



2024 annual report to  
the Community

## Eden Hills Kindergarten



Eden Hills Kindergarten number: 4640

Partnership: Mitcham Hills

Preschool director:

Sarah Quihampton

Date of endorsement:

24/02/2025

# Context Statement

Eden Hills Kindergarten is a stand-alone kindergarten providing care and education for 44 families with preschool aged children. In terms 2 and 4 we offered an integrated Pre-Entry program for children enrolled to start in 2025.

The kindergarten is funded full time but operates at 0.8. We offer flexibility in session options with most children attending 5 full days per fortnight. In partnership with Eden Hills Primary School, we offer an Out of School Hours Care service after kindy.

The emergent curriculum at Eden Hills Kindergarten is informed by the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF), the National Quality Standards (NQS), the Eden Hills Kindergarten Philosophy Statement, educators, parents and interests of the children. Literacy, Numeracy, Learning, Relationships, Citizenship and Sustainability are the key foci. The kindergarten has an embedded music program and a strong connection with the Aboriginal community.

The kindergarten has an Exceeding the Standard rating in each of the seven quality areas in the National Quality Standards.

A Nature Playgroup operates at the Centre on Friday mornings, 9.00am to 11.00am. This gives families the opportunity to become familiar with the curriculum and routines of the kindergarten.

Highlights for 2024 include:

- Positive outcomes for all children related to our Challenge of Practice
- Educator stability: We have had consistent staffing for several years which supports the shared vision and implementation of goals supported by the Statement of Philosophy.
- The Arts Show was a great opportunity to share the learning of children at Kindergarten in the Arts. This community event, showcasing the work of children and local artists, was well attended.
- We continued our Nature Playgroup this year, run by an ECW from the kindy team. This was very well attended, and many families used it as transition to kindy for 2025.
- The parent group was well represented on Governing Council with many community events being organised. (see Chair's report)

## Governing Council

### Governing Council Members 2024

James Kirkham – Chair  
Katie Schubert – Secretary  
Claire MacLennan – Treasurer  
Fran Willby – Vice chair  
Brooke Dubois – Member  
Tom Biddle – Member  
Melinda Trudgen – Member  
Sarah Stevens – Member  
Dylan Hurem – Member  
Tayla Thompson – Member  
Tahlia Eddy – Member  
Heather Carter – Member  
Mecia Elliot – Member  
Sarah Quihampton – Director  
Deanna Cuteri – Educator  
Janice Samm – Educator

## **Governing Council Chair's Report**

The members of the Eden Hills Kindergarten Governing Council (GC) had a productive and rewarding year working with the educators to oversee the budget, work on updating policy documents, and supporting events throughout the year.

I would like to acknowledge educators Sarah Quihampton and Deanna Cuteri for their commitment to attending GC meetings out of work hours and for Janice Samm's work on maintaining the budget to streamline oversight and approvals for the GC during 2024.

The kindergarten, with support of the educators and GC members undertook a number of activities throughout the year as summarised below.

### **Bonfire Night – 10 May 2024**

This was a great opportunity in the first half of the year for families to come and spend time at the Kindy in the evening, meet other families and enjoy dinner and company in the bush block.

### **Working Bees**

The Working Bees were well attended and helped the Kindergarten install some new equipment, oil and refresh outdoor timber and wash and clean the outdoors areas and deck.

### **Parent Social night – 14 June**

The parent night was held at Belair Hotel and was a great chance for parents to get together socially in a child free setting. This event helped to establish connections and friendship with both GC members and other families strengthening the feeling of community built around the Kindergarten.

### **Discos – 28 August and 31 October**

The kindy discos gave students an opportunity to dress up and let their hair down in a safe environment on two occasions, the second being a Halloween theme.

### **Art Show – 20/21 September**

The Art Show continues to be the highlight of the Kindergarten year for many students and families. It offers a great chance for children to show their creativity and imagination and exhibit their artwork alongside other local artists.

This event draws in members from the community and is supported by many local businesses that donate their products and services for the silent auction to raise money for events into the future.

### **Kindy Picnics – 24 October 2024 and 18 January 2025**

Two Picnics organised by the GC provided further opportunities for families to get together and get to know each other outside of the busy school week.

The second picnic in January 2025 invited new students and families starting this year to attend and get to know each other.

### **Updating Kindergarten Policies**

A number of policies were reviewed and updated in 2024 including the Rest and Sleep policy and Sun Smart policy. I would like to make special mention to GC member Claire MacLennan for taking the lead in this work and providing significant input.

### **Closing Statement**

I thank all the educators and support staff for making Eden Hills Kindergarten such a welcoming, friendly and safe space for children with the good fortune to attend.

I would also like to acknowledge all the GC member in 2024 for their commitment and support to the kindergarten at the various events across the year. A final acknowledgment to Katie Schubert for her significant support as Secretary, organising agendas, meeting minutes and much more over a number of years.

James Kirkham

**Governing Council Chair 2024**

## Preschool Attendance

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2021 centre	89.7%	90.2%	91.5%	80.4%
2022 centre	86.8%	39.8%	87.6%	45.7%
2023 centre	96.4%	76.2%	80.9%	91.5%
2024 centre	92.3%		84.3%	

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 were no students enrolled.

In South Australia, preschool attendance is not compulsory, but it is strongly encouraged. Preschool gives children the best opportunity to develop skills that 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 for 4 terms the year before they start school. Our attendances tend to be high as we offer flexibility in session options – families can choose any 5 days in a fortnight. We also work with the Out of School Hours program at Eden Hills Primary School to extend the day of children whose families need a longer day.

## Destination Schools

Feeder Schools (Site number - Name)	2022	2023	2024
0124 - Eden Hills Primary School	31.3%	45.3%	58.8%
0524 - Belair Primary School	4.2%	7.6%	0%
0565 - Blackwood Primary School	12.5%	7.6%	7.8%
1136 - Bellevue Heights Primary School	12.5%	17.0%	9.8%
9999 - Unknown	33.3%	18.9%	15.7%

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
Bachelor's degrees or Diplomas	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/or 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

	Teaching Staff		Non-Teaching Staff	
	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous
Full-Time Equivalents	0.0	2.5	0.0	2.2
Persons	0.0	3.0	0.0	4.0

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 identity is self-reported by staff in the system.

# Financial Statement

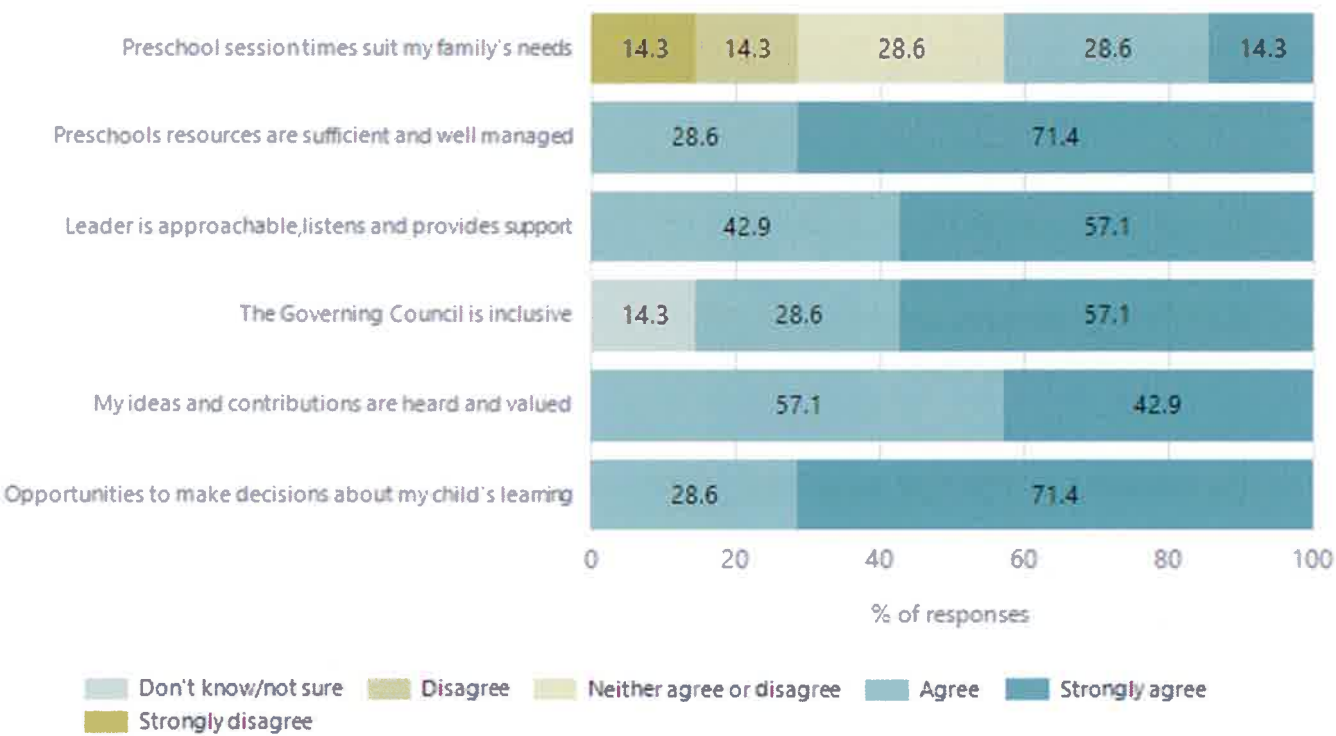
Funding Source	Amount
Grants: State	459,767.58
Grants: Commonwealth	N/A
Parent Contributions	47,393.65
Fund Raising	3,013.00
Other	N/A

Data Source:PresSchool supplied data.

See attached Financial Statement for a breakdown of these figures.

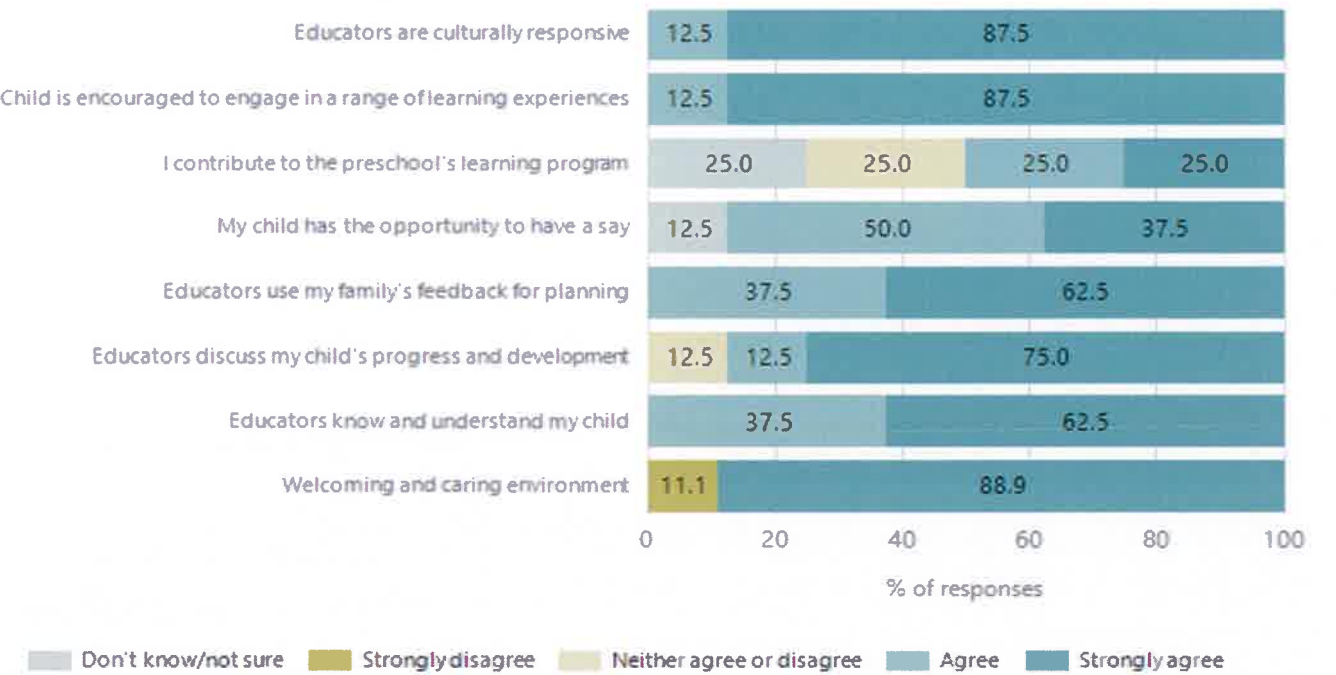
# Preschool Family Opinion Survey

## Governance, Leadership and Management



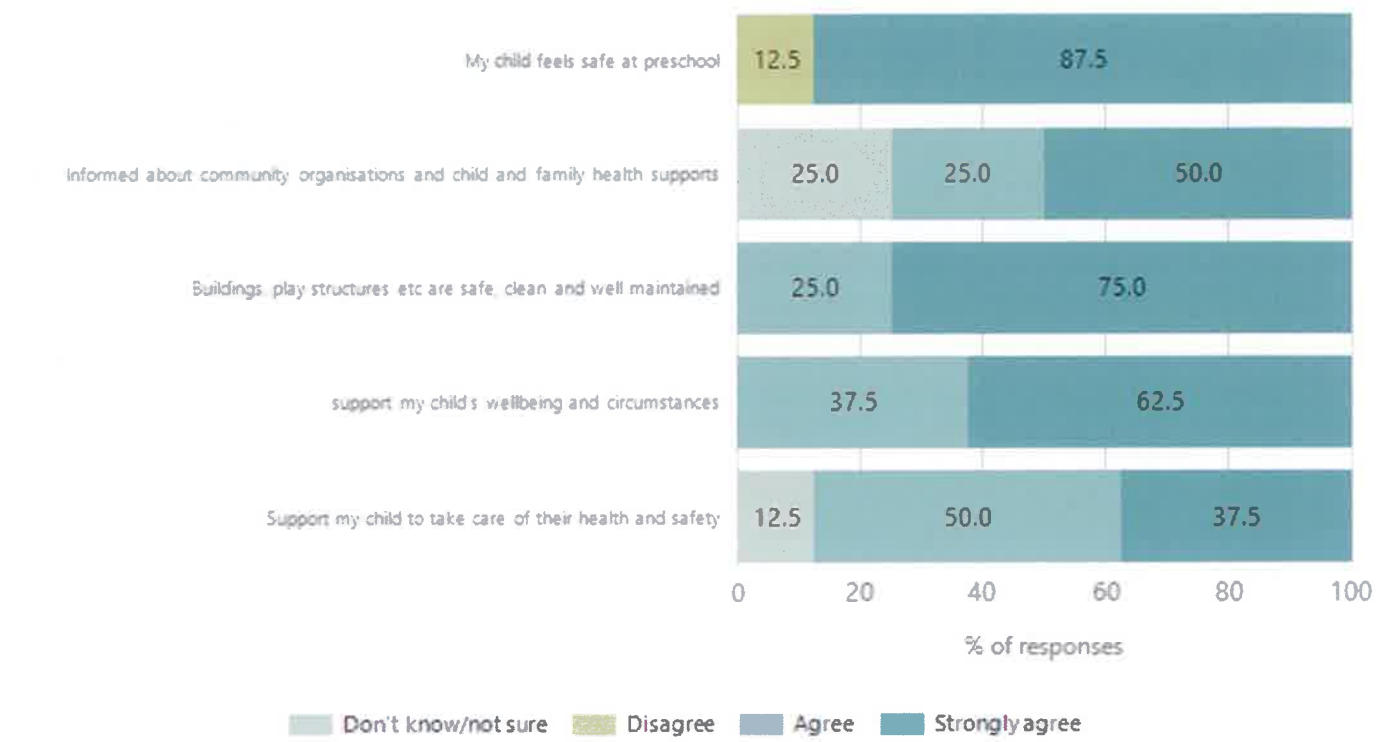
Data Source: 2024 Department for Education Preschool Family Opinions Survey, Term 3 2024.

## Quality of Teaching and Learning



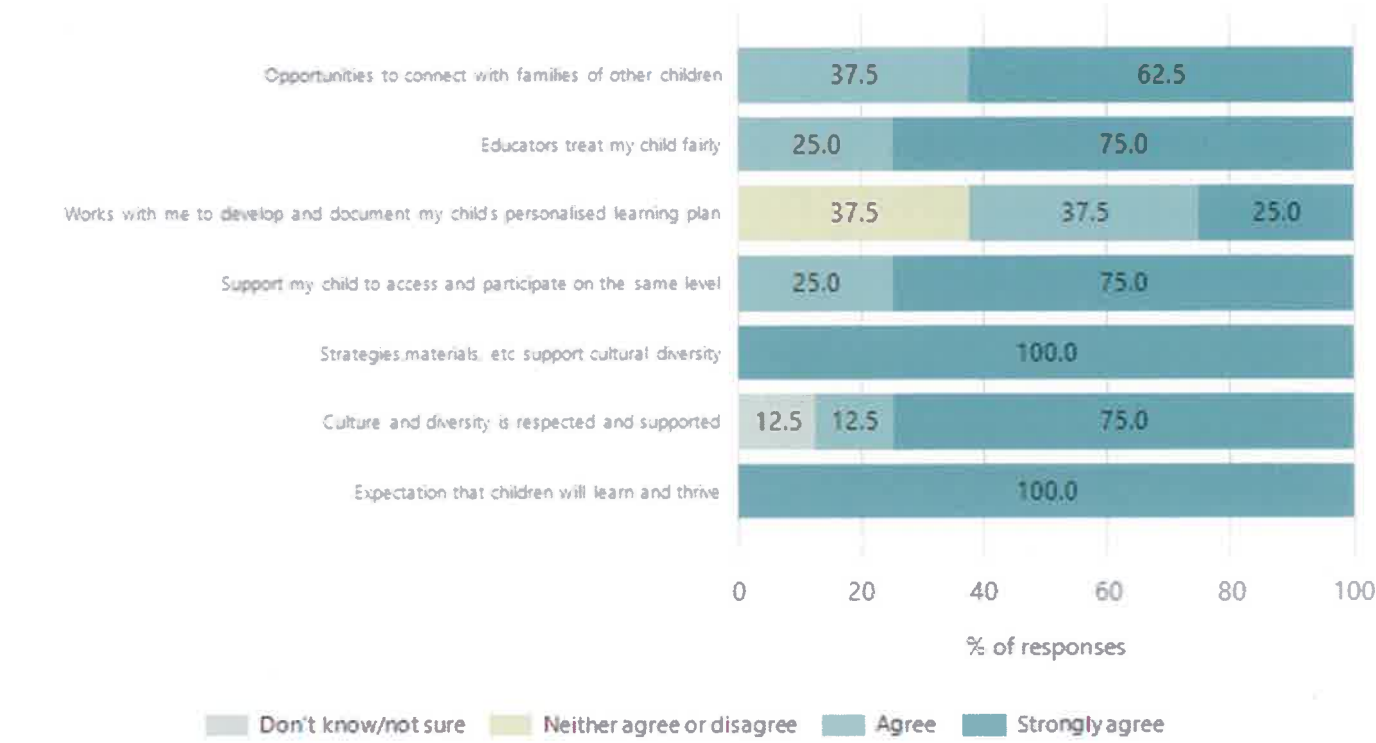
Data Source: 2024 Department for Education Preschool Family Opinions Survey, Term 3 2024.

# 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.

## Response to survey outcomes

Eden Hills Kindergarten (EHK) takes all feedback from families seriously. The 2024 survey has highlighted that families consider EHK is performing strongly across governance, learning quality, safety and support. Five areas for potential improvement were also identified, which EHK will investigate in 2025:

- 29% of families indicated that session times do not suit their needs. Governing Council will review session times in 2025.
- 50% of families said they contribute to the preschool's learning program. EHK's curriculum is guided by child voice, parent voice and the site philosophy, as well as the Early Years Learning Framework and the National Quality Standards. We endeavour to actively seek family input to the learning program, and to incorporate changes from that input. In 2025, we will clearly communicate this and share what changes we have made as a result of input from families.
- Two families disagreed that their child felt safe and experienced a welcoming and caring environment at EHK. This is the most challenging feedback EHK has ever received. The Centre Director spoke with these families in person to discuss their concerns. The families indicated that these experiences are not specific to the EHK learning environment, and that EHK did everything they could to support them and their child. In 2025, we will be vigilantly attentive to ensuring a safe, welcoming and caring environment for all children, and work proactively with parents to achieve this.
- Two survey questions relate to working with families to discuss, develop and document a child's learning plan, progress and development. Responses to these questions indicate there may be room to improve how EHK approaches or communicates this. EHK's current approach is to ask families about their child's development needs prior to enrolment, and to offer an in-person review at the end of Term 1 to discuss progress and priorities for the remainder of the year. EHK also provides observations and photos of each child's learning moments to families by text, and teachers are always available to discuss progress in person or by phone. Learning is also conveyed via the Learning Journals that are indexed with each child's name. These are available at sign in, sign out and throughout the day. In 2025, Governing Council will review this process to ensure it meets families' needs, and that all families can contribute to their child's learning plan and track their progress.