



2024 annual report to the Community

Mount Barker Kindergarten Inc

Mount Barker Kindergarten Inc number: 4637

Partnership: Heysen



Preschool director:

Kerry Docking

Signature

Date of endorsement:

13/02/2025



Government
of South Australia
Department for Education

Context Statement

Mount Barker Kindergarten has operated as a full-time, stand-alone site since 1981. Our cosy, home like building is situated on a large, picturesque outdoor learning space, which overlooks our bushland. Our children attend two full days per week, plus we offer extra days to provide each child with 15 hours per week.

Our experienced educators are committed to providing high-quality care and a purposeful, engaging learning environment for all children. We view our children as confident and competent. We consider the Early Years Learning Framework, children's' needs and interests and family feedback when planning and programming. We observe, document and purposefully capture our children's wonderings, strengths and needs. Our embedded daily critical reflections inform our routines, processes and planning. We strive to provide opportunities for our children to connect with others, develop independence and agency. Within their play they embrace the "Zones of regulation", supporting self-regulation, developing empathy and enhancing social skills development.

We have intentionally developed a wonderful sense of community, which is supported by an active and committed Governing Council. Our kindergarten is welcoming and friendly. We invite and welcome family involvement. We actively consult and communicate with families' seeking feedback to provide the best possible care and meaningful learning opportunities for our children. Our families and children have a strong sense of connectedness.

We have strong connection with Mount Barker Primary School, accessing their Out of School Hours Care Program, plus supporting their transition programme. Our Giggle Bugs play group operates weekly and provides a wonderful opportunity for our children to transition into our kindergarten.

Information about Mount Barker Kindergarten Inc is available on the centres website, as well as the Australian Childrens Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA) website.

Governing Council Report

Throughout 2024, our Governing Council consisted of 6 parent representatives. The meetings occurred twice a term straight after a kindy session, with a creche provided. 2024 was a time for change with a new director being appointed, which resulted in an active committee embracing the opportunity for new ideas and improvement.

A significant 2024 highlight was the sense of community that was built. There were many community events throughout the year supporting this including our Welcome Picnic, a Monarto Zoo excursion, Grandparents and Special Friends Days, Graduations, and our Soup Night. Plus, we ended our busy year with a community end of year celebration, which Governing Council supported by organising the barbeque and drinks. This event was well attended by existing families and new families were invited. The sense of community was also supported by the introduction of Seesaw as communication tool and the ongoing Friday Giggle Bugs play group.

Our committee was active in organising successful fundraising drives including the end of year celebration barbeque and a decorated plate drive. Plus, we organised kindy hats which all children are presented with on enrolment.

I wish the new committee all the best for 2025.

Jasmine Watt (Vice Chair 2024)

Preschool Attendance

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2021 centre	92%	89.9%	87.4%	88.9%
2022 centre	87.2%	77.9%	78.8%	66.8%
2023 centre	90.1%	88.8%	87.1%	88.5%
2024 centre	91.1%	78.6%	80.1%	88.8%

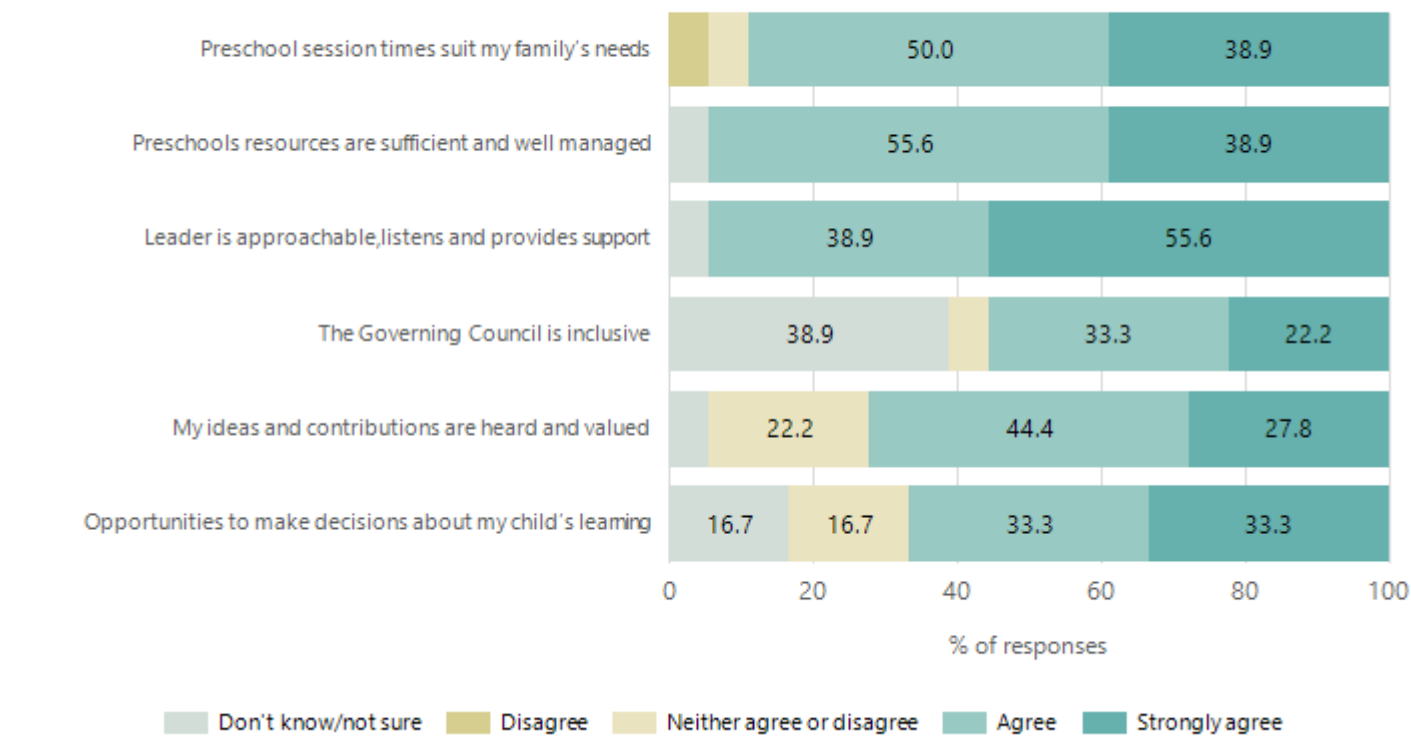
Based on attendances recorded in the two-week reference period each term. Data for eligible enrolments as described in the department's Enrolment policy. Attendance rates may differ to previous reporting with the transfer from calculations based on deemed attendance to actual attendance using booked hours divided by attended hours. Data Source: Department for Education Attendance Data, Semester 1 Report 2024. A blank cell indicates there we no students enrolled.

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.

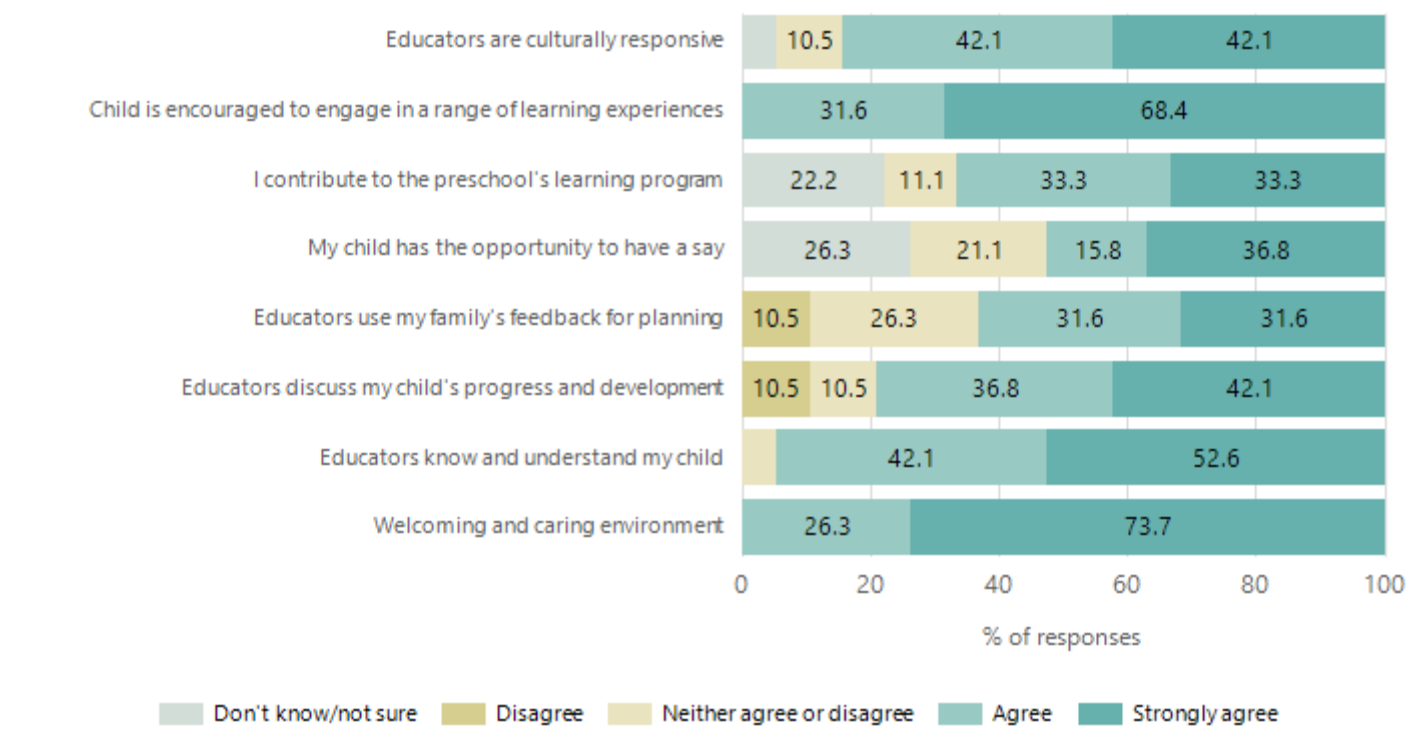
Preschool Family Opinion Survey

Governance, Leadership and Management



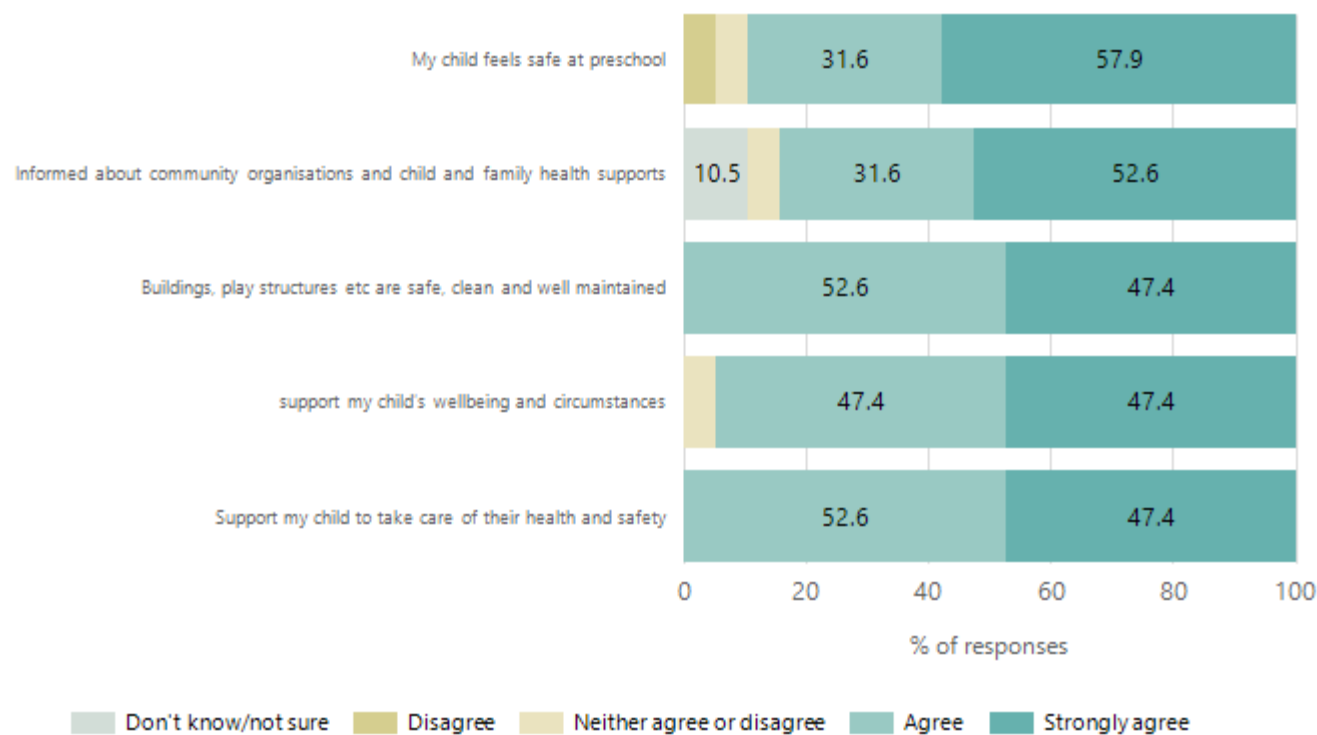
Data Source: 2024 Department for Education Preschool Family Opinions Survey, Term 3 2024.

Quality of Teaching and Learning



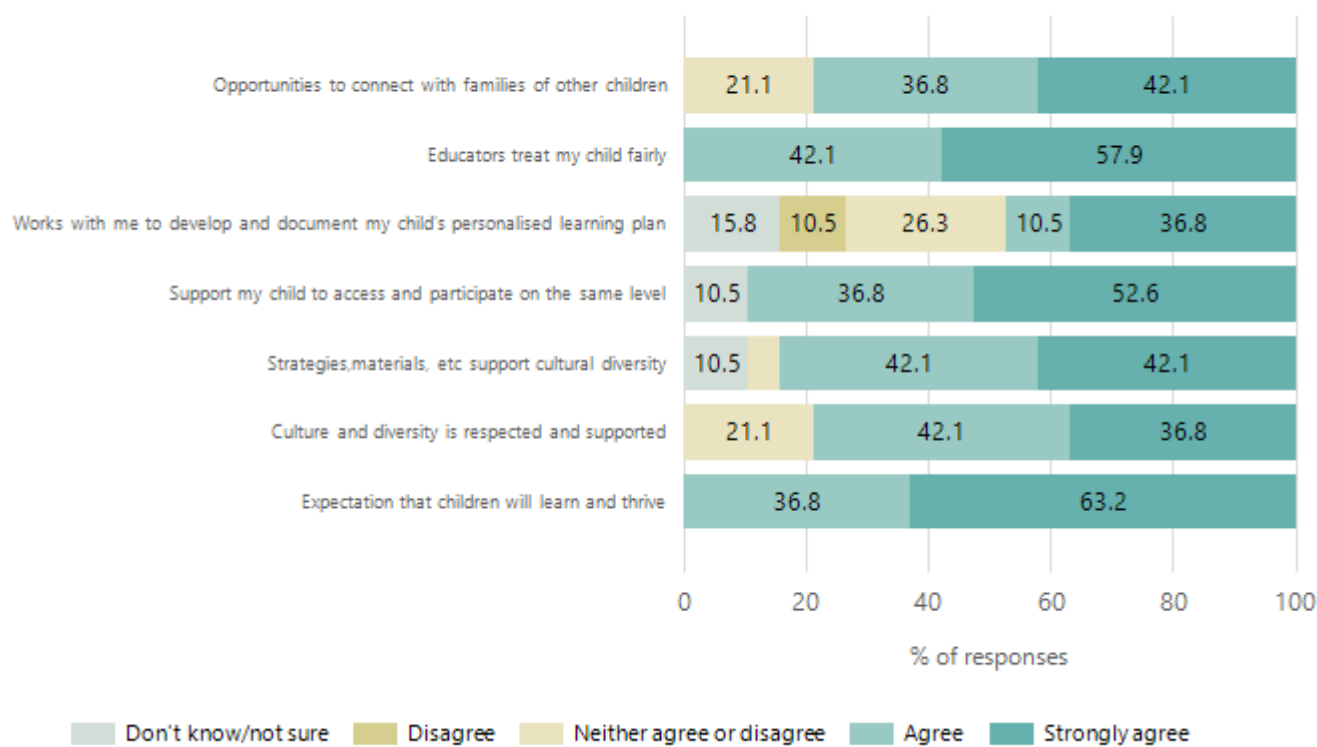
Data Source: 2024 Department for Education Preschool Family Opinions Survey, Term 3 2024.

Safety, Health and Wellbeing



Data Source: 2024 Department for Education Preschool Family Opinions Survey, Term 3 2024.

Support and Inclusion



Data Source: 2024 Department for Education Preschool Family Opinions Survey, Term 3 2024.

Destination Schools

In 2024 we developed strong connections with Mount Barker Primary School which includes: wellbeing Coordinator visits, accessing their gym as our safe refuge, library and playground visits, a joint transition program plus we access their Out of School Hours Care program.

In 2024 - 73.8% of our families chose Mount Barker Primary School as their child’s school.

Feeder Schools (Site number - Name)	2022	2023	2024
0285 - Mount Barker Primary School	56.3%	34.3%	
1539 - Mount Barker South Primary School			3.8%
8420 - St Mark's Lutheran Primary School	10.4%	11.9%	3.8%
9046 - Saint Francis de Sales College	12.5%		8.8%
9999 - Unknown	16.7%	47.8%	82.5%

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, 2024.

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	4
Postgraduate Qualifications	3

Data Source: Data extracted from Mandatory Workforce Information Collections as on the last pay date of June 2024. 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	2.8	0.0	2.4
Persons	0.0	4.0	0.0	3.0

Data Source: Data extracted from Mandatory Workforce Information Collection as on the last pay date of June 2024.

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	
Grants: Commonwealth	
Parent Contributions	\$33,602.00
Fund Raising	\$457
Other	

Data Source: School supplied data.