

2024 annual report to the Community

# Stirling District Kindergarten

Stirling District Kindergarten number: 4661

Partnership: Mount Lofty



Preschool director:

Susan Caldicott

 Signature

Date of endorsement:

26/06/2025



# Context Statement

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

## Governing Council Report

It is my privilege to present the Chairperson's report for Stirling District Kindergarten (SDK) 2024.

The governing council has been continuously impressed with the quality of leadership, care, and learning provided by the wonderful team at SDK. On behalf of all parents, we offer sincere thanks to the Director, teaching team, and support staff.

The main focus for the governing council in 2024 has been planning for a renovation of the outdoor area. With unforeseen complications, progress has been frustrated, but the way forward is increasingly clearer. We wish the 2025 governing council well in implementing a refreshed look for children in years to come.

Throughout the year, the governing council reviewed and approved new and updated policies to support SDK's operation, such as updating the logo, Reconciliation Action Plan, and SunSmart accreditation. Thanks to the 2023 governing council for developing a strong philosophy statement, the 2024 governing council were pleased to provide further input and approve it. This sets a clear vision for SDK for the next 3-5 years.

The on-going educational programmes at the kindy continue to go from strength-to-strength:

- Wildlife for Wellbeing, and mindfulness offer the children opportunities for reflection and self-awareness;
- Children enjoyed two terms of Friday bush kindy, working with the Friends of Belair National Park to provide habitats for the Southern Brown Bandicoot;
- Aboriginal cultural education with Dave Booth;
- After school clubs provide fun, engaging activities for children and support to parents with supervision beyond the regular day;
- Younger children have enjoyed playgroup at SDK during bush kindy excursions.

In testament to the wonderful SDK team and educational programme, Director Sue Caldicott and teaching staff have been asked several times to share their experiences with other education leaders across South Australia, including:

- launching the Aboriginal cultural programme at SDK, which involved using award money to fund educational events for other educators in the area, and promotes the expansion of recognition and reconciliation work to more children in SA;
- nature play and bush kindy, encouraging other centres to offer these opportunities to their children.

Key events in the year have included:

- Celebrations for children leaving kindy at mid-year, and end of calendar year were very well attended and highly regarded by families;
- New families for children joining in mid-year were welcomed with a picnic at Belair National Park;

- Excursions to Heathfield Primary School to further children's learning and support school transitions;
- Silent auction fundraiser which exceeded its target and will fund replacement playground equipment;
- Parents and children walking in the Stirling Christmas pageant, showing pride and support for the local community.

Finally, my personal thanks to all the parents that have been involved in 2024: volunteering for excursions; sharing their work experiences with the children; and to those that served on the governing council. Your commitment has contributed to another fantastic year for SDK, its young learners, and our community.

Tom Chandler

## Preschool Attendance

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2021 centre	90.5%	77.1%	91.9%	92.9%
2022 centre	85.5%	72.7%	76.9%	95.1%
2023 centre	92.2%	85.4%	84%	86.1%
2024 centre	91.1%		88.2%	

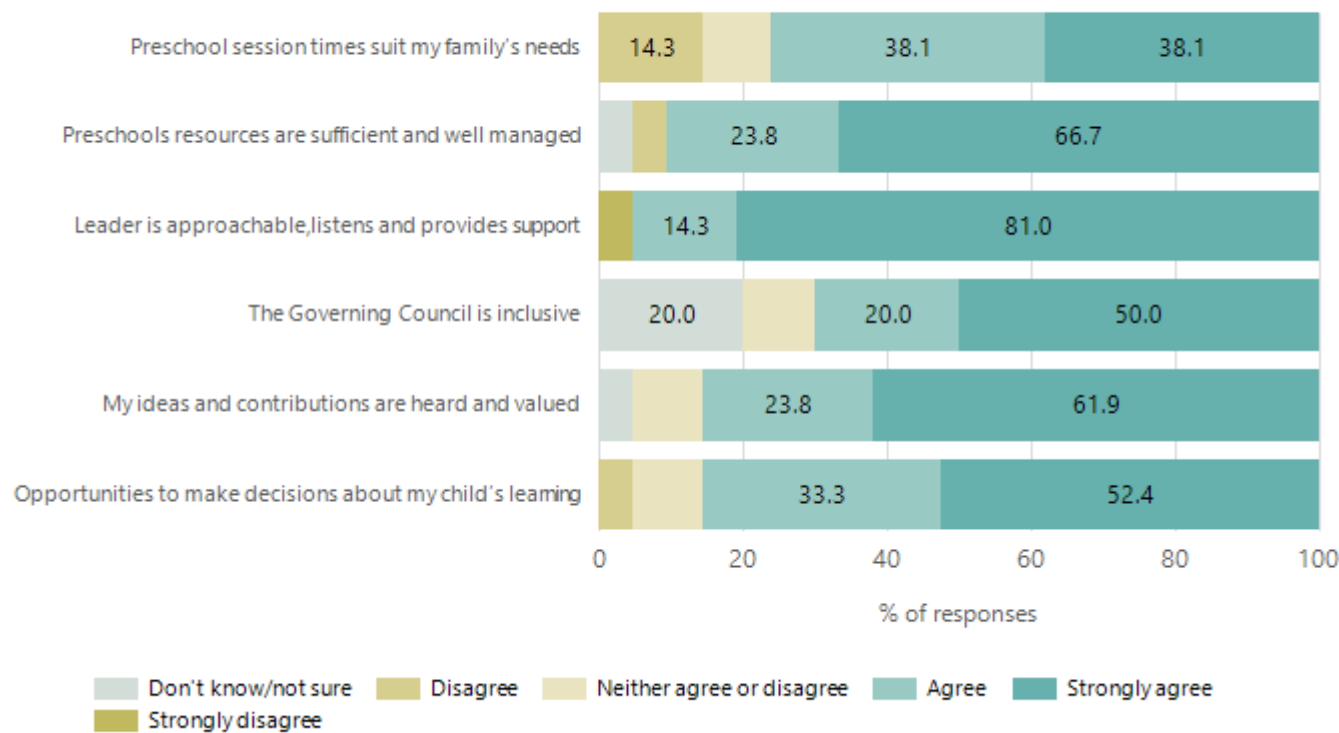
Based on attendances recorded in the two-week reference period each term. Data for eligible enrolments as described in the department's Enrolment policy. Attendance rates may differ to previous reporting with the transfer from calculations based on deemed attendance to actual attendance using booked 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.

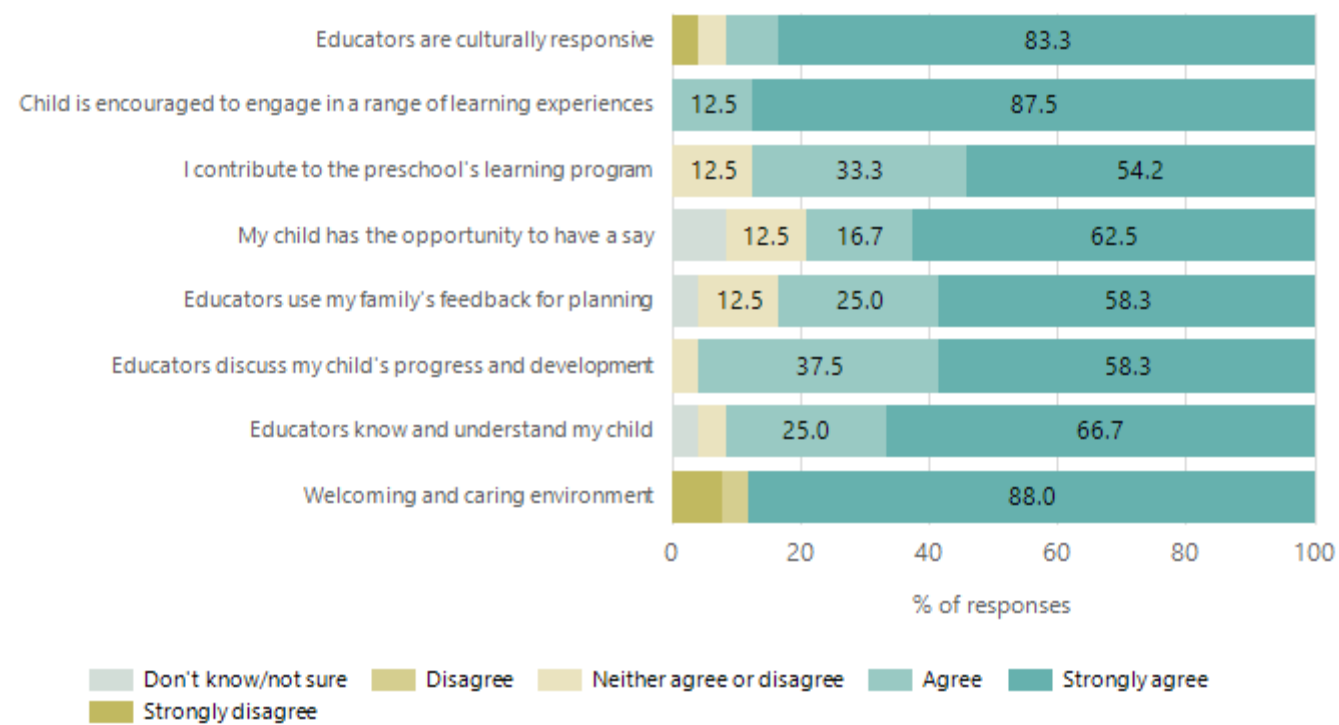
# Preschool Family Opinion Survey

## Governance, Leadership and Management



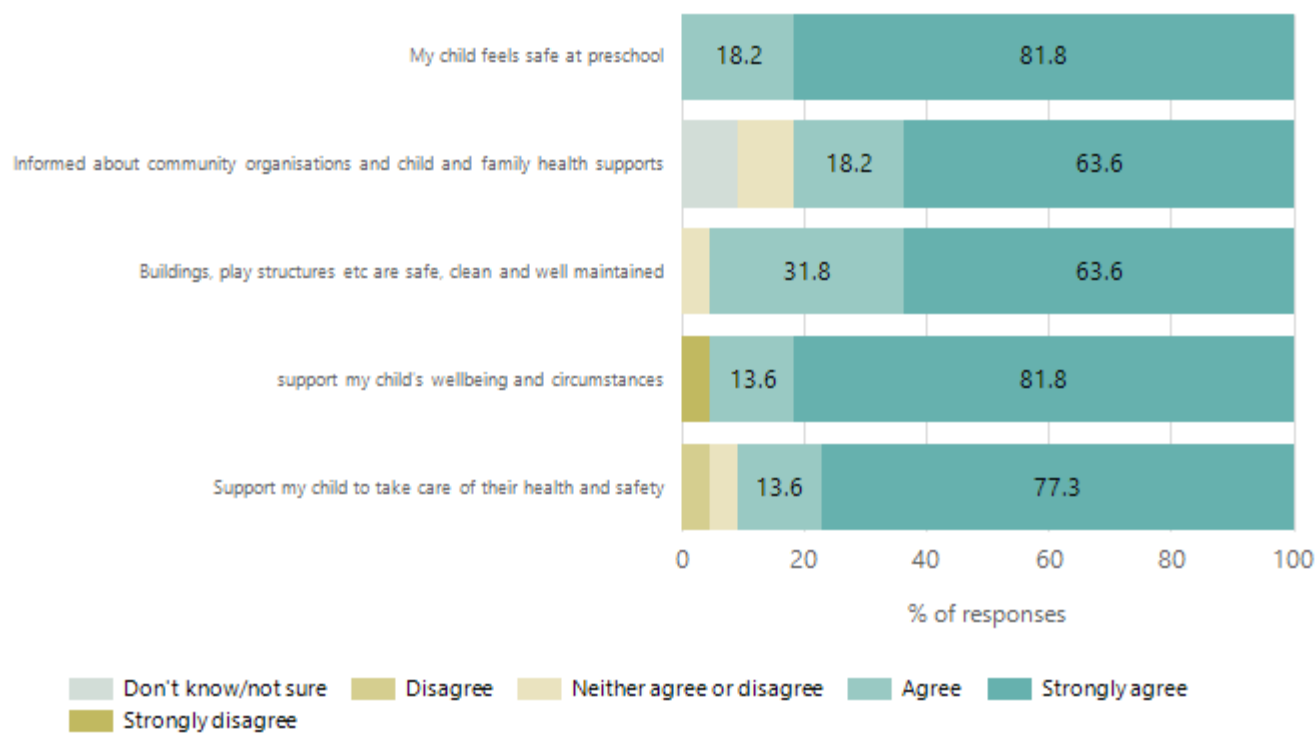
Data Source: 2024 Department for Education Preschool Family Opinions Survey, Term 3 2024.

## Quality of Teaching and Learning



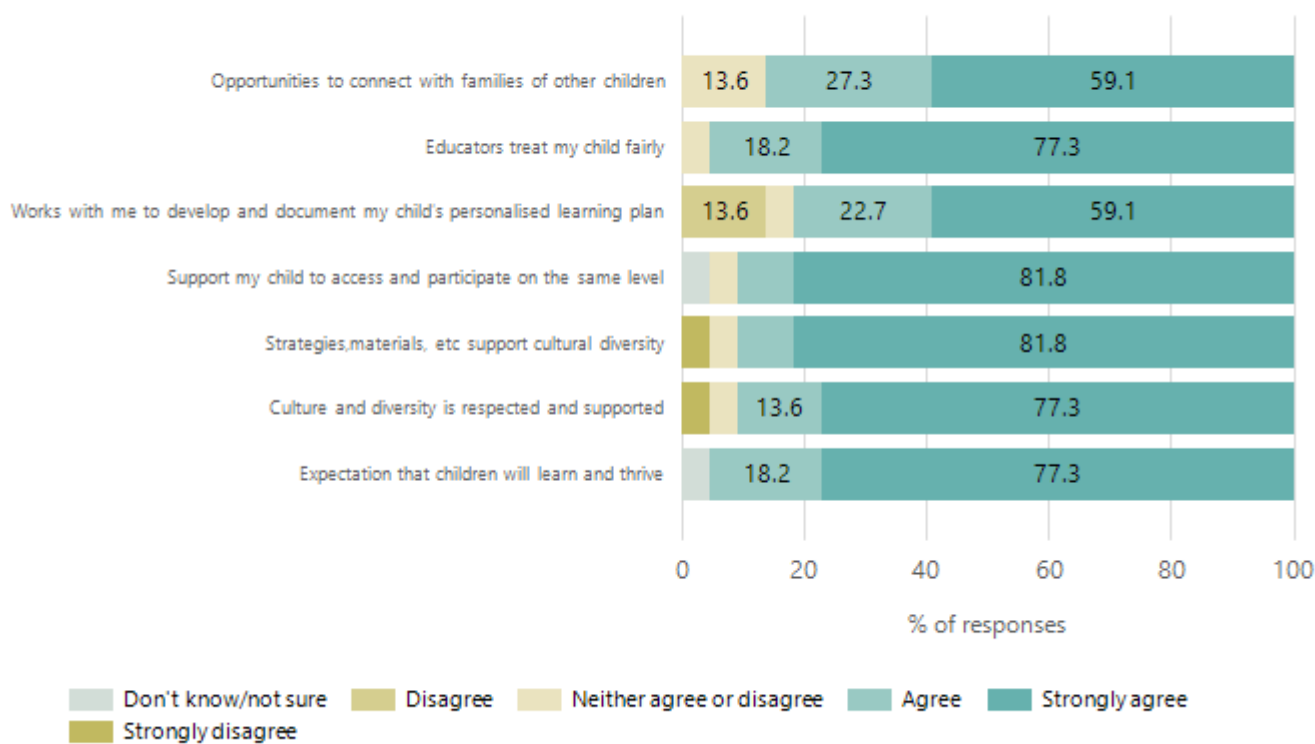
Data Source: 2024 Department for Education Preschool Family Opinions Survey, Term 3 2024.

# 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

Feeder Schools (Site number - Name)	2022	2023	2024
0107 - Crafers Primary School		5.2%	9.5%
0413 - Stirling East Primary School		3.9%	6.0%
9999 - Unknown	94.8%	88.3%	84.5%

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
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	2.5	0.0	1.3
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 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	547,226.00
Grants: Commonwealth	
Parent Contributions	86,735.00
Fund Raising	6,146.00
Other	

Data Source: School supplied data.