



Uraidla and Hills Community Kindergarten

2023 annual report to the Community

Uraidla & Hills Community Kindergarten



Uraidla & Hills Community Kindergarten number: 4614

Partnership: Mount Lofty

Preschool director:

Helen Linggood

Signature

Date of endorsement:

11/02/2024



Government
of South Australia
Department for Education

Context Statement

Information about Uraidla & Hills Community Kindergart is available on the centres website, as well as the Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA) website.

Uraidla and Hills Community Kindergarten is situated in the beautiful Adelaide Hills and families living in the areas of Uraidla, Summertown, Ashton, Norton Summit, Basket Range, Piccadilly, Greenhill, Carey Gully, Teringie, Forest Range and Montacute have direct access. Some families travel across the hills and significant distance to attend our preschool. We are surrounded by natural bush, conservation parks and an abundance of primary producers. Families either live within the towns dotted around our district or on hobby farms and acreage prevalent in the region.

Uraidla and Hills Community Kindergarten is a fresh, new purpose-built site that was officially opened in 2015. We are co-located with the Uraidla Primary School. We also share our boundaries with the "Nanny Neighbours" at the retirement village next door and the town's sporting and park facilities.

Our kindergarten is a Department for Education facility and has an active Governing Council (GC).

We have 2.5 full time Early Childhood teachers, and the GC employs additional Early Childhood Workers (ECW) to further support our children to access the curriculum with confidence. Our ECW's liaise with DfE support services and private agencies to implement targeted speech and language programs, behaviour management strategies and occupation therapy intervention supports.

Our programs included twelve months of kindergarten for children prior to starting school and an additional year for children with Aboriginal heritage. We operate orientation programs for children and families prior to beginning kindergarten and transition programs for children moving to school. We have an active Playgroup for children 0-5 years with a site funded educator co-ordinating this program.

We provide a stimulating play-based environment that promotes life skills and competencies for lifelong learning. Children, parents, educators, and the broader community work in partnership to support our young learners. Our curriculum is rich in content with Aboriginal perspectives and cultural competence, literacy and numeracy, STEM and theory making; creative arts and expression; physical and emotional wellbeing; social connections and rest and relaxation planned for and embedded in a highly engaging and interactive manner across our curriculum. Connecting with our natural environment through nature play and other means supports our learners to both appreciate our natural world and to live sustainably through our garden program.

Governing Council Report

We kicked off the year with a welcome picnic at the Kindy where families got to mingle for the first time. Many friendships had been established at playgroup, previous childcare centres and transition days and the children (and parents) had a wonderful time. 2023 however was a year plagued by uncertainty largely surrounding mid-year intake funding and staffing concerns for the Kindergarten. Despite that, the Kindergarten, its director and teachers all managed the unknown changes in their stride and provided a fun, happy and safe environment for the children. From the outset while it was known that 2023 would be the first year of mid-year intake, there was little guidance from the Department as to how that would be managed or funded; as well as some long-term teachers needing to resign for personal reasons on short notice. Helen did a great job at ensuring continuity for the children with regular substitute teachers and Lexi joining the Kindy as yellow group teacher mid-year.

The Governing Council made fundraising a focus and chose to direct the funds to the purchase of new “big blocks”. The t-shirt and jumper drives were a huge success, with the “uniform” creating a sense of belonging amongst the kids. The Picture Plates were also a hit and well timed to be completed over the School holidays. Approximately \$1,500 was raised across both fundraisers throughout the year. The Governing Council also put on a mid-year intake welcome picnic and sausage sizzle as another opportunity for families to reconnect.

The Kindergarten’s PQIP was focused around self-regulation and well-being. This was implemented in various ways, including by the study of the zones of regulation and other talks or events throughout the year. The Kindy and Governing Council reflected on the PQIP throughout the year, including the positive changes they were seeing in the children and how we, as parents, can adopt self-regulation strategies into our own lives.

As this was the first year in which some of the cohort were to remain behind at the Kindy to continue on next year, the teachers managed this seamlessly by the encouragement of those mid-year intake students to act as leaders for the 2024 group. The mid-year changes also provide an opportunity for parents to stay on the Council across years. On behalf of the Governing Council, we express our thanks to the Director and Kindy staff for their tireless work in supporting the children and also the local community.



Ellen McGettigan

Preschool Attendance

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2020 centre	79.7%		93.6%	91.5%
2021 centre	94.4%	91.9%	95.5%	82.3%
2022 centre	96.3%	84.7%	83%	95.1%
2023 centre	98%	84.2%	85.4%	78.1%
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.

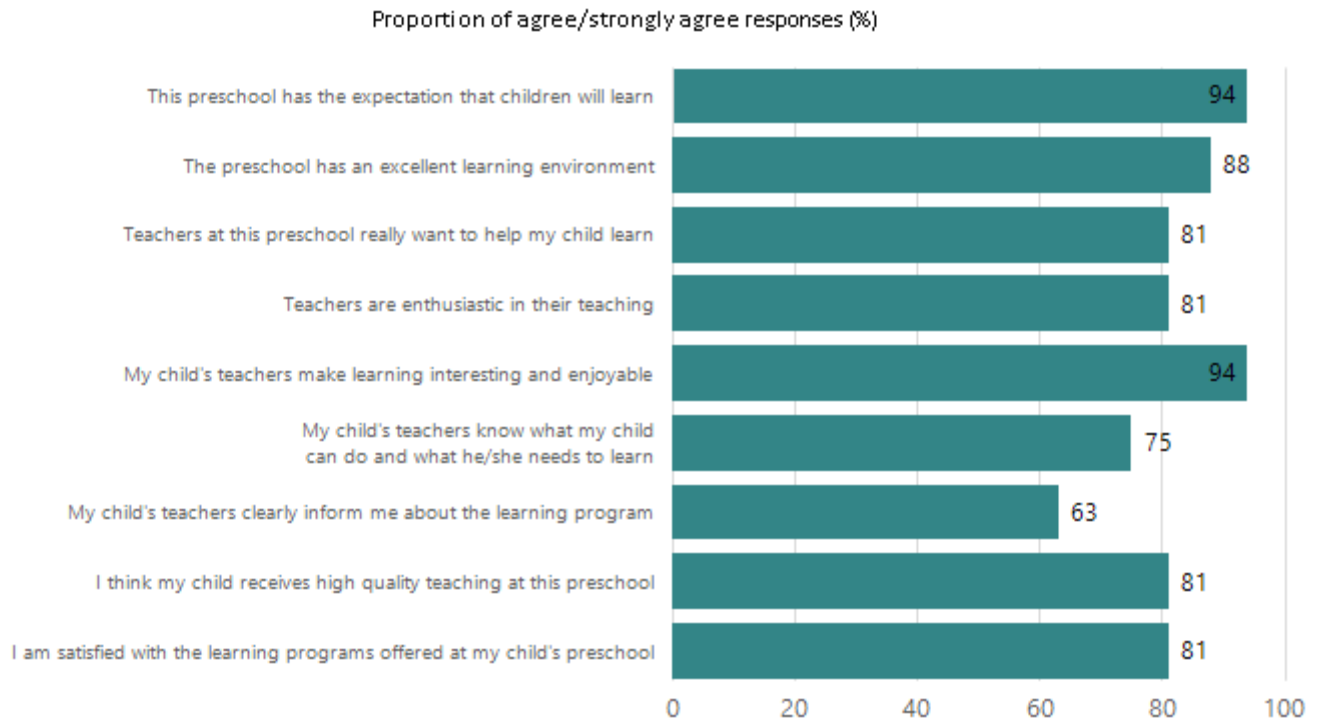
Note: Term 2 2020 data may not be available for all preschools.

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.

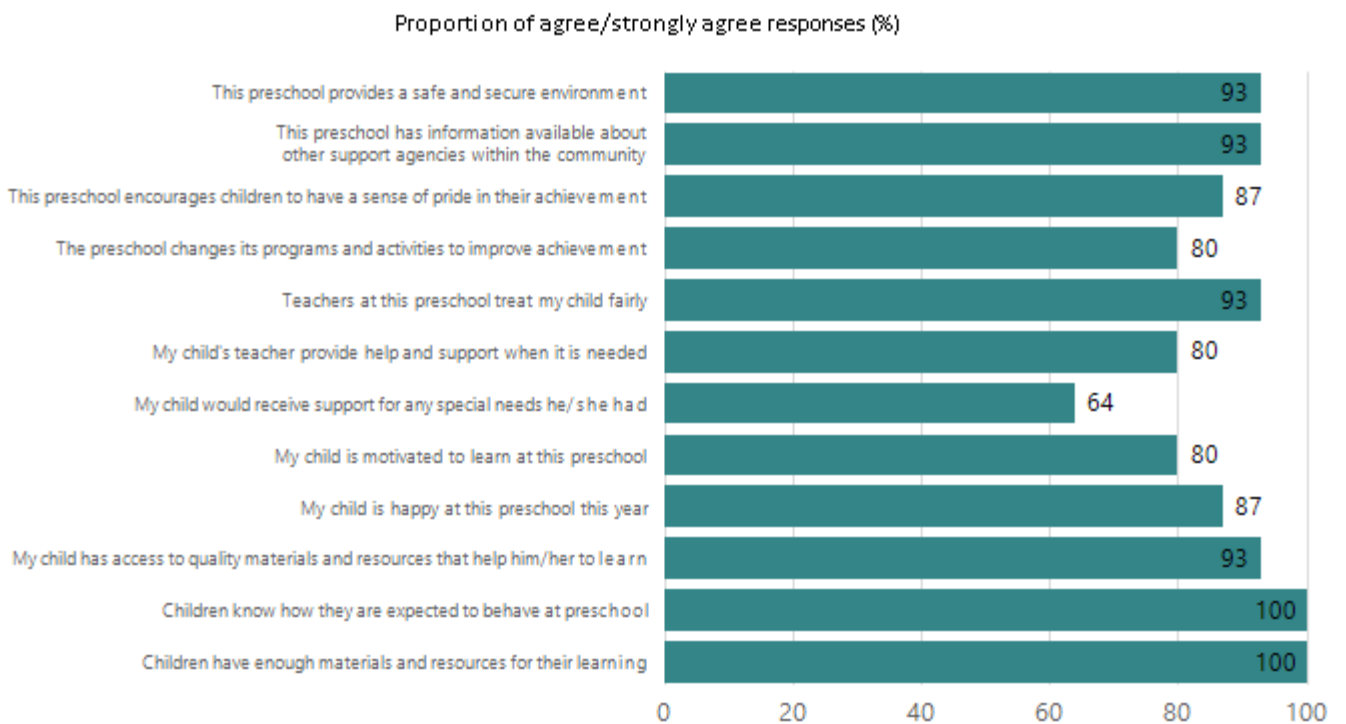
Preschool Family Opinion Survey

Quality of Teaching and Learning



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

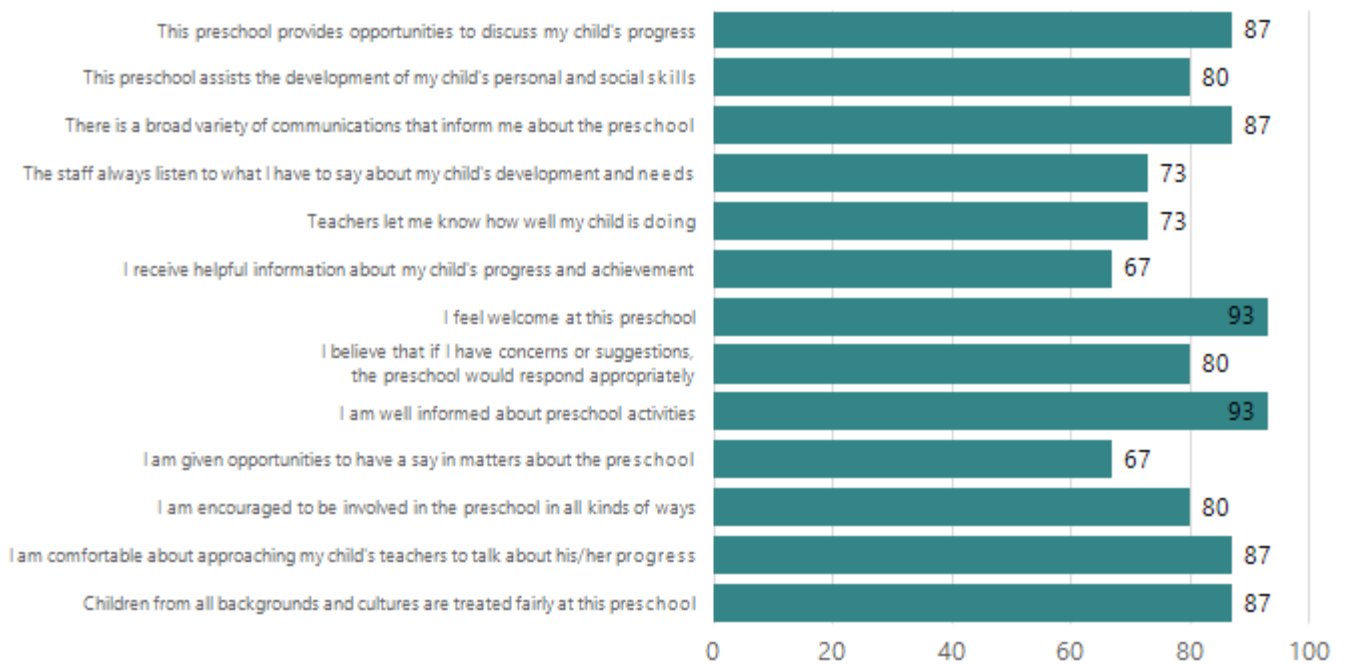
Support of Learning



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

Relationships and Communication

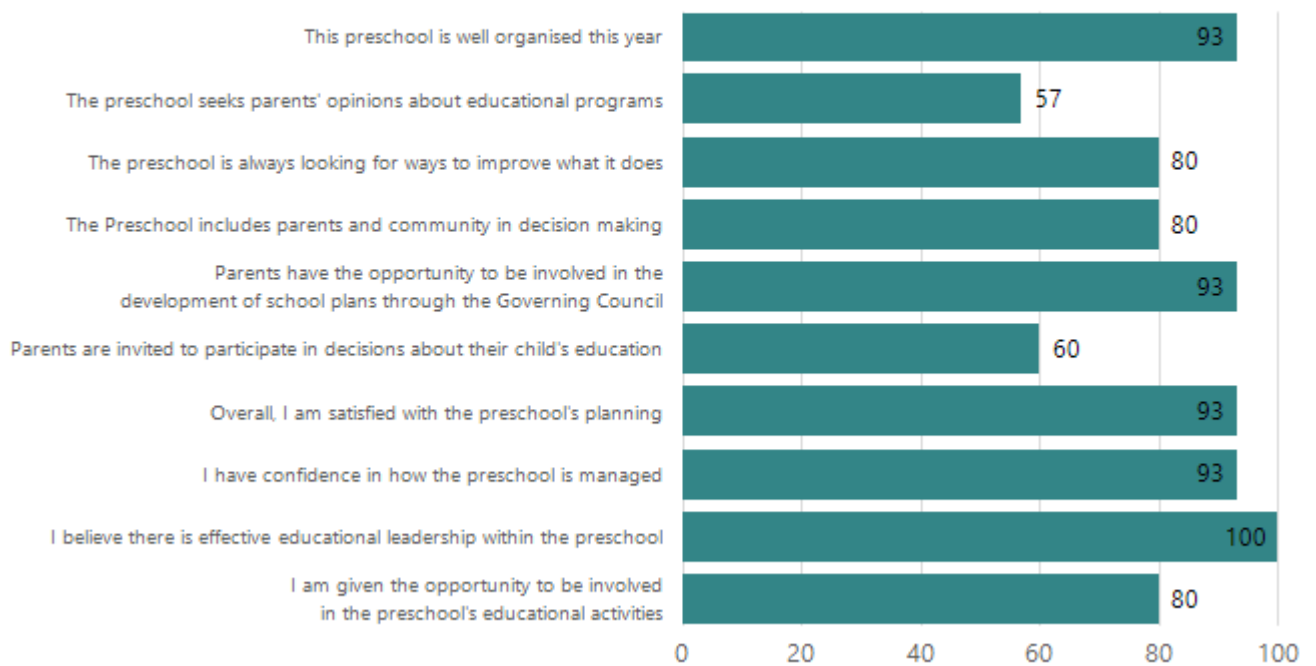
Proportion of agree/strongly agree responses (%)



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

Leadership and Decision Making

Proportion of agree/strongly agree responses (%)



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

Destination Schools

Feeder Schools (Site number - Name)	2021	2022	2023
0107 - Crafers Primary School	5.3%		3.1%
0136 - Lenswood Primary School	5.3%		
0316 - Norton Summit Primary School	10.5%	20.0%	8.3%
0413 - Stirling East Primary School			6.3%
0449 - Uraidla Primary School	50.0%	62.9%	77.1%
0511 - Basket Range Primary School	7.9%	8.6%	
9999 - Unknown	15.8%		4.6%

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.

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	2

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 Equivalent	0.0	2.7	0.0	0.7
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	\$437426
Grants: Commonwealth	
Parent Contributions	\$44780
Fund Raising	\$2215
Other	\$3027

Data Source: School supplied data.