

2024 annual report to the Community

Netherby Kindergarten

Netherby Kindergarten number: 4684

Partnership: Mitcham Plains



Preschool director:

Emily Schneider

Date of endorsement:

10/02/2025



Government
of South Australia
Department for Education

Context Statement

Netherby kindergarten is a part-time stand-alone kindergarten located in the Mitcham Council area. The kindergarten is well maintained with large, light filled and natural spaces for the children to explore and learn within. Our families comment regularly on our calm and welcoming environment, reflecting our philosophy and values of 'present, peaceful and purposeful.'

We have an abundance of shady trees, flowering bushes and veggie gardens that the children help tend to. Our nature play is embedded in our program and opportunities are abundant, as we access our Paddock and Bush Garden daily in the cooler months. We are so thankful for our natural setting and the local wildlife. We regularly see ducks with their ducklings, koalas, a variety of birds, and last year we even observed an echidna walking through our garden. On Fridays we run an outdoor playgroup, which families can attend casually and in lead up to transitioning to their kindy enrolment. The playgroup is held for children 0 - 5 years of age and is very popular. We often see 50+ families attend each week. Children attend local Early Learning Centres or Childcare Centres as well as our kindergarten program and go on to attend the local schools in our area.

Further information about Netherby Kindergarten is available on the centres website, as well as the Australian Childrens Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA) website.

Governing Council Report

2024 at Netherby Kindy was another year full of incredible connection, development and learning for the students (and the parents alike). The staff did a brilliant job of managing the integration of new cohorts of children and their families at the beginning of semester one and two as the mid-year intake process was in full swing.

Throughout the year different parents/caregivers were invited into the kindy to share their knowledge and support different activities. The children got to climb through an ambulance, learn about their poo and did bush tucker cooking among other things.

The children experienced many incursions to enhance their learning – this included members of the fire department discussing fire safety, Trent Hill, sharing dreamtime stories and Sea Shepherd reps discussing the importance of caring for the environment.

Other learning highlights in 2024 were the winter campfires (a favourite of the children), an excursion to the Urrbrae Wetlands and the introduction and integration of Kurna language into songs and general vocabulary linked to the natural environment around the kindy. This coincided with the early development of Netherby's reconciliation action plan.

Book week was once again a hive of excitement as the children dressed up as their favourite characters but were clearly outshone by the staff's outfits.

Each weekend, a different family would come up to the kindy and take care of the chickens, which further enhanced the children and their family's connection to this space.

In term 4, Brett and Emily organised a working bee, one Saturday morning, which was great fun as well as productive.

Once again, Netherby Art Show and End of year concert were exciting occasions for the children to share their kindergarten with family and friends.

The art show is the key fundraising event of the year and the governing council (not including me) did a great job of getting donations from businesses in the local area and beyond for the silent auction. People donated wine for the wine wall, which was super successful. The Netherby community was extremely generous and helped raise over \$6000 on that night in 2024. As is the flow of things the money raised one year supports improvements at the kindy the following year. In 2024 the kindy added some new benches and storage for the sandpit as well as a much-needed new swing set.

2024 felt like it took on a theme of growing the children and their family's connection with the beautiful space here and I hope that continues in 2025.

I want to end by acknowledging the quality of the staff at Netherby and the amazing job they do in nurturing our children's natural development, seeing them as individuals and preparing them so well for the realities of mainstream schooling!

Preschool Attendance

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2021 centre	92.4%	94.6%	94.7%	93.5%
2022 centre	95.6%	95.6%	83.5%	90.6%
2023 centre	94.3%	88.5%	88.6%	92.1%
2024 centre	92.9%		90%	

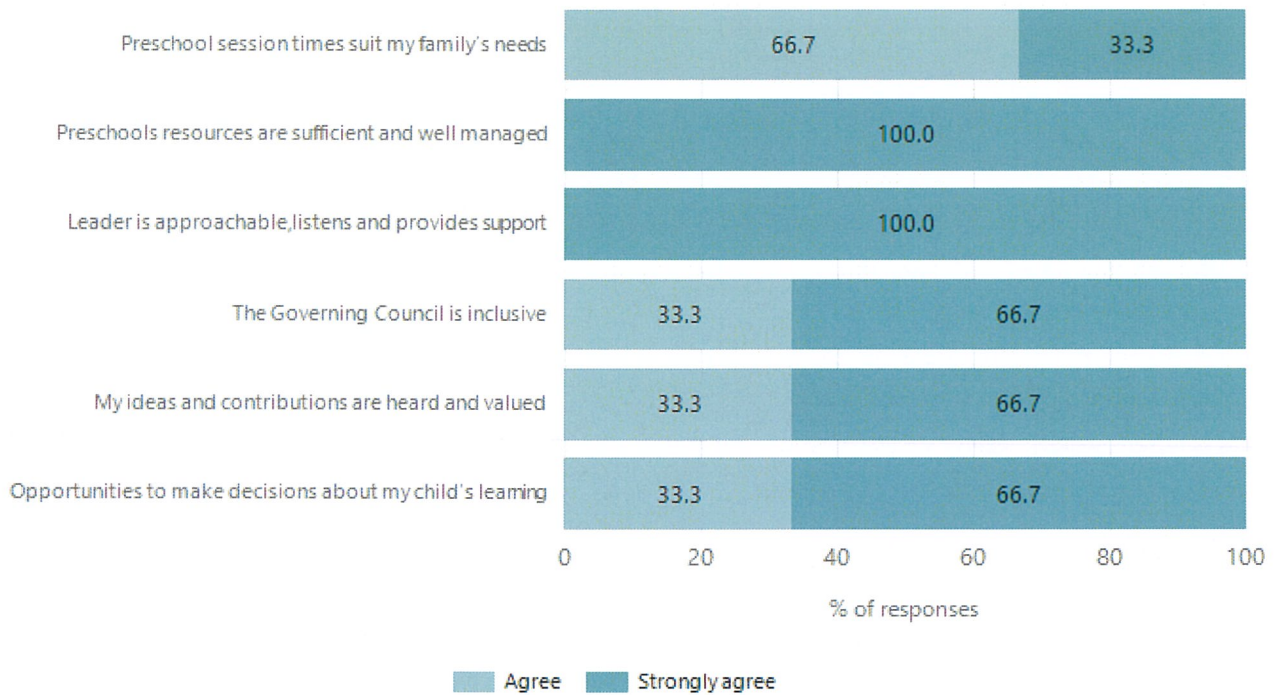
Based on attendances recorded in the two-week reference period each term. Data for eligible enrolments as described in the department's Enrolment policy. Attendance rates may differ to previous reporting with the transfer from calculations based on deemed attendance to actual attendance using booked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

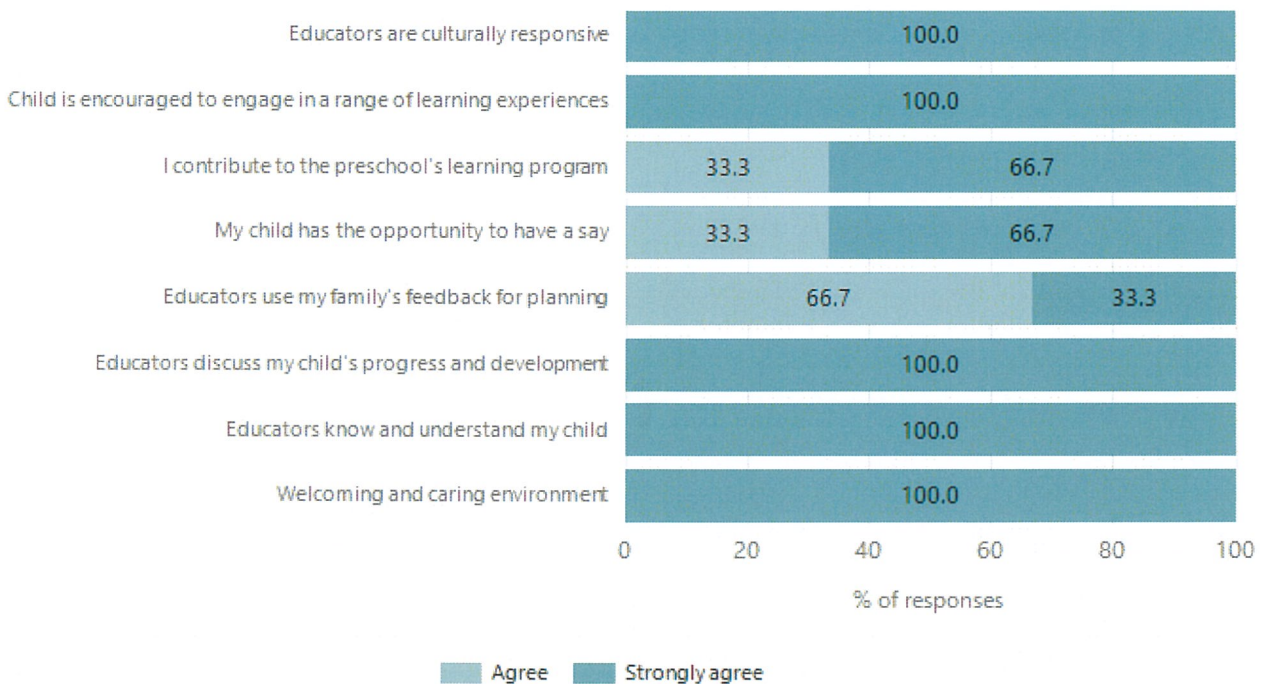
Preschool Family Opinion Survey

Governance, Leadership and Management



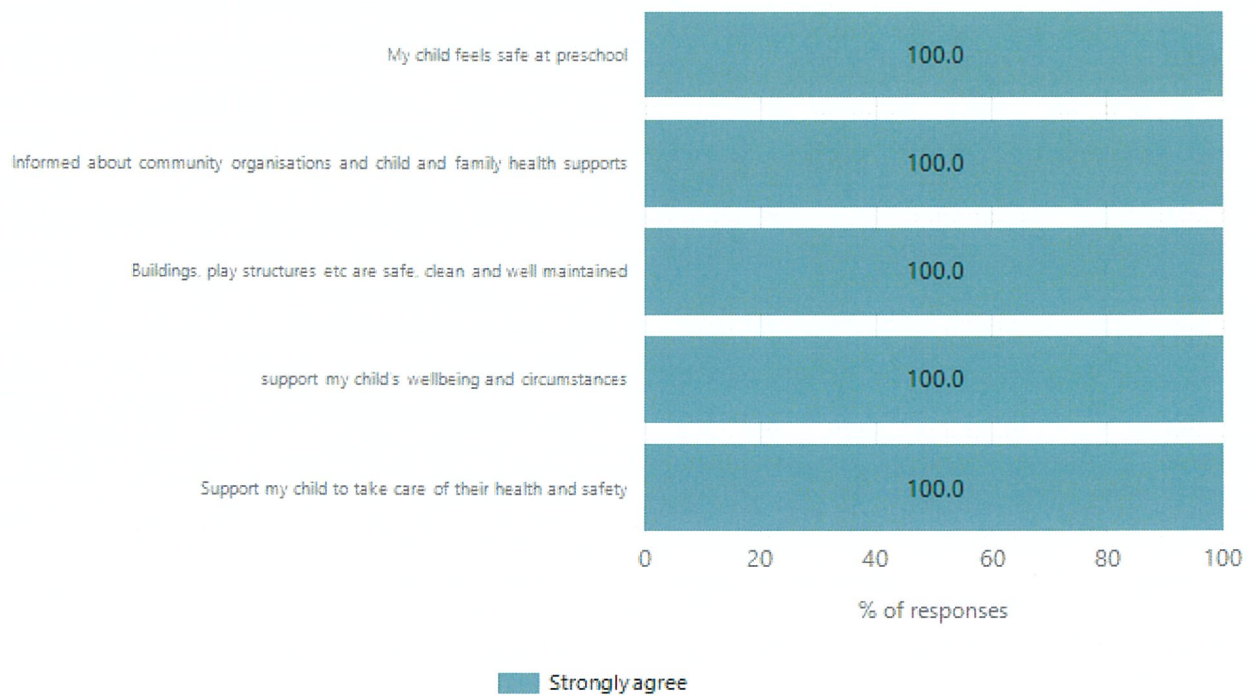
Data Source: 2024 Department for Education Preschool Family Opinions Survey, Term 3 2024.

Quality of Teaching and Learning



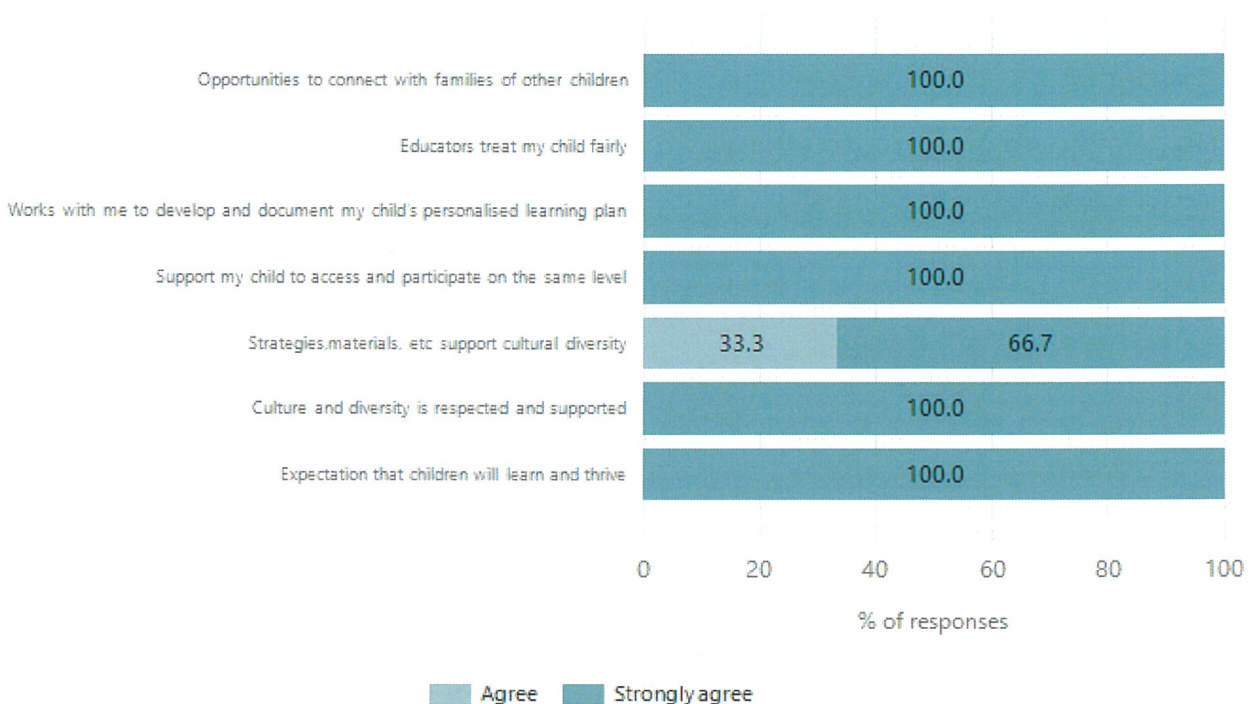
Data Source: 2024 Department for Education Preschool Family Opinions Survey, Term 3 2024.

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
0270 - Mitcham Primary School	42.6%	25.4%	31.7%
0447 - Unley Primary School		4.5%	
1063 - Highgate School	11.1%	17.9%	11.7%
8090 - Walford Anglican School for Girls			3.3%
9037 - St Joseph's School - Kingswood	16.7%	10.5%	16.7%
9098 - Concordia College - St John's Campus	3.7%		3.3%
9999 - Unknown	18.5%	23.9%	30.0%

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	1
Postgraduate Qualifications	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	2.2	0.0	1.7
Persons	0.0	3.0	0.0	3.0

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	442501.55
Grants: Commonwealth	NIL
Parent Contributions	53,581
Fund Raising	14,954
Other	NIL

Data Source: School supplied data.