



2023 annual report to the Community

# Parafield Gardens Children's Centre

Parafield Gardens Children's Centre number: 2654

Partnership: Hollywood Lakes & Gardens



Preschool director:

Jennifer Fox

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jennifer Fox'.

Signature

Date of endorsement:

27/03/2024



Government  
of South Australia  
Department for Education

# Context Statement

Information about Parafield Gardens Children's Centre is available on the centres website, as well as the Australian Childrens Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA) website.

## Parafield Gardens Children's Centre

- The children's centre has been operating for over 11 years. It is situated on campus with the Parafield Gardens Primary School and the Parafield Gardens High School. The centre connects with the primary school for a range of activities for children.
- The Centre is representative of a diverse community with 80% of our children and families from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds. There are several families from Aboriginal backgrounds and many children with special rights. Valuing diversity is embedded in day to day activities. The learning program focusses on cultural diversity of the families represented and respecting and valuing the Aboriginal culture.
- Education, care, health, community development, family services and community partnerships have continued throughout the years. The staff team consists of the director, teachers, early childhood workers, a community development coordinator, a family practitioner, and a finance officer. All staff help provide positive outcomes in supporting children and families through their ongoing work. There is a diversity of cultures in the staff team. Working collaboratively in the best interests of children and families is a priority.
- The centre provides programs that support the well-being of families and children and incorporates education, health, community development and family services combined with family and community partnerships. In 2023 the parenting groups included partnerships with Orana (Down Syndrome Association), CAFHS first time parent group, Novita (Hippi Program) and Learning Together (Department of Education). There are four playgroups catering for different ages of children. The focus is building partnerships that will meet the needs of the community. Other groups sometimes run one-off parenting groups or short term groups to further support families or educators such as the Smith Family.
- The centre offers preschool and occasional care. Children in their eligible year of preschool are offered 15 hours of preschool per week and children in occasional care (below preschool age) can attend 3 hours per session for a maximum of once per week pending availability. Aboriginal children, children under the guardianship of the minister and children whose parents are in the armed forces can start preschool at 3 years of age for 15 hours per week. There are two intakes per year for preschool in term 1 and term 3. Parents/guardians can usually choose between two groups for preschool during the week/what session they would like for occasional care (pending availability). There is a strong literacy focus on the educational program with a differentiated approach, ensuring all children's learning needs are catered for and that educators help children build on their strengths. Literacy and developing communication skills is a high priority each year. This comprises a book-based focus which includes connections with the home to foster conversation and vocabulary development in the home.

# Destination Schools

Feeder Schools (Site number - Name)	2021	2022	2023
0537 - Parafield Gardens Primary School		68.9%	58.8%
8399 - Holy Family Catholic School		4.1%	
9999 - Unknown	91.7%	23.0%	32.9%

Note: The data is collected in term 3. It does not reflect actual schools enrolled in by existing preschool children. A blank cell indicates there was no data for students enrolled.

Data Source: Department for Education Destination Data Report, 2023.

## Governing Council Report 2023

### Governing Council Report 2023

2023 was a successful year for the centre. Parents especially enjoyed the Child Led Tours that took place where children led the parents and carers on a tour of the centre with an afternoon tea included and these will continue in 2024. The children had the opportunity to have both excursions and incursions. They made fortnightly visits to the Parafield Gardens School Library where the librarian read them a story and they learned about the library and had many stories read to them. The children and staff also joined in some of the school's special events such as dressing up for book week. Three puppet shows visited the centre and the children really enjoyed these. The children had the opportunity to visit the SAPOL Road Safety Centre in Adelaide and to learn about road safety and practice on bikes on the mock roadway. The end of year Christmas and graduation event was a huge success with many of our children graduating from preschool and putting on a performance for the families who attended. Governing Council meetings were very productive, and we managed to review several important policies and all parents had the opportunity to contribute their ideas to these. WE encourage more families to join the Governing Council in 2024. It is a great opportunity to get involved and contribute to the centre.

Ellie Harati (Chairperson)

# Preschool Attendance

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2020 centre	83%	77%	78.8%	88.1%
2021 centre	84.9%	82.9%	84%	81.6%
2022 centre	61.7%	64.3%	51.6%	55.8%
2023 centre	57.2%	70.6%	79.5%	68.3%
2020 state	89.1%	81.8%	84.6%	85.8%
2021 state	87.3%	85.3%	87.1%	84.5%
2022 state	83.6%	77.6%	77.9%	77.8%
2023 state	85.4%	82.9%	83.4%	81.4%

Based on attendances recorded in the two-week reference period each term. Data for eligible enrolments as described in the department's Enrolment policy. Attendance rates may differ to previous reporting with the transfer from calculations based on deemed attendance to actual attendance using booked hours divided by attended hours. Data Source: Department for Education Attendance Data, Semester 1 Report 2023. A blank cell indicates there were no students enrolled.

Note: Term 2 2020 data may not be available for all preschools.

## Attendance Comment

In South Australia, preschool attendance is not compulsory, but it is strongly encouraged. Preschool gives children the best opportunity to develop skills, which prepare them for school. These benefits include establishing positive routines and habits, friendships and connections as well as developing communication, problem-solving and creative skills. All children are entitled to access a preschool program over 4 terms the year before they start school.

# Highest Qualifications held by the teaching workforce and workforce composition

All teachers at this school are qualified and registered with the SA Teachers Registration Board.

Qualification Level	Number of Qualifications
Bachelor's degrees or Diplomas	1
Postgraduate Qualifications	3

Data Source: Data extracted from Mandatory Workforce Information Collections as on the last pay date of June 2023. As self-reported by staff in the system.

Please note: Data includes staff who are Actively employed and on extended paid leave. Please note only the highest qualification of the Teaching staff is reported. Excludes any number of other certifications earned.

## Workforce composition including indigenous staff

	Teaching Staff		Non-Teaching Staff	
	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous
Full-Time Equivalents	0.0	1.8	0.0	3.2
Persons	0.0	2.0	0.0	6.0

Data Source: Data extracted from Mandatory Workforce Information Collection as on the last pay date of June 2023.

Please note: Data includes staff who are actively employed and on extended paid leave. "Indigenous category" is self-reported by staff in the system.

## Financial Statement

Funding Source	Amount
Grants: State	\$940,741.76
Grants: Commonwealth	
Parent Contributions	\$37,459.90
Fund Raising	
Other	\$3,838.40

Data Source: School supplied data.