



2023 annual report to the Community

# Reynella Kindergarten

Reynella Kindergarten number: 3674

Partnership: Panalatinga



Preschool director:

Jenny Kustermann

Date of endorsement:

20/02/2024



2023 Chairperson: Chantelle Thomson *Thomson*

# Context Statement

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

Reynella Kindergarten is set on a standard house block and was established in 1970, with the original building still remaining. Many large trees grow in the outdoor learning space and areas of the indoor and outdoor environments have been adapted over the years. The kindergarten was previously called Reynella South Kindergarten but re-named Reynella Kindergarten in 2013 in an attempt to avoid ongoing confusion with the nearby Reynella South School Based Preschool. The kindergarten is a part-time centre with capacity for 30 children at any one time. Children currently access their 15 hours of preschool in a long day model of 8:30am until 4pm on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, which makes the service attractive to working families who would otherwise use child care. Since enrolment increases in 2017, staffing is 3 FTE of Director, Teacher and ECW and the kindergarten funds the employment of an additional ECW to coordinate a birth to 5 playgroup on Monday mornings. A preschool support worker is employed using IESP funding and additional hours as required are allowed for in the kindergarten budget. Strong ties have been formed with the nearby privately owned 'Kindy Patch Childcare Centre' as many families utilise both centres and staff work together to support transition of families into our kindergarten program. There is a strong community history with the kindergarten with many families know relatives attending in the past 50 years. Current priorities for the kindergarten include improving children's skills in storytelling, understanding and use of measurement, as well as ongoing upgrades to facilities to improve access and service delivery.

## Governing Council Report

In 2023 we had a good start to the kindy year. The bathroom area was renovated, which looks great.

We raised money for the kindy through a few fundraisers. We had the Bunnings sausage sizzle at Reynella, Villis fundraiser, book swap, special lunch for NPC, tea towels with kids drawings on them and a raffle at the end of year celebration. We had mid-year intake of children. A few changes and adjustments were made. A third day was added to the week to accommodate the new intake. The new kids were split across the 2 existing days of Tuesday and Wednesday and then they all attended on the Thursday. We discussed the different excursions that happened throughout the year and how to spread them out to best include everyone. Also the student free days were split between Tuesday and Wednesdays.

As there was no new family introduction night, I came along to the first transition visit for the mid-year intake to chat to the families and help answer any questions and give some information about joining Governing Council. Unfortunately no new families joined GC mid-year. Something to think about for the next mid-year intake and finding a way to encourage parents to join.

Governing Council organised a contact list for families, so that families could contact each other for play dates and parties. Governing Council also reviewed and made some adjustments to the Policies.

We tried to organise a working bee, which unfortunately didn't work out but some of the families offered up their free time to come in on weekends and afterhours to get some of the jobs done. The boat was fixed up and then sadly had to be removed, oiling the wooden walking boards, gardening, painting, dumping of rubbish.

After having the end of year presentations for the children that were leaving, a few different suggestions came up of ways to adjust the presentations. A few of the children were quite nervous about talking in front of the families. An idea of the children showing their families their folders one on one first and then sitting in a group circle with families to do the presentations. To make it less daunting.

End of year celebration was an amazing night, all the children did a fantastic performance for everyone. It was so lovely to see so many families gathered at kindy to celebrate, especially after the last 3 years of restrictions. We held a bbq, cake stall (that families donated all the cakes) and raffle which were very popular. The proceeds from the night went back to the kindy.

A suggestion I had for the next end of year celebration raffle was to start asking for donations earlier in the year. We were lucky to get some really good donations but lots of places had already exceeded their limit of giving out donations for the year.

Overall a successful year for the GC and kindy. I'm sad to goodbye but wish everyone the best for the new year ahead.

Thankyou

Chantelle Thomson  
Chairperson 2023

# Report from Preschool Director

The 2023 year began with very few Covid restrictions for the first time in nearly 3 years, which was a complete contrast to 12 months earlier. Families were able to enter the building and information in handbooks and processes etc were once again re-edited to reflect the changes. Nevertheless, we had several absences in the first weeks of term 1 due to Covid19 so it still remained a consideration.

Parents were able to again participate in the program and help when available for events including pancake day, scoot at the park, parent chats and family nights, CAFHS appointments, excursion to the theatre and farm, support services appointments, special lunch, moon night and end of year celebration. We also were able to have a work experience student complete their placement. Other curriculum highlights included: incursions by the Metro Fire Service, SAPOL parent, First Care Medical, SA Dental Lift the Lip, Andrew the astrophysicist from Dept of Defence, and the day the plumbers came with machines to fix our blocked drains!

Finishing touches were added to our new verandah and the long-desired bathroom refurbishment was completed in the July holidays. The fully enclosed verandah was well used in the winter, especially with the temporary cap increase to 33 children. The bathroom refurbishment met our Quality Improvement goal and allowed for better privacy, ventilation, safety, storage and hygiene and markedly reduced children's hand washing wait times and increased independence. Sadly the kindy boat, which had had another repair in term 1, was no longer safe to use and needed to be removed later in the year. Deeper soft fall is planned for this area to encourage challenging climbing.

Preparation for and introduction of the mid-year intake proved to be a substantial increase in workload, not only for the director but also for staff as many operational systems and curriculum plans needed to be reviewed and changed. The kindergarten was allocated a cap increase to 55 children, however, with a physical capacity of 30 in a part time setting, the decision was made to innovate and temporarily open on Thursdays whilst operating with a 6-month capacity exemption to 33 places. This proved to be the least disruptive to existing families and enabled us to have a part-time/ 3 staff model instead of full time/2 staff. With this, we welcomed teacher Michelle Morrissey-Schulz to the team for 6 months to work on Thursdays. Adaptations will again need to be made in 2024 as we continue through our first 12 months of this change and the site cap is reduced back to 33 with a capacity of 30 places and a goal of balancing intake numbers every 6 months.

Community connections continued as a Quality Improvement Priority with termly Director visits to Kindy Patch Child Care to meet future enrolments and also see cross-over children in their child-care environment. Resources and planning ideas were also shared with staff. A relationship was also begun with Hallett Cove Community Child Care due to an invitation to be a guest speaker at their parent information night to clarify preschool enrolment processes. Relationships also continued with the local Mitre 10 for wood supply, Reynella Bunnings for fundraising and garden supplies, Marion Holiday Park and Glandore Kindergarten community contributing to our special community gift for a family and other local businesses supporting our end of year raffle.

Evidence of our Quality Improvement goals to improve children's storytelling included:

- Observational evidence of children re-creating stories in their play
- Language focus children (selected from observational evidence and language evidence on data wall) all showing some gains in articulating elements of their story line and creating more complex stories.
- Focus children (selected from observational evidence and parent information) all confident to tell a story to staff or small group using a prop

Evidence of our Quality Improvement goals to improve children's use and understanding of measurement to compare included:

- Observational evidence of most children correctly using comparative terms including, bigger/smaller, taller/shorter, higher/lower, longer/shorter, heavier/lighter
- Observational data of children using measurement to check comparison of objects
- Increasing percentage of children able to choose the appropriate measuring tool and strategy through evidence of morning data statement post box
- Majority of children demonstrated next level of evidence in preschool numeracy indicator of data

Future Quality Improvement plans for 2024 will include a greater focus on general vocabulary to meet the needs of our continuing and future cohort to ensure active participation in their learning and greater connections for wellbeing.

Parent Survey data from 2023 showed high levels of satisfaction across all areas. All of the many parent comments were positive, which gave the team reassurance that we continue to provide a service true to our Philosophy statement.

I would like to thank the staff team for once again bringing an amazing level of dedication, passion and care each and every day for our children, families and each other, and for the support of the Governing Council throughout the year.

Jenny Kustermann  
Director

## Preschool Attendance

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2020 centre	95%		87%	94.9%
2021 centre	92.5%	93.3%	97.5%	90%
2022 centre	96.9%	44.4%	94.2%	67.3%
2023 centre	89%	91%	94.4%	75.7%
2020 state	89.1%		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.

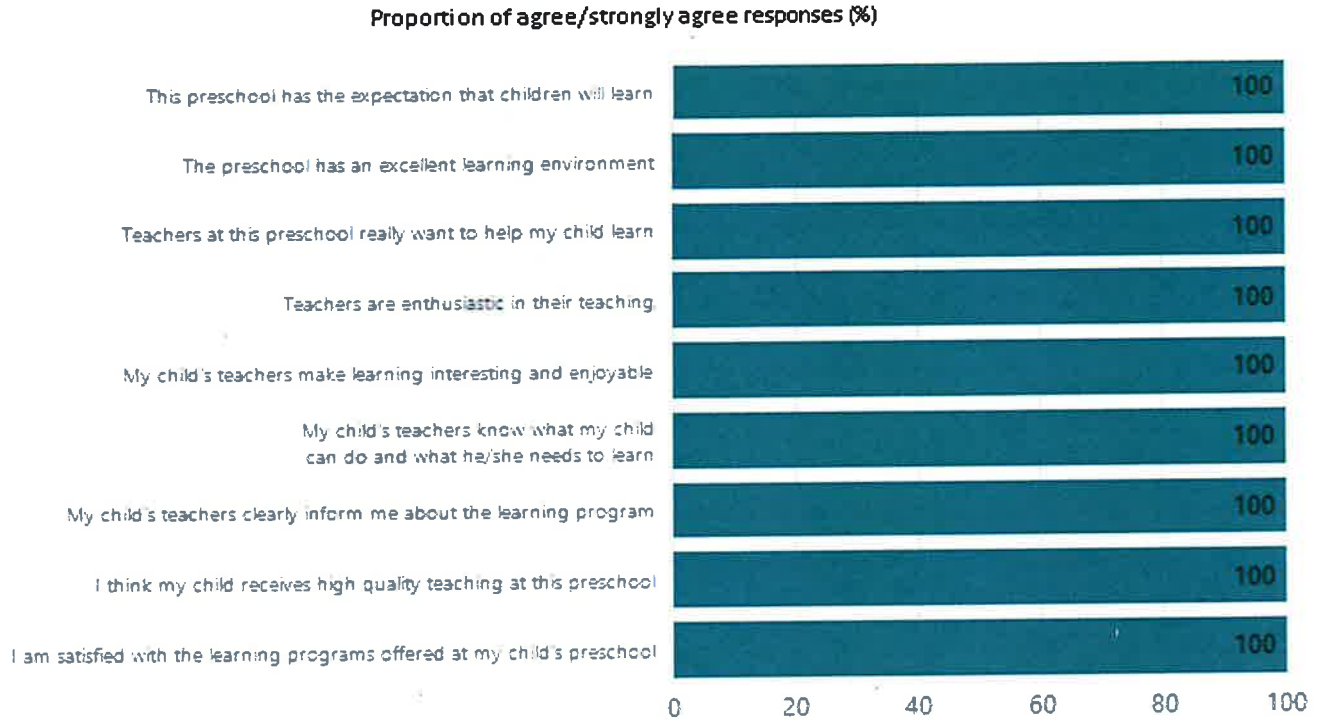
Note: Term 2 2020 data may not be available for all preschools.

## 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.

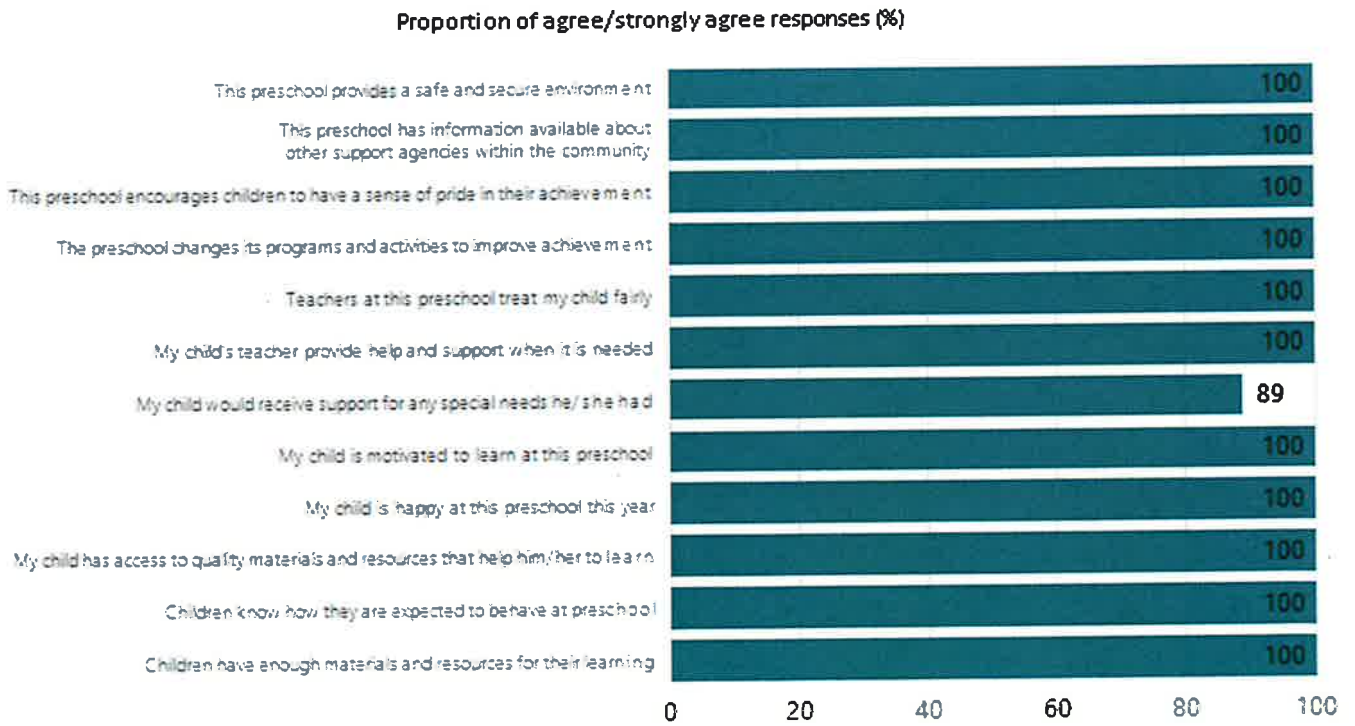
# Preschool Family Opinion Survey

## Quality of Teaching and Learning



Data Source: 2023 Department for Education Preschool Family Opinions Survey, Term 3 2023.

## Support of Learning



Data Source: 2023 Department for Education Preschool Family Opinions Survey, Term 3 2023.

# Relationships and Communication

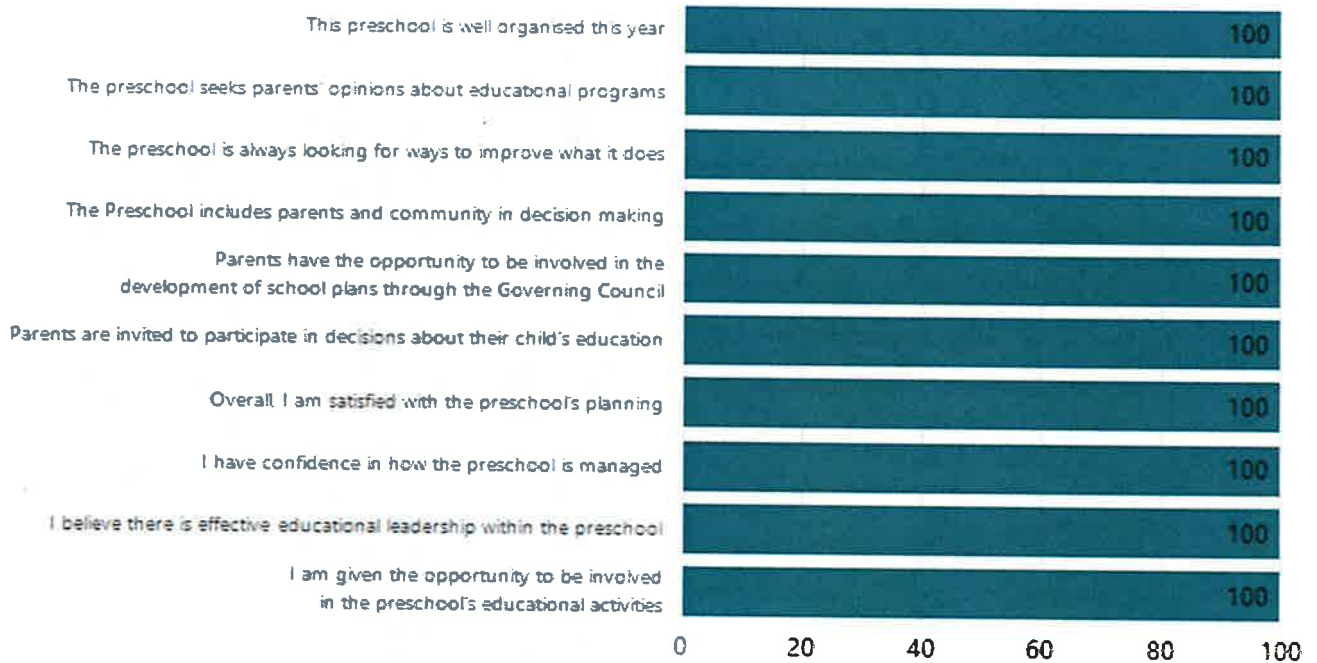
Proportion of agree/strongly agree responses (%)



ata Source: 2023 Department for Education Preschool Family Opinions Survey, Term 3 2023.

# Leadership and Decision Making

Proportion of agree/strongly agree responses (%)



ata Source: 2023 Department for Education Preschool Family Opinions Survey, Term 3 2023.

# Preschool Family Opinion Survey – Written comments

## Family comments on Leadership and Decision Making

*Reynella Kindergarten has been a wonderful place for my child. As a parent I felt welcomed and comfortable from the beginning. The teachers are kind and warm and have a clear strong interest in teaching and in children's overall well-being. The teaching team seem to have a strong relationship with one another and this shows through the organisation and general day to day running of the kindergarten. I am very pleased we enrolled into Reynella Kindergarten!*

*Overall I couldn't be happier with the year we have shared at this kindy. I would've loved to have been more actively involved as a parent but even though I was unable to make such a commitment this year I never felt that I was unable to participate in feedback, activities or planning when I had the time. Overall this is a fabulously run kindy and I think that credit needs to go to the teaching team and the director.*

*Our director is so organised and across all aspects of engagement and communication and the decision making is always in consultation with the families. I am very pleased with the leadership at this kindy*

## Family comments on Quality of Teaching and Learning

*Another wonderful year at Reynella kindy. This is my third child to go through and without a doubt, the best place I could have sent my children.*

*The staff are beautiful, friendly and warm educators who truly care about the children's well-being.*

*My child has been able to overcome challenges during the year and this has been an indication of how well he was supported along the way by the educators.*

*I have been blown away by the focus and quality of the teaching at our kindy. I feel like the strong rapport the teachers have together and years of working together really creates a seamless experience for the kids in their learning*

*It is fantastic, they go above and beyond for the children.*

*Its a very warm and welcoming kindy, the staff go above and beyond for the kids. I happily recommend them all the time.*

*The quality of teaching and learning at this preschool is phenomenal and the teachers have a real passion for teaching the students.*

*They have been great as my child has speech delay and he has been getting help through kindy*

## Family comments on Relationships and Communication

*The communication between educators is always open and welcoming. They are easy to approach and contact*

*I love receiving a weekly email from the director on Mondays before the kindy week commences, it provides great reminders and important information that I may miss or overlook otherwise. I always look forward to reading that email.*

## Family comments on Support of Learning

*While we haven't required specific support generally speaking I feel my child is supported in all her learning and preferences. She is growing in confidence and I credit much of that to the learning at her kindy*

*Again, this kindergarten and the educators have gone above and beyond to support my child and also myself and family outside of kindy. They are fantastic at helping children overcome adversity's and the growth my child has shown this year is a credit to the extra effort the educators have gone to.*

## General comments

*Reynella Kindergarten has been a wonderful place for my child. As a parent I felt welcomed and comfortable from the beginning. The teachers are kind and warm and have a clear strong interest in teaching and in children's overall well-being. The teaching team seem to have a strong relationship with one another and this shows through the organisation and general day to day running of the kindergarten. I am very pleased we enrolled into Reynella Kindergarten!*

*Another wonderful year at Reynella Kindy. The only downfall being that the year has gone so quickly. My child has bloomed this year under the care of the beautiful educators and I am so very grateful for the continuous effort they go to every week to ensure a happy and enjoyable experience at kindy.*

*We love it here and highly recommend this kindy to all families looking for a special, safe and welcoming place to enroll their child.*

## Destination Schools

Feeder Schools (Site number - Name)	2021	2022	2023
0379 - Reynella Primary School	43.3%	53.9%	41.7%
0921 - Christies Beach Primary School	3.3%	3.9%	
1018 - Flagstaff Hill Primary School	3.3%		
1044 - Reynella South Primary School	13.3%	11.5%	
1056 - Woodend Primary School	13.3%	3.9%	11.1%
1059 - Pimpala Primary School	3.3%		
1163 - Braeview School	6.7%	3.9%	11.1%
1226 - Craighburn Primary School	3.3%	3.9%	
1776 - Woodcroft Primary School	3.3%	7.7%	
1907 - Reynella East College		3.9%	8.3%
8163 - Willunga Waldorf School	3.3%		
8498 - Tatachilla Lutheran College		3.9%	
9124 - Antonio Catholic School	3.3%		5.6%
9999 - Unknown		3.9%	5.6%

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.

End of year site data indicated that preschool children fed to a total of 11 schools including Aberfoyle Hub, Pimpala, Prescott, Reynella South, Woodcroft Primary and Athelstone school. 36% attending Reynella Primary school.

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



# 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	1

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	1.2	0.0	0.6
Persons	0.0	2.0	0.0	2.0

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	\$370,187
Grants: Commonwealth	0
Parent Contributions	\$14,245
Fund Raising	\$6,881
Other	\$3413

Data Source: School supplied data.

