

2024 annual report to the  
Community

Mitcham Village Kindergarten

Mitcham Village Kindergarten number: 4683  
Partnership: Mitcham Plains



Preschool director:

Lucy Kuchel

Date of endorsement:

10/05/2025



# Context Statement

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

## Governing Council Report

### Mitcham Village Kindergarten - 2024 Governing Council Report

#### Kindergarten Program Changes

The 2024 Kindy year began with a period of change for Mitcham Village Kindergarten. Lucy Kuchel took over the role of director and, supported by teachers, Courtney and Taetia, began to make improvements to the space and curriculum to maximise the positive impact on the children. As a result of Department guidelines, changes were also made to kindergarten operation hours, extending the attendance hours for Tuesday and Wednesday from 8.45 am to 3.30pm, and moving to alternate Thursdays, 8.45 am to 11.30 am. 2024 also saw a dramatic growth in numbers attending our Wednesday morning Playgroup session, which we hope will see increasing interest from those families in the kindergarten program.

#### Learning Focus

There was a strong focus on supporting and strengthening children's capacity to actively engage within the learning environment and support their own thinking. The emphasis was on improving the children's levels of engagement within the learning environment and sharing their thinking with their teachers and fellow students. A play-based learning model was used extensively throughout the year. Children were encouraged to be inquisitive with their environment and were extended by their own questioning of things that interested them, both indoors and outside. The children thoroughly enjoyed the 'Eating a Rainbow' activity, as they were provided with the opportunity to try a fruit or vegetable of different colours each week in a coordinated manner. The children were encouraged to branch out from their usual food preferences through the exploration of each colour group. The children also participated with enthusiasm in both the simultaneous Book Reading Week 2024 and Book Week celebrations.

#### Excursions and Incursions

Across the course of the year excursions and incursions occurred by engaging with the local community. The children took excursions to nearby Mitcham Reserve to explore the local environment, paying particular attention to:

- the 'living' and 'non-living' within the creek area;
- ways to keep our environment clean, and where to put rubbish;
- mapping our surroundings.

The children also enjoyed a wonderful and engaging visit from a Police Officer, learning about the role of the police force in keeping the community safe and about road safety. A highlight of the year has been the introduction of short-stay animal visitors from the Nature Education Centre. The children cherished the opportunity to learn about various Australian animals by observing them up close over the course of their stay.

#### Family Connection

There were several opportunities provided throughout the year for families to gather and get to catch up. At the beginning of the kindy year, we held a Pizza Night combined with the AGM. Immediately before the mid-year break there was a Campfire Night at which we celebrated the graduation of the mid-year intake children. There was also an End of Year celebration where the children moving on to Primary School were recognised and all the children performed songs for their families in the audience. In addition to these wonderful celebrations, there was also the introduction of "VIP Morning" where the children were encouraged to invite someone special to come along to share their favourite kindy activities and see the wonderful space in which they learn and play. Finally, there was also the introduction of Information Sessions for New Parents which has been a welcome inclusion for parents of new starters.

#### Administration

One of the key objectives in 2024 to ensure continued improvement to the management of Mitcham Village Kindergarten was to make much needed updates to technology, a project which will be ongoing. The Committee has approved an investment in a new Mitcham Village Kindergarten website which will benefit both the families of existing students and encourage applications from new families.

At the conclusion of the year, the Governing Council would like to extend our gratitude to everyone that makes up our Mitcham Village Kindergarten community; from our wonderful, dedicated educators, Lucy, Courtney and Taetia, to the families and, most importantly, the children, who have had an amazing and transformative year. We thank Courtney for the care she has shown for the children and wish her all the best as she moves on to her next endeavour.

We are excited for all the future improvements to come and the wonderful new possibilities for growth and learning at Mitcham Village.

# Preschool Attendance

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2021 centre	94.2%	84.2%	95.3%	54.3%
2022 centre	45.9%	87.6%	88.6%	92.6%
2023 centre	96.5%	90.6%	88.2%	88.5%
2024 centre	85.3%		86.2%	

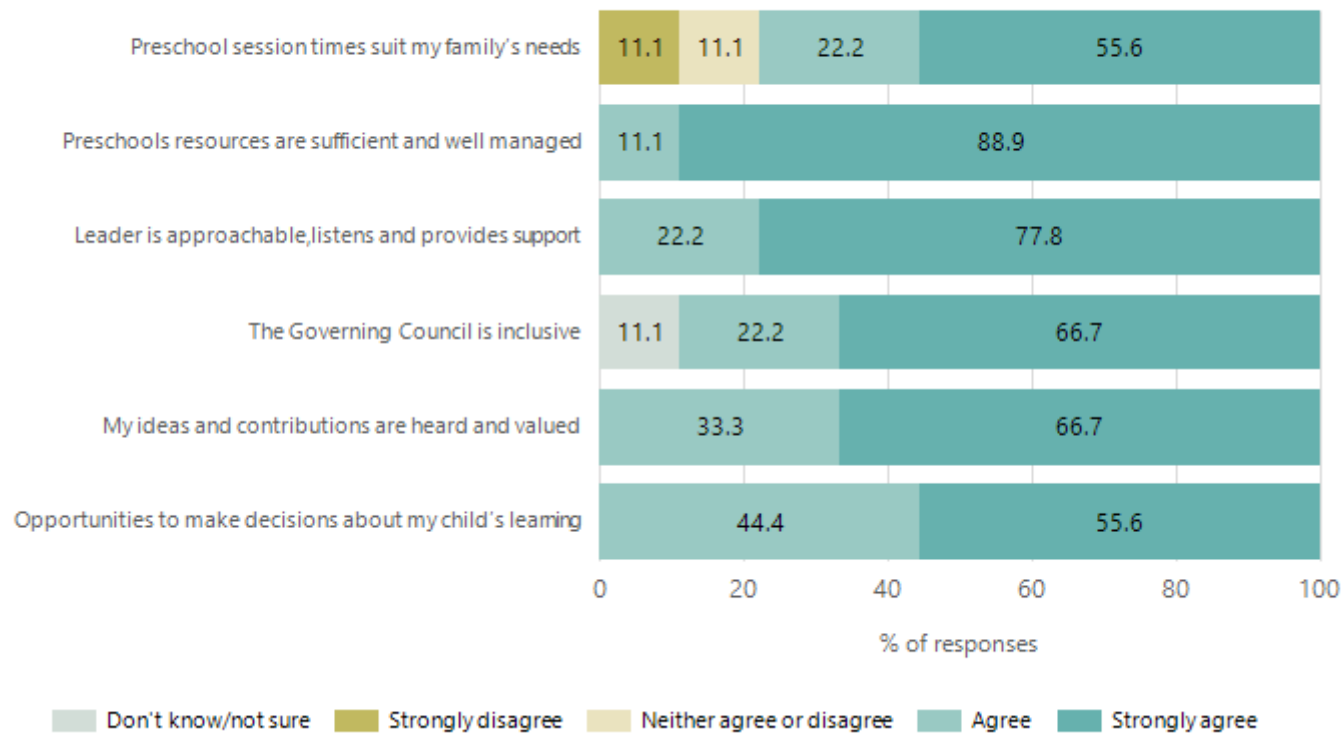
Based on attendances recorded in the two-week reference period each term. Data for eligible enrolments as described in the department's Enrolment policy. Attendance rates may differ to previous reporting with the transfer from calculations based on deemed attendance to actual attendance using booked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

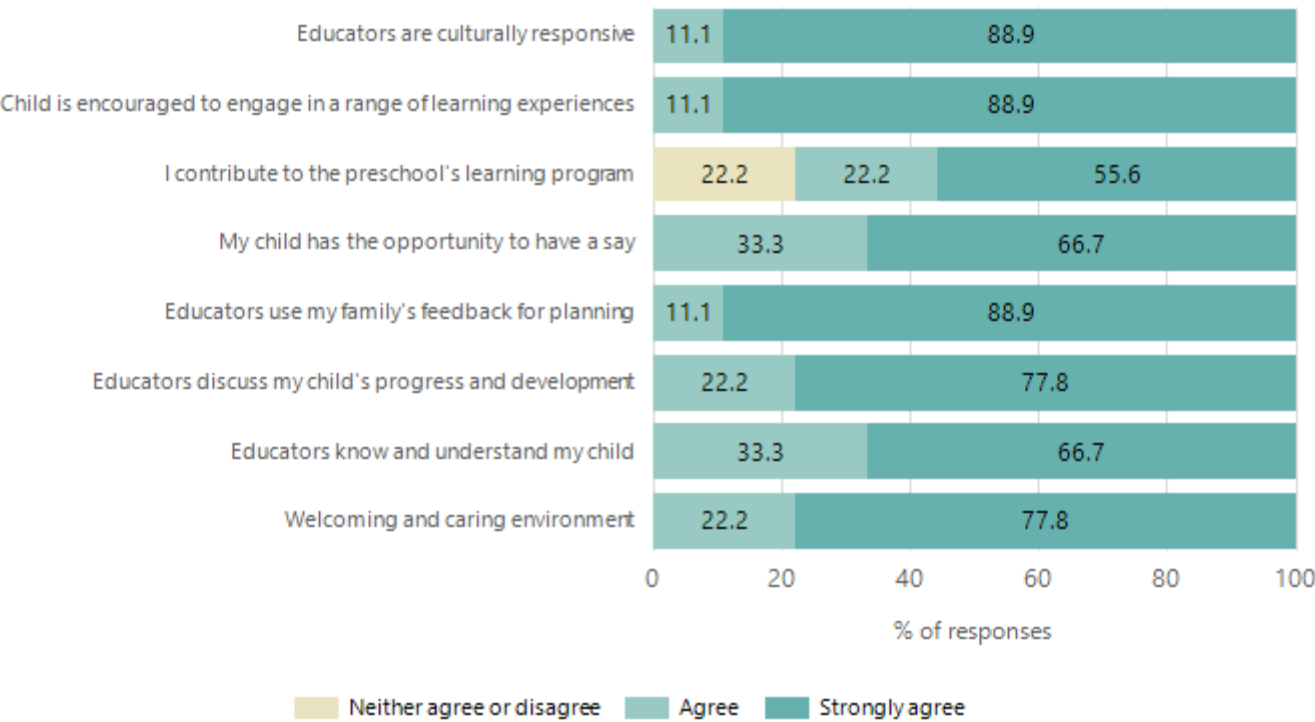
# Preschool Family Opinion Survey

## Governance, Leadership and Management



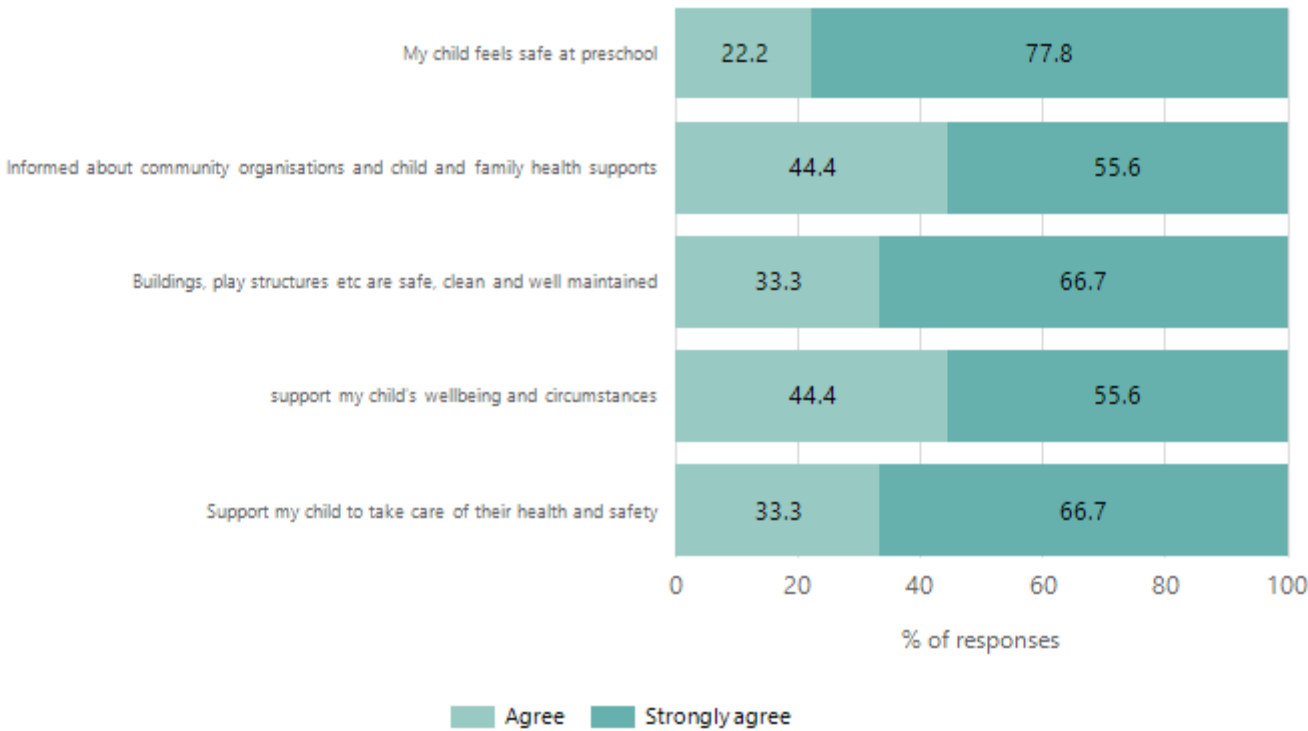
Data Source: 2024 Department for Education Preschool Family Opinions Survey, Term 3 2024.

# Quality of Teaching and Learning



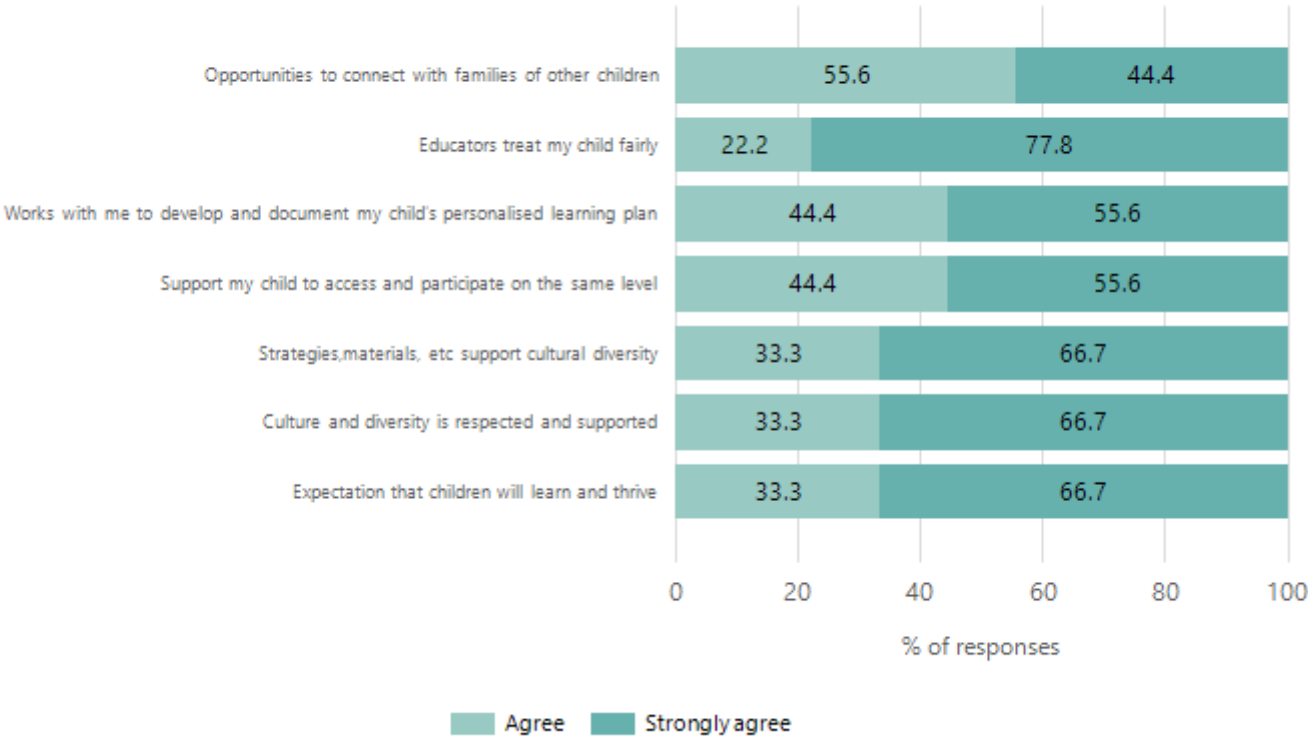
Data Source: 2024 Department for Education Preschool Family Opinions Survey, Term 3 2024.

# 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
Unknown	5.6%		4.6%
0270 - Mitcham Primary School	38.9%	50.0%	68.2%
0448 - Upper Sturt Primary School	5.6%		
0475 - Westbourne Park Primary School	5.6%		
0723 - Colonel Light Gardens Primary School			9.1%
9037 - St Joseph's School - Kingswood	5.6%	4.2%	9.1%
9999 - Unknown	38.9%	45.8%	9.1%

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

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	1.5	0.0	0.4
Persons	0.0	2.0	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	\$239,778.19
Grants: Commonwealth	\$0
Parent Contributions	\$14,357.50
Fund Raising	\$1,265
Other	\$4,821

Data Source: School supplied data.