

2024 annual report to the Community

Belair Jean Bonython Kindergarten

Belair Jean Bonython Kindergarten number: 4665

Partnership: Mitcham Hills



Preschool director:

Rebekah Ward

Signature

Date of endorsement:

05/02/2025



Context Statement

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

Governing Council Report



Preschool Attendance

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2021 centre	95.5%	96.2%	94.3%	92.9%
2022 centre	89.2%	83.8%	77.8%	86.1%
2023 centre	96.1%	89.5%	93.5%	94.8%
2024 centre	95.5%		85.6%	

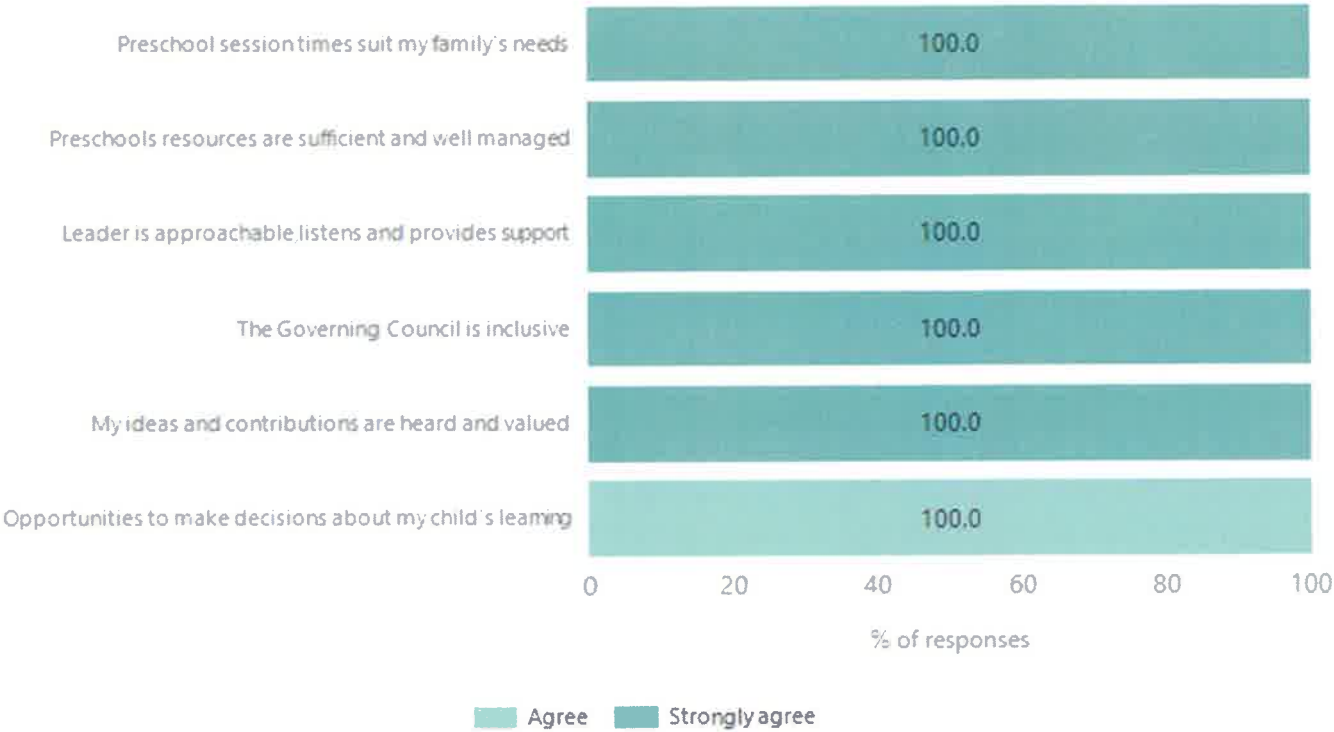
Based on attendances recorded in the two-week reference period each term. Data for eligible enrolments as described in the department's Enrolment policy. Attendance rates may differ to previous reporting with the transfer from calculations based on deemed attendance to actual attendance using booked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

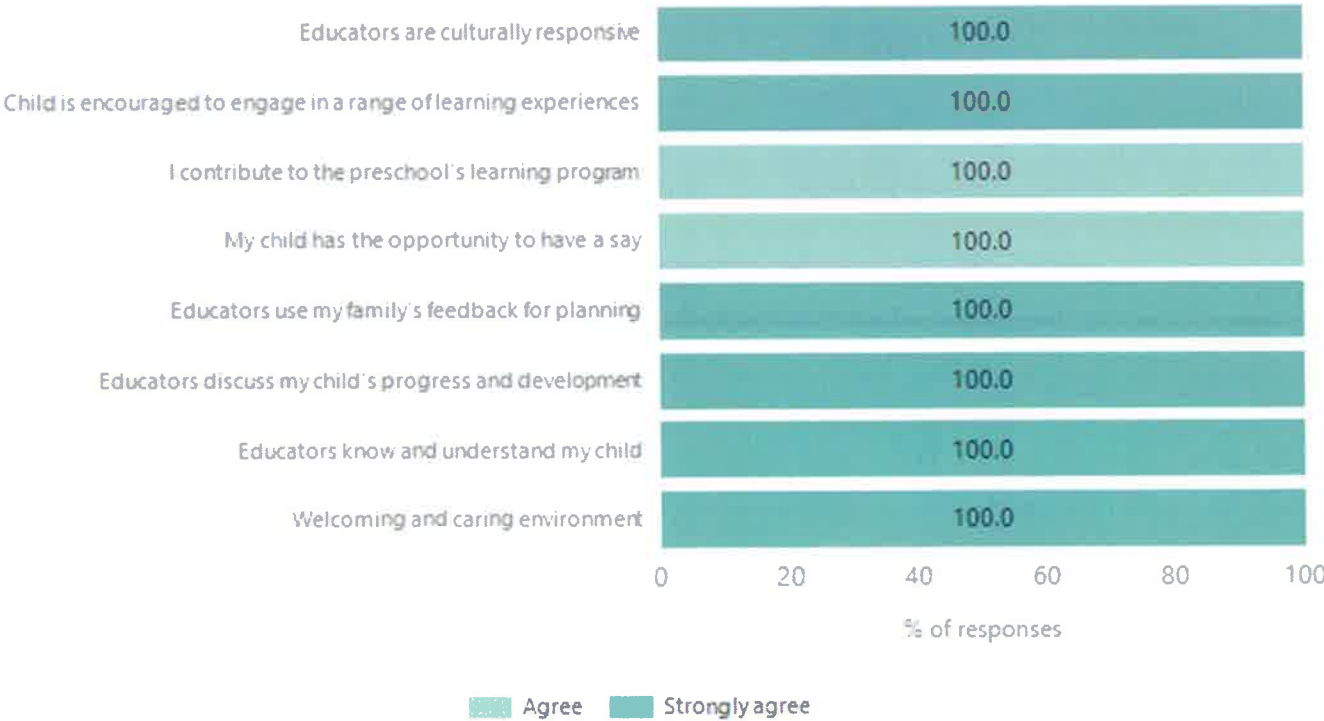
Preschool Family Opinion Survey

Governance, Leadership and Management



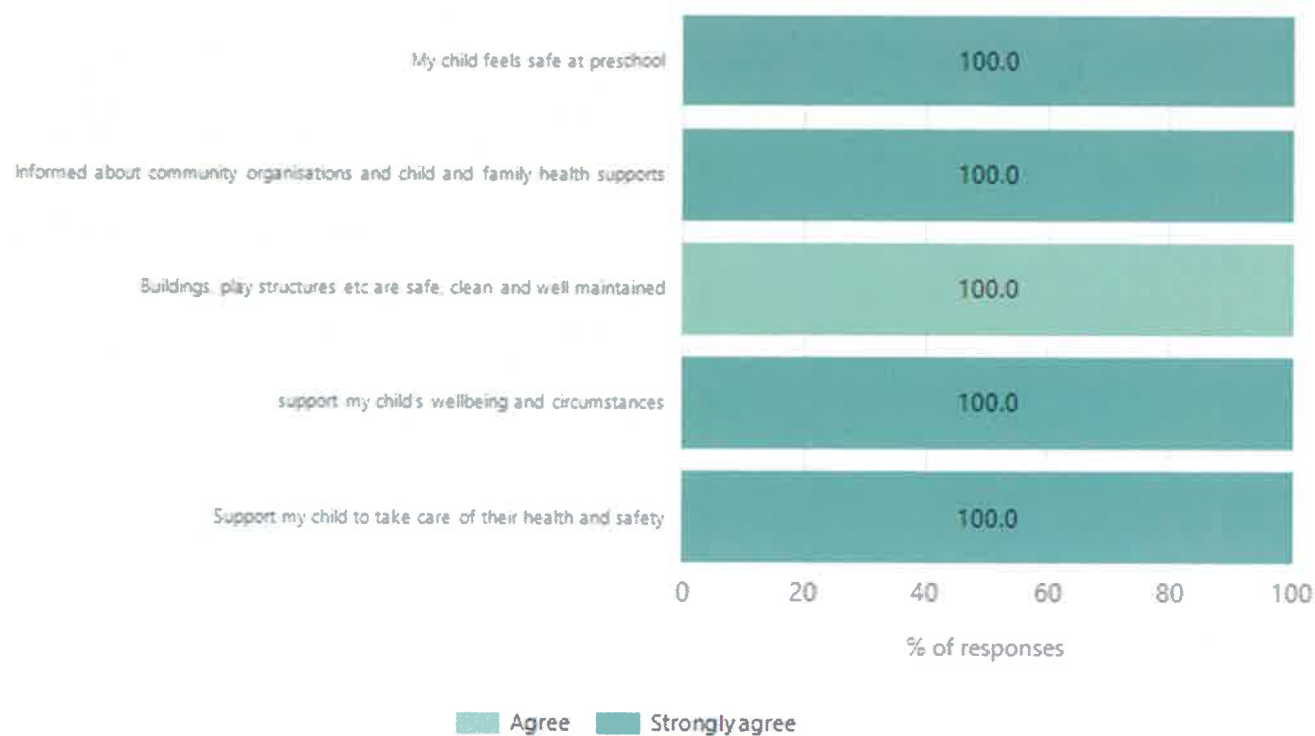
Data Source: 2024 Department for Education Preschool Family Opinions Survey, Term 3 2024.

Quality of Teaching and Learning



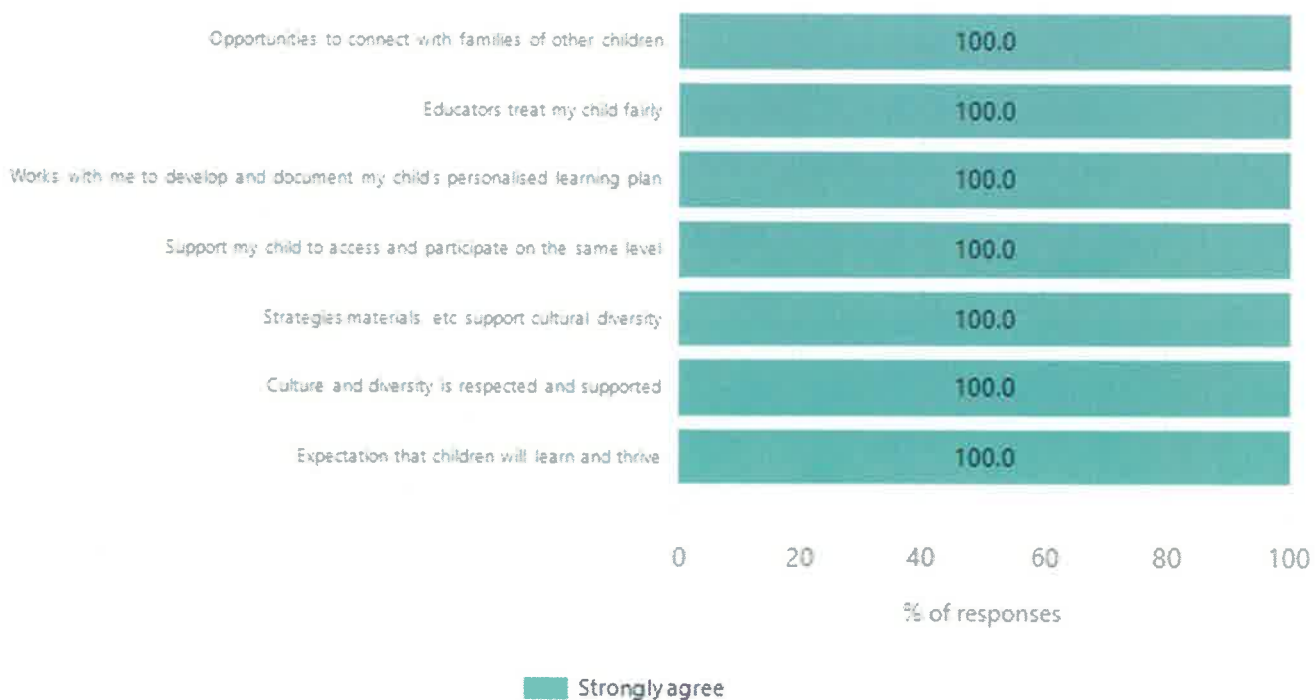
Data Source: 2024 Department for Education Preschool Family Opinions Survey, Term 3 2024.

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
0524 - Belair Primary School	90.9%	75.8%	64.3%
0972 - Hawthorndene Primary School		3.2%	
6344 - Saint John's Grammar School:Junior School		3.2%	
9999 - Unknown	4.6%	11.3%	35.7%

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 of Qualifications
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 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	0.8
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	\$19,808
Grants: Commonwealth	
Parent Contributions	\$42,848
Fund Raising	\$40
Other	

Data Source: School supplied data.

2024 GOVERNING COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT

It was a pleasure to represent the Governing Council of Belair Jean Bonython Kindergarten as Chairperson during 2024.

Last year the Governing Council comprised of representatives from 11 different families along with Kindergarten Director, Bec Ward. In the middle of the year, we farewelled 2 of those members as their little ones started school and welcomed one of the mid-year intake families to the fold. As a team we met on two occasions each term to discuss matters related to the general operations of the kindy with each agenda consisting of a summary of the curriculum, financial updates, health and safety issues, building and maintenance matters, discussions around the Reconciliation Action Plan and planning of upcoming events.

We were lucky to not have many maintenance issues to discuss through the course of the year. Ongoing discussions occurred around redoing the retaining wall around the perimeter which is planned for construction during 2025. I believe this will be an exciting project for the new Governing Council members to be a part of, with this project extending to the design of a playground upgrade as well. We also discussed having regular audits of the surrounding trees which the kindy diligently organises to help ensure the health of the trees supports a safe learning environment and play space.

Belair Jean Bonython is a wonderful community focused kindy where families are encouraged to be involved in small jobs, such as yard clean up and washing of smocks and towels that often tell the story of how much fun has been had during the day. As a consequence of the yard not being well respected by the wider community during the out of hours times, the decision was made to stop access to the kindy playground, however, families still came on weekends to keep the yard tidy and ready for action the following week. I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who contributed their time to help the education staff create such a positive learning environment.

One of the parents of the 2024 student cohort kindly set up a Facebook Page for families which provided a platform for concerns to be raised to Governing Council and communication of social events and upcoming kindy reminders, which provided a useful communications and collaboration tool in addition to the Seesaw App. Governing Council organised and coordinated holiday catch ups at a variety of playground locations and the kids and families loved the opportunity to catch up with their friends outside of the kindy term and there was always lots of laughter and fun had by all.

The Governing Council had the pleasure of being involved in a variety of activities held throughout the year with a highlight being the Book Week Pyjama Night where children came to kindy in their PJs and listened to books read by parent volunteers whilst eating popcorn and drinking hot chocolate served by Governing Council members. Governing Council also helped to plan the kindy entry in the Blackwood Christmas Pageant, and it was delightful to see the happy, smiling faces of brightly decorated Christmas tree clad children proudly walking with their kindy.

One of the initiatives that has been so well developed by Belair Jean Bonython Kindergarten is the Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). The kindy has worked hard on creating a progressive, inclusive plan that is of a sufficient high standard to have been accepted for publication and public access. To maintain this publication, attendance of family members at meetings held each term to contribute ideas and feedback is required. Governing Council spent time last year trying to work out how to make these

meetings more accessible to families. I was lucky enough to be able to attend all the RAP meetings and found them to be informative and educational. It was wonderful to hear and see what the kindy is doing to acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples within their learning programs and to educate our young children on ways in which they can develop relationships and respect in the area of reconciliation. I would encourage as many families as possible to be involved in this brilliant initiative.

2024 had some periods of adaptation and change with the farewelling of the previous year's mid-year intake students as they headed off to school and the introduction of the new mid-year students. The students that had already had 6 months of kindy loved stepping up and helping the new students to learn the kindy routine. The kindy celebrated the 2023 mid-year intake student's end of kindy with a lovely graduation ceremony held at the kindy and some of the families also met at the Belair Hotel to wish them well with the kids excitedly telling their teachers they were going to the pub!!! The graduation ceremony at the end of the year was another highlight for many families as they got to see how much their children had grown and developed in confidence.

The 2024 cohort of students also showed amazing resilience and adaptation when Bec sadly needed to take some time off for health reasons. Rikki confidently stepped into Bec's role with the support of Mel and the other staff. The children were so amazingly supported during this time and despite being offsite Bec checked in regularly to support her staff during her absence. The children were very excited to have Bec back at the Kindy in Term 4.

Throughout the kindy year the children enjoyed regular catch ups with their Year 4 buddies from Belair Primary School. The children developed some beautiful relationships with the older students and were given the opportunity to become more familiar with the Belair Primary School grounds. From the cohort of 56 children who attended Belair Jean Bonython last year, 55 of those students moved together to Belair Primary School to begin the next exciting chapter of their lives, with my son, Thomas being one of them. Being so familiar with the school and some of the teachers and students has made this transition seamless for my somewhat shy little boy who can experience anxiety in new unfamiliar situations. It makes me feel so thankful that he was able to be a part of such a supportive and nurturing community to the point where he has developed a newfound confidence.

I would like to extend a special thanks to the other Governing Council members for their time and contributions throughout the year assisting the amazing educational team that makes Belair Jean Bonython Kindy such a wonderful place to attend. Bec, Rikki, Melanie, Mel, and the other staff members who supported our children throughout the year are all such bright, happy, welcoming, supportive and nurturing educators. For those of you who are starting at the kindy for the first time this year, I can confidently say your children are in great hands and they will have the most amazing introduction to their schooling here at Belair Jean Bonython.

Thank you.

Warmest regards,

Rachel O'Grady

Chairperson 2024