campus resources and facilities including hall, resource centre, cyber centre and grounds.

6. Local Community

- General characteristics:
  - Settlers Farm is an established community, situated 19 kms, north of Adelaide at Paralowie. About two thirds of available land is built on in the Settlers Farm Estate. There is a shopping/community centre close to the school. The population is diverse, consisting mainly of single income homeowners. 83% of kindergarten children come from a two parent home. There is a broad representation of various cultural backgrounds (7.5% are identified as Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander and 36% are children with English as an Additional language (EALD)). Approximately 81.6% of kindergarten children attend the Settlers Farm Campus on exit. Parent volunteers are active in decision making through the Governing Council. The kindergarten has an
average of 120 eligible enrolments attending 15 hours per week, and one
playgroup operating weekly. Staffing includes 1.0 Director, 3.0 Teachers, 2.0
Early Childhood Workers (Teacher assistants), Universal Access staffing (0.8
Teacher, and 0.4 Early Childhood Worker), Preschool support workers, and
Bilingual Assistants. Settlers Farm Campus Kindergarten is assigned by
Department for Education and Child Development (DECD) as a ‘Category 1’
site with a Preschool Director Classification of PSD3.

- Parent and community involvement in the preschool
  The kindergarten currently has an active group of volunteer parents (The
  Governing Council) who are responsible, in conjunction with the Director, for the
  management of the centre, including finance, fundraising, maintenance, policy
  making and implementation, budget and asset management. They are also
  actively involved in the birth to 13 Campus developments.

- Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool
  81.6% of kindergarten children attend the Settlers Farm Campus R-7 on exit

- Other local care and educational facilities,
  Settlers Farm Kindergarten is situated on the Settlers Farm Campus R-7. The
  Out of School Hours (OSHC), Vacation Care (VAC) and Child and Youth
  Health Services (CAYHS) are located on site. Community services have
  developed in recent years, with most services now locally available. Links
  have been formed with Family Day Care providers and nearby private Child
  Care Centres, which provide a pick up and drop off service.

- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
  A shopping complex is close to the Campus, which includes a supermarket,
  specialty shops, food outlets, and a medical/dental centre.

- Other local facilities
  Freedom Uniting Church offers playgroup and an ‘op-shop’ nearby.

- Accessibility
  There is an adequate public transport system through the Settlers Farm estate
  and it connects to Salisbury and Mawson Lakes Interchange.

- Local Government
  Settlers Farm Kindergarten is located in the Salisbury Council area.