



PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: February 2015

Centre number: 3640

Centre name: Happy Valley Kindergarten

1. General information

- Preschool Director
 - Amy Hicks

- Postal address
 - 12B Regency Road, Happy Valley, S.A, 5159

- Location address
 - 12B Regency Road, Happy Valley, S.A, 5159

- DECD Partnership
 - South Valley Precinct

- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km)
 - 25km

- Telephone number
 - 8381 3940

- Fax number
 - 8322 8763

- Preschool website address:
 - www.happyvkgn.sa.edu.au
 - www.facebook.com/HappyValleyKindergarten

- Preschool e-mail address
 - dl.3640.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au
- Enrolment/Attendance
 - 49 enrolled (as of Term 1 2016)
- Co-located/stand-alone
 - Co-located with Happy Valley Community Childcare Centre
- Programs operating at the preschool
 - ❖ Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children
 - ❖ Full Day Program
 - ❖ Bilingual Support
 - ❖ Early Entry
 - ❖ “Stay and Play” orientation visits
 - ❖ Preschool Support

2. Key Centre Policies

- Strategic Priorities:
 - : Excellence in Learning: Implement High quality, Broad & balanced preschool Curriculum, which will maximise staff and children’s learning
 - : Quality Teaching: Ongoing pursuit of quality leadership by staff in management, curriculum leadership, projects and staff member’s individual skills and strengths.

: Strong Beginnings: Provision of coordinated Early Childhood Service to Happy Valley community in collaboration with Happy Valley Community Child Care Centre

3. Curriculum

- Framework used:
 - National Early Years Framework, Belonging, Being, Becoming
 - Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum
- Core Values
 - To provide an Early Childhood Program that acknowledges and builds upon prior learning in a safe, challenging and stimulating environment and which enhances children's life skills and competencies
- Specific curriculum approaches
 - A high quality and developmentally appropriate preschool program, influenced by the Reggio Emilia approach, utilising a range of teaching strategies and styles, to suit the needs of a range of children by following their interests.
 - Incorporation of 'Nature' and 'Loose Parts' play in the outdoor learning environment to help children develop and build upon resilience, risk-taking, problem-solving skills, independence, collaboration, resourcefulness, respect for the environment, and many other life skills.

4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff Profile

Director	1.0	
Teacher	1.0	
Teacher	0.5	
ECW	1.0	
Preschool Support Staff		Varies from term to term
- Performance Management Program
 - All staff have individual meetings twice per year to create and review Performance Development Plans.

- Access to special support staff
 - We have access to a DECD Special Educator, DECD Speech Pathologist, and DECD Psychologist. Programmes recommended from these staff are implemented by our ECW preschool support worker.

5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
 - The kindergarten is located in the City Of Onkaparinga and next to the Happy Valley Community Child Care Centre. The kindergarten has been established for 39 years and is set in a pleasant natural environment, adjacent to Field Creek and a public reserve. The setting provides many learning opportunities for children to explore the natural environment.
- Capacity (per session)
 - 45 children
- Centre Ownership
 - Department of Education and Child Development (DECD)
- Access for children and staff with disabilities
 - Happy Valley Kindergarten has had extensive alterations to ensure its accessibility for wheelchairs and people with physical disabilities.
- Other
 - Adjacent to Happy Valley Community Children's Centre, in which resources are shared and with adjoining gates, playgrounds and carpark.

6. Local Community (intended for country preschools)

- General characteristics:
 - The housing area surrounding the kindergarten has been established for approximately 39 years and two new housing estates are currently being established and are attracting many young families into the area. Families consist mainly of two parents with one working fulltime and the other part-time. Families using the kindergarten come from a range of indigenous and culturally diverse backgrounds.
- Parent and community involvement in the preschool:
 - There is considerable parent involvement both on the Governing Council and participation in the educational program.

- Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool:
 - Children in 2016 transitioned to a combination of 22 DECD and independent schools.
- Other local care and educational facilities:
 - Happy Valley Community Childcare Centre.
- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
 - A local community shopping facility is located within walking distance.
- Other local facilities:
 - Local medical, sporting and recreational facilities are within walking distance
- Accessibility:
 - The kindergarten is on bus routes to Adelaide, Marion Shopping Centre and Colonnades Shopping Centre
- Local Government:
 - City Of Onkaparinga

7. Further Comments

- Happy Valley Kindergarten is a part of the DECD South Valley Precinct partnership and works closely with neighbouring preschools, schools (primary and secondary), and Flinders University, to ensure the best outcomes for children and young people.
- Happy Valley Kindergarten went through the National Quality Framework assessment and rating process in 2013 and achieved the overall rating of 'Exceeding the National Standard'.