

2024 annual report to the Community

Hawthorndene Kindergarten

Hawthorndene
Kindergarten
number: 4664

Partnership: Mitcham Hills



Preschool Director:

Louise Montesi

Signature

Date of endorsement:

11/02/2025



Government
of South Australia
Department for Education

Context Statement

Hawthorndene Kindergarten is situated in the Mt Lofty Ranges on the Adelaide foothills. Our kindergarten is opposite the local primary school and while many of the children transition to this school there are several families who choose to send their children to other schools within the Mitcham Partnership of which this kindergarten is a member. This site has a strong link with the local school where we visit during term 2 and 4 for a play excursion. We also are involved in the Hawthorndene Primary Schools R.A.P and have made two visits around the yarning circle learning more about reconciliation as well as sharing our learning about Aboriginal perspectives during NAIDOC Week. Children going to the school the following year have 2 transition visits in term 2 and 4 on a Friday.

Our Staff profile at Hawthorndene Kindergarten consists of 1.0 Director with teaching duties, 1.0 permanent teacher, .4 Universal Access teacher (Tuesdays/Thursday group) and an .4 ECW.

Families who are part of this kindergarten predominantly have two parents living in the same household where at least one parent works fulltime and often the other parent has part-time work outside the home.

We have a thriving Playgroup, which runs each week on a Friday morning (except for pupil free days or last day of each term).

We welcome parents onto our site to be actively involved in our Governing Council, participate in the curriculum and sharing their skill sets and expertise with the children and staff. Parents are invited to join excursions and incursions, working bees, parent/ teacher goal setting meetings, and to encourage interest and engagement in the learning program of their child.

Governing Council Report

Kindergarten Governing Council Chair's Yearly Summary - 2024

As we reflect on 2024, I am pleased to share that it has been a productive and positive year for our kindergarten community. While we faced several challenges along the way, we navigated them successfully and ended the year in a strong position.

At the beginning of the year, the council was met with concerns regarding a budget deficit. Through careful financial management, these issues appear to have resolved.

Our kindy has seen fantastic improvements in our outdoor spaces, particularly the slide area, thanks to community involvement and dedicated working bees. The support from families and volunteers has been instrumental in maintaining and enhancing our grounds. Additionally, we've developed a great working relationship with Catherine Hutcheson, who played a key role in securing government funding for a new shade cloth to cover the sandpit. These efforts ensure a safer and more enjoyable environment for our children to play and learn.

One of the highlights of the year was our fundraising success. The Funtastics event, Bunnings Bake Sale, and End of Year Raffle were all incredibly well-supported by our community. These events not only helped us raise much-needed funds but also strengthened our sense of community spirit. We extend our sincere gratitude to all the parents, staff, and community members who contributed their time, effort, and generosity to these initiatives.

Speaking of community, our relationship with local organisations has flourished this year. We strengthened our ties with the Blackwood Rotary Club, local businesses that generously donated to our raffle, and The Honourable Catherine Hutcheson, whose support and engagement with our kindergarten have been truly valued. These relationships are instrumental in ensuring our kindy remains connected and supported within the broader community.

Most importantly, despite the challenges faced, the kindergarten itself has continued to run smoothly. Thanks to the dedication of our incredible staff, the children remained at the heart of everything we do. Their education, well-being, and joy were prioritised throughout the year, which is ultimately the most important measure of success. As a parent, I cannot thank our educators enough for their unwavering commitment, passion, and care.

Looking ahead, I am confident that 2025 will be another wonderful year for our kindy. Thank you to all who played a role in making this year a success - staff, parents, council members, and our broader community.

Yours faithfully,

Liam Sambrook (Governing Council Chair 2024)

Preschool Attendance

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2021 centre	95.3%	92.5%	93.9%	82.5%
2022 centre	96.9%	87.5%	89.6%	92.7%
2023 centre	95.7%	81.2%	100%	94.9%
2024 centre	96.2%		88.9%	

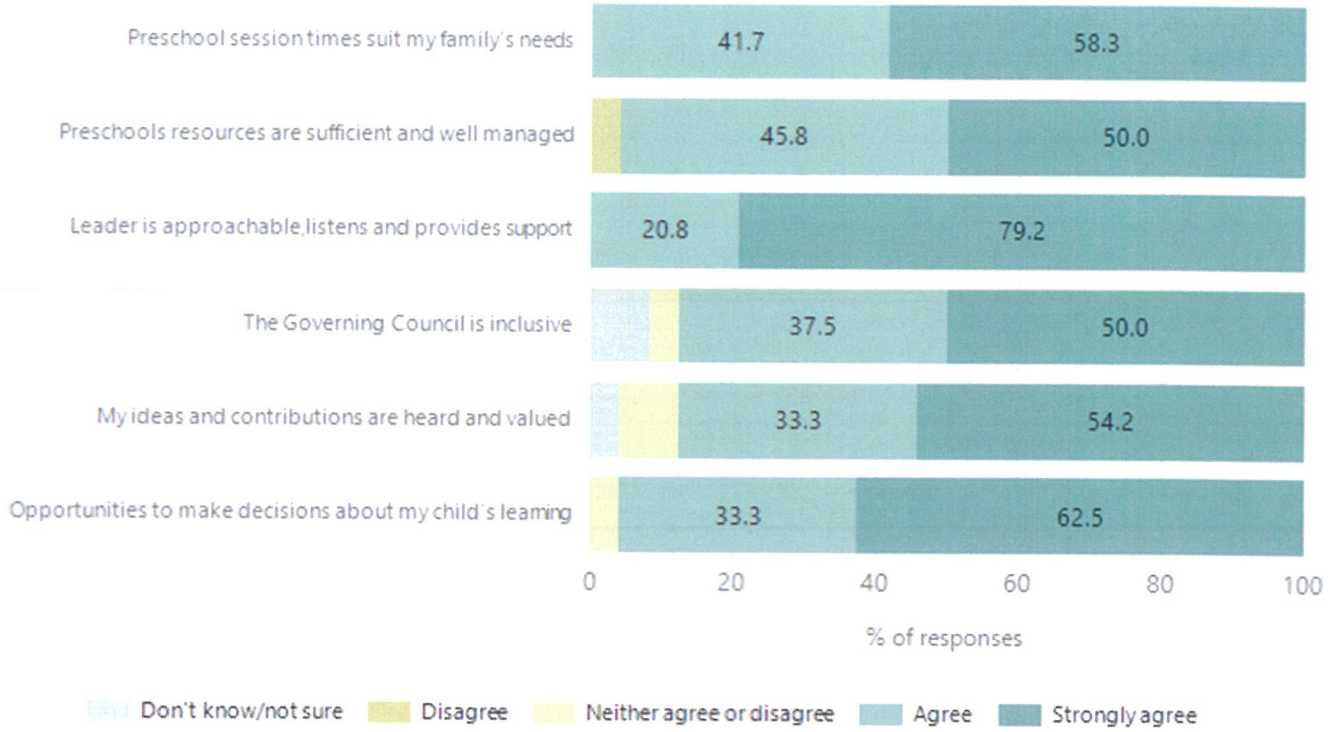
Based on attendances recorded in the two-week reference period each term. Data for eligible enrolments as described in the department's Enrolment policy. Attendance rates may differ to previous reporting with the transfer from calculations based on deemed attendance to actual attendance using booked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

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.

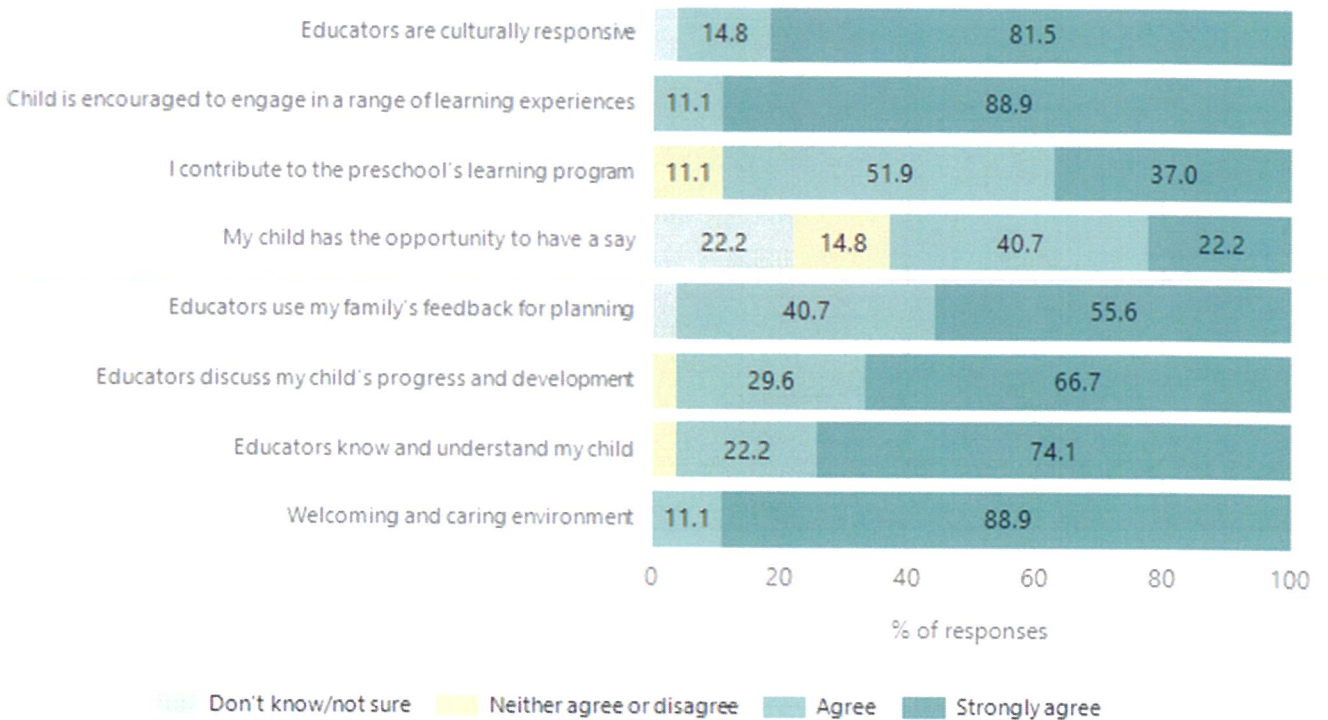
Preschool Family Opinion Survey

Governance, Leadership and Management



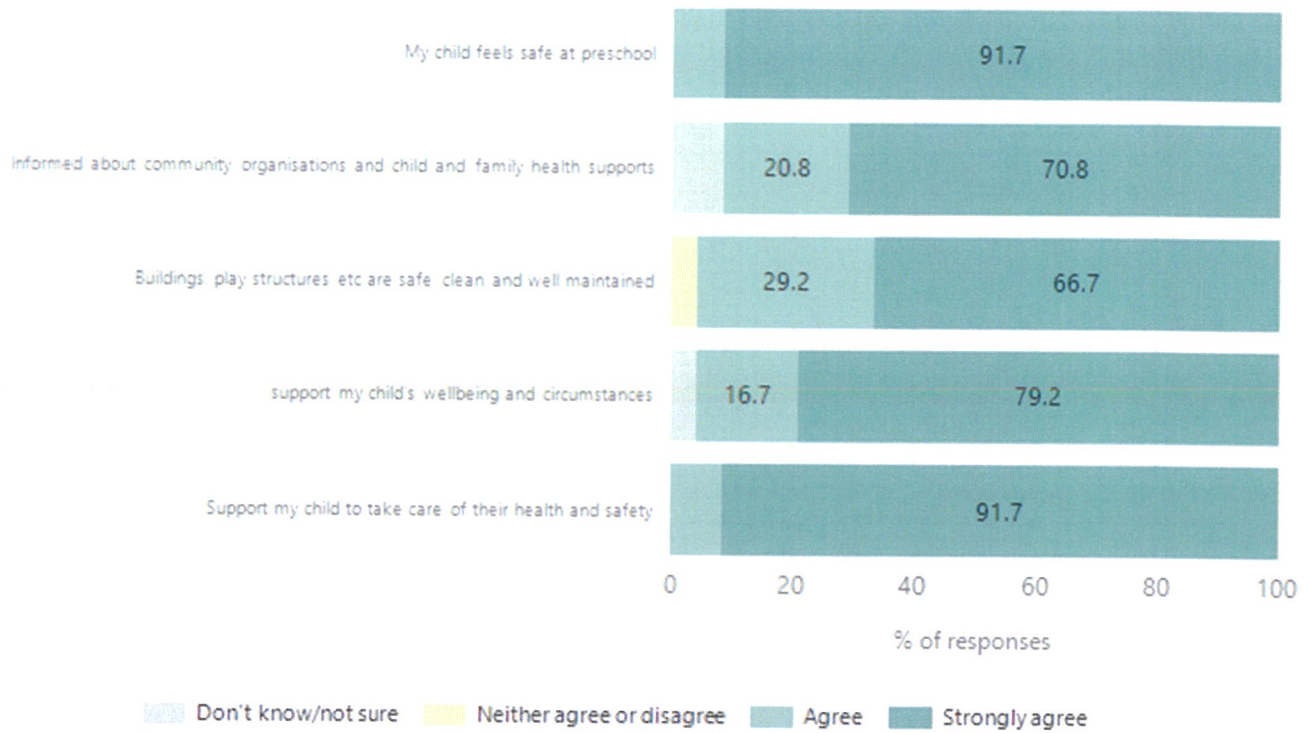
Data Source: 2024 Department for Education Preschool Family Opinions Survey, Term 3 2024.

Quality of Teaching and Learning



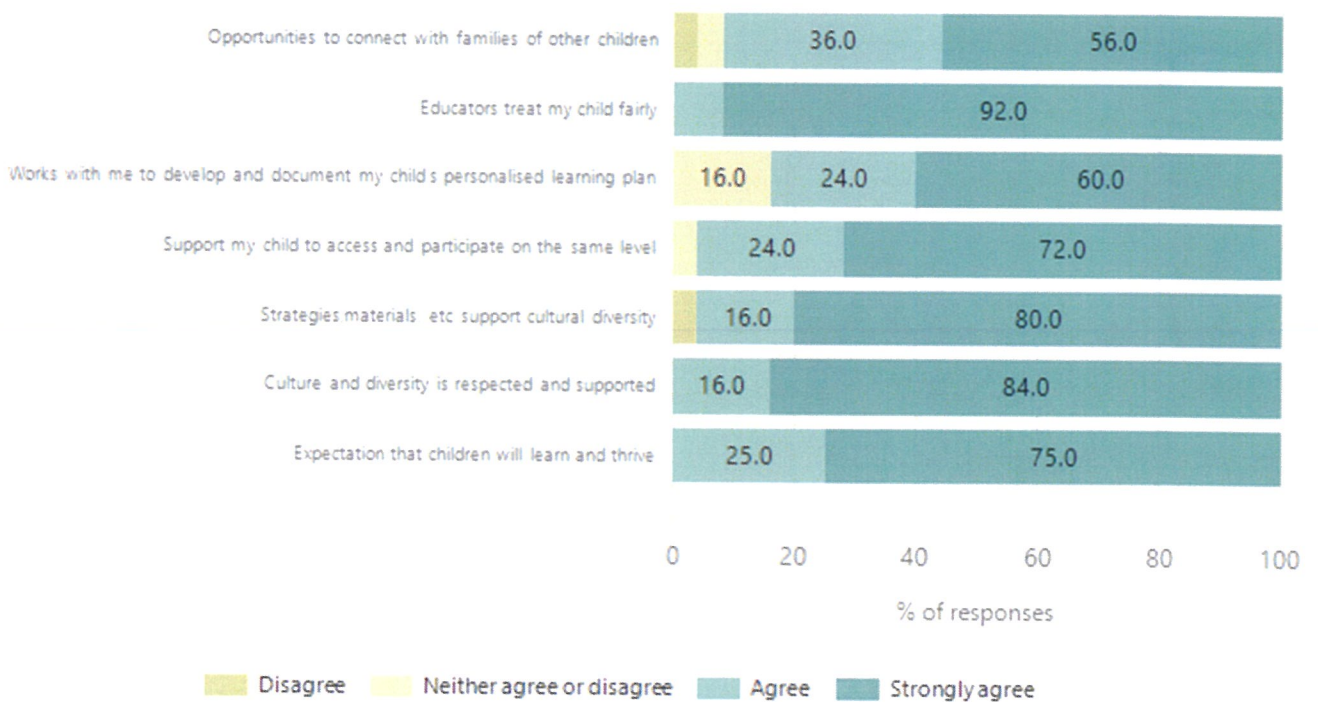
Data Source: 2024 Department for Education Preschool Family Opinions Survey, Term 3 2024.

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
0104 - Coromandel Valley Primary School		4.1%	11.9%
0448 - Upper Sturt Primary School	4.9%		
0524 - Belair Primary School	9.8%	8.2%	9.5%
0565 - Blackwood Primary School		4.1%	4.8%
0972 - Hawthorndene Primary School	39.0%	59.2%	61.9%
9999 - Unknown	36.6%	20.4%	9.5%

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	2
Postgraduate Qualifications	1

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	0.7
Persons	0.0	3.0	0.0	1.0

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	437647.81
Grants: Commonwealth	0
Parent Contributions	25263.00
Fund Raising	4,616.90
Other	2,107.86

Data Source: School supplied data.