



2023 annual report to the Community

Blackwood Kindergarten

Blackwood Kindergarten number:
4608

Partnership: Mitcham Hills



Preschool director:

Madeleine Stewardson

Signature

Date of endorsement:

16/02/2024



Context Statement

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

Blackwood Kindergarten is a Hills Kindy, with a rich outdoor learning environment. We welcome children and families to playgroup and kindergarten.

Our focus on learning in and about nature reflects the value we place in belonging to our space. We equally value learning indoors and outside and are grateful for such a beautiful place to learn.

We are a supportive and inclusive community kindergarten inspiring life-long learning for all. We work with children in their play and encourage them to approach new challenges with confidence, resilience and creativity.



Preschool Attendance

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2020 centre	89.4%		87.8%	90.2%
2021 centre	92.9%	84.1%	86.9%	91.9%
2022 centre	93.4%	83.3%	84.4%	91.4%
2023 centre	93.8%	91.3%	90.6%	95.5%
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.

Destination Schools

Feeder Schools (Site number - Name)	2021	2022	2023
0104 - Coromandel Valley Primary School	23.3%	17.8%	9.3%
0124 - Eden Hills Primary School	4.7%	11.1%	5.6%
0524 - Belair Primary School	4.7%	4.4%	7.4%
0565 - Blackwood Primary School	30.2%	28.9%	31.5%
0972 - Hawthorndene Primary School	4.7%		3.7%
1226 - Craighburn Primary School		6.7%	
9999 - Unknown	25.6%	24.4%	35.2%

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.

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	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	2.4	0.0	1.6
Persons	0.0	3.0	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	\$521,953.60
Grants: Commonwealth	
Parent Contributions	45570.70
Fund Raising	2899
Other	

Data Source: School supplied data.

Report from the Governing Council

In 2023, the Blackwood Kindergarten Governing Council consisted of six parents from the Kindy - Elizabeth Morgan, Kylie Kitchen, Lara Motta (Chairperson), Laura James (Treasurer), Laura Ashton, Leonie Case (Secretary), and Kindy Director, Maddy Stewardson. The Governing Council met two times each term. We loved getting insight into the behind the scenes efforts that make Blackwood Kindy such a wonderful place to be, getting to know the hard-working and dedicated staff and fellow like-minded parents, the opportunities to get involved with our children's learnings (Clean Up Australia, Nature Kindy, selling socks, fire safety day), being a part of building for future children through fundraising and sharing our ideas, and just generally having a voice in decision making for the kindy.

The year went by so fast - it was a lot of fun seeing our fundraising projects through from start to finish. Our fundraising efforts included selling fun pairs of socks from Jolly Soles at the kindy for Father's Day; printed tea towels from Expressions Fundraising featuring drawings by the kindy kids; bottles of olive oil, red and white wine customised with labels featuring drawings by each child just in time for Christmas presents; and a raffle with over 21 prizes generously donated by local businesses and kindy families (prizes included an AFL signed Guernsey, vouchers from B3 Coffee, State Flora Nursery, Intersport, Hearth breads, Blackwood Recreation Centre, Blackwood Fish Man, wine, chocolates, and a trailer full of firewood!). Our collective fundraising efforts yielded a profit of \$2899 which will go towards a colourful bench seat that future families will be able to enjoy.

Many hands make light work, and I encourage you to be a part of this year's Governing Council. Maddy is incredibly organised and efficient, the meetings were not long or arduous (there were snacks), and it was a really nice way to feel more connected to our children's year at Blackwood Kindy.

Many thanks

Lara Motta.