

2024 annual report to the Community

# Waikerie Children's Centre Inc

Waikerie Children's Centre Inc number: 6548

Partnership: Waikerie



Preschool director:

Christina Ziegler

Date of endorsement:

10/02/2025



Government  
of South Australia  
Department for Education

# Context Statement

Information about Waikerie Children's Centre Inc is available on the centres website, as well as the Australian Childrens Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA) website.

## Governing Council Report

2024 has seen another busy year for the Waikerie Children’s Centre, both in the learning and physical environment.

Repairs have finally been completed following the flooding event in 2023, with the installation of a new stove in the childcare kitchen and the linoleum in the childcare room being laid in January. New lighting was installed throughout the centre, enabling staff to adjust the light level to suit activities and children’s needs. New bark chips were installed in the play areas to ensure the playground meets safety standards and several trees were assessed, then removed for workplace safety.

The first mid-year graduation was held for the kindy students commencing their school journey in Term 3. Some concerns about the lack of heating in the Waikerie High School Hall were raised and possible alternatives were discussed. This will need to be discussed further in 2025. Two enrolment groups have resulted in additional challenges for the centre; including but not limited to, Governing Council members finishing mid-year, double transitions (school and kindy), double reporting and increase in tracking operations. We thank the kindy staff for their efforts during the roll out of the mid-year intake.

Lisa organised a fantastic workshop for families called “Bringing up Great Kids” in Term 4, run by Elly from Relationships Australia. The workshop saw around 10 parents and staff engage in sessions around positive parenting and was received well by all participants. Following the success of the workshop, further parent engagement sessions were highlighted as a possibility for 2025.

The family Christmas night was well attended in December. Kindy and childcare children showed off their wonderful singing talents with several songs enjoyed by all parents and friends. Thank you to the staff for their efforts in engaging with the community after hours. It was a fabulous night for all.

Discussions commenced regarding the 3-year-old preschool rollout. Governing Council passed the motion in November to not submit an expression of interest for a 2026 introduction as we believe the Waikerie Children’s Centre will need additional time to prepare for including 3-year-olds in a preschool program. The proposed model also raised many concerns for members, and additional information and discussions will need to occur in 2025 before proceeding further.

Several staff were farewelled throughout 2024, including Gilda, Joan, Amanda, Renee, Sara and Chantelle. We wish to thank all staff for the role they play in supporting families and children at the centre. You are invaluable to the services provided.

Elissa Koch

## Preschool Attendance

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2021 centre	84.1%	88%	90.4%	68.3%
2022 centre	88.2%	74.1%	75.9%	84.7%
2023 centre	94%	89.7%	86.3%	85.5%
2024 centre	88.1%		82.9%	

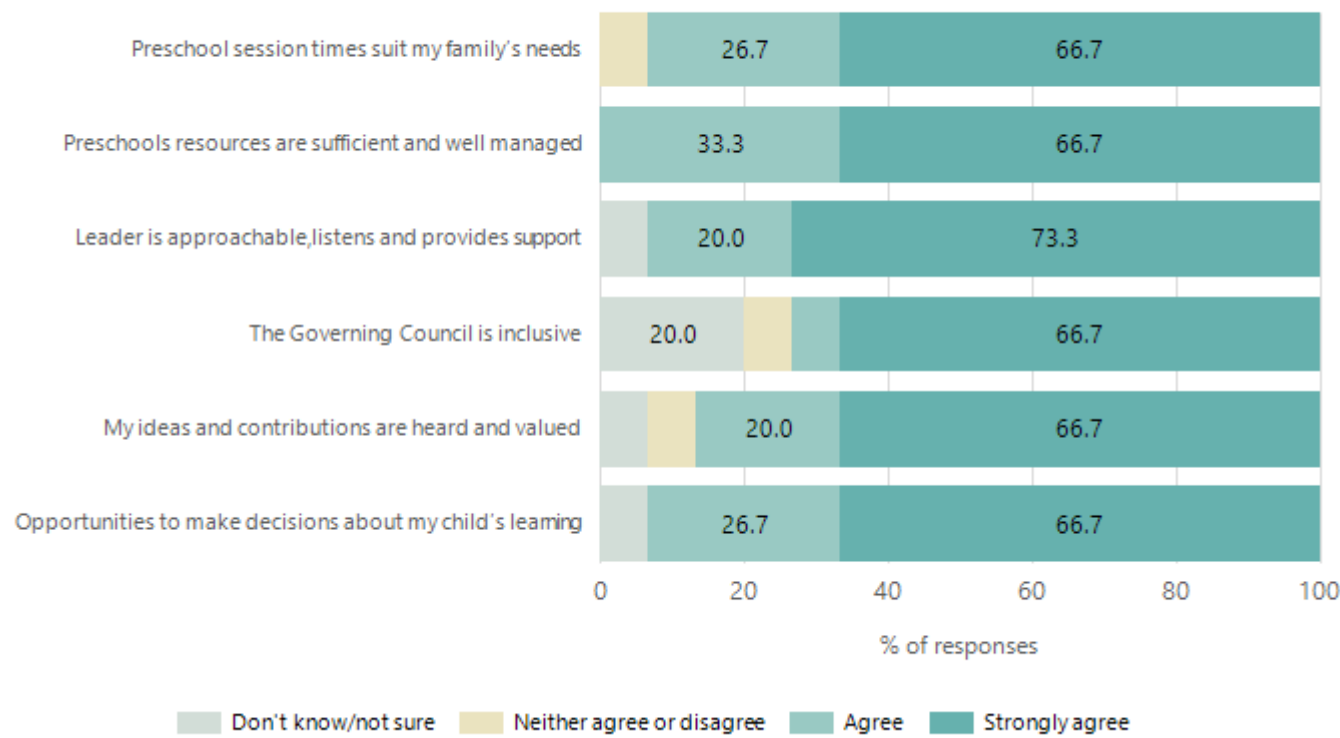
Based on attendances recorded in the two-week reference period each term. Data for eligible enrolments as described in the department's Enrolment policy. Attendance rates may differ to previous reporting with the transfer from calculations based on deemed attendance to actual attendance using booked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

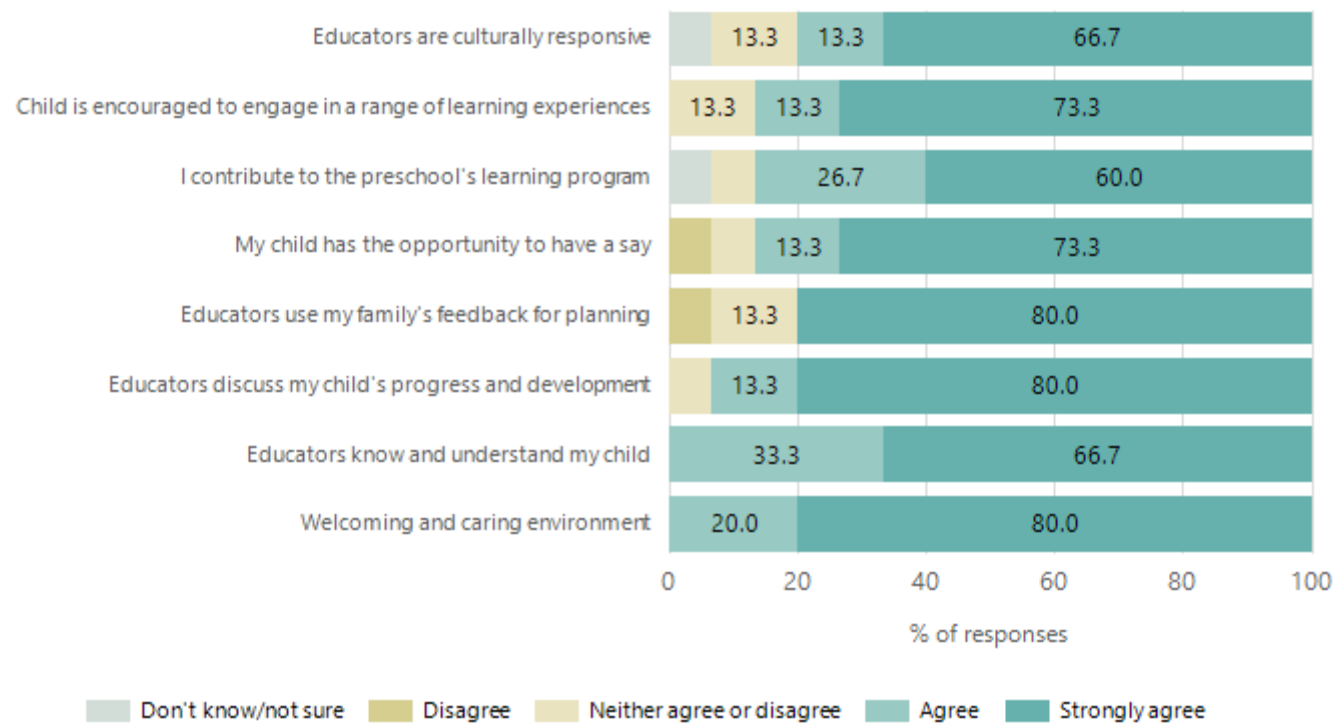
# Preschool Family Opinion Survey

## Governance, Leadership and Management



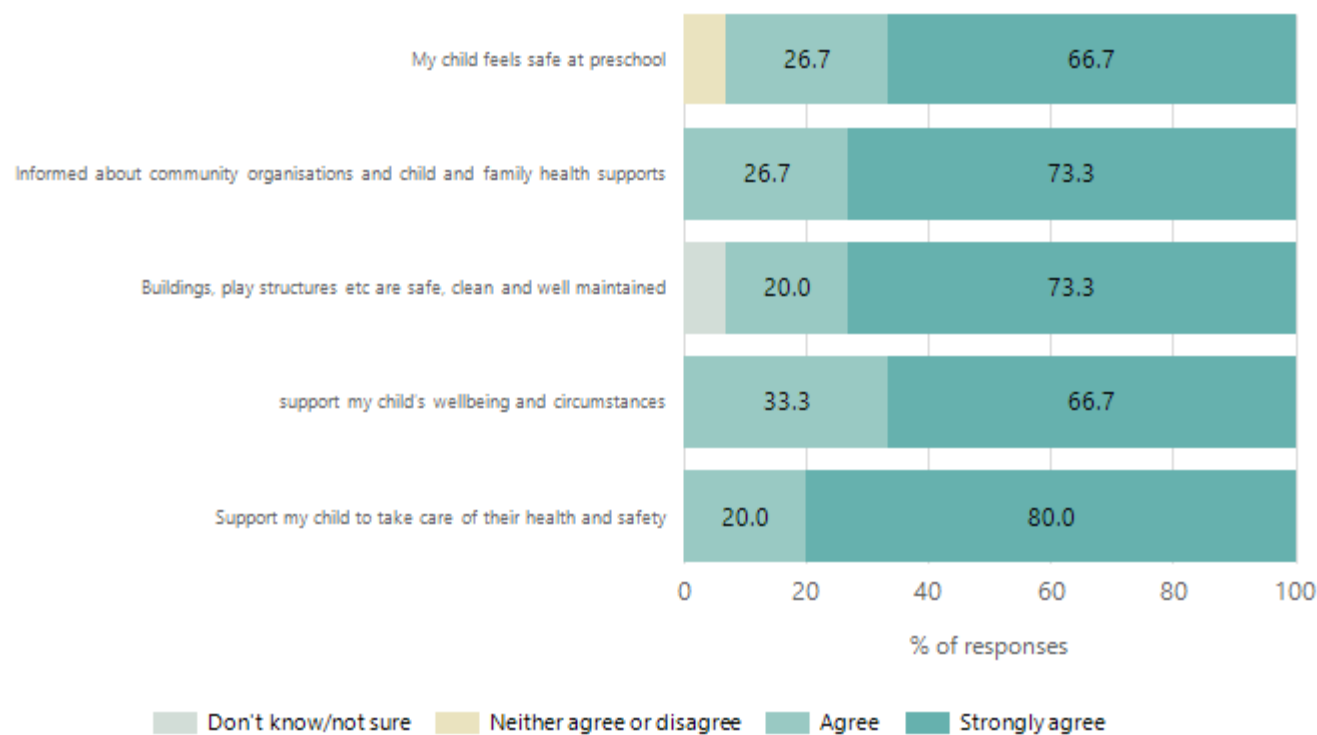
Data Source: 2024 Department for Education Preschool Family Opinions Survey, Term 3 2024.

## Quality of Teaching and Learning



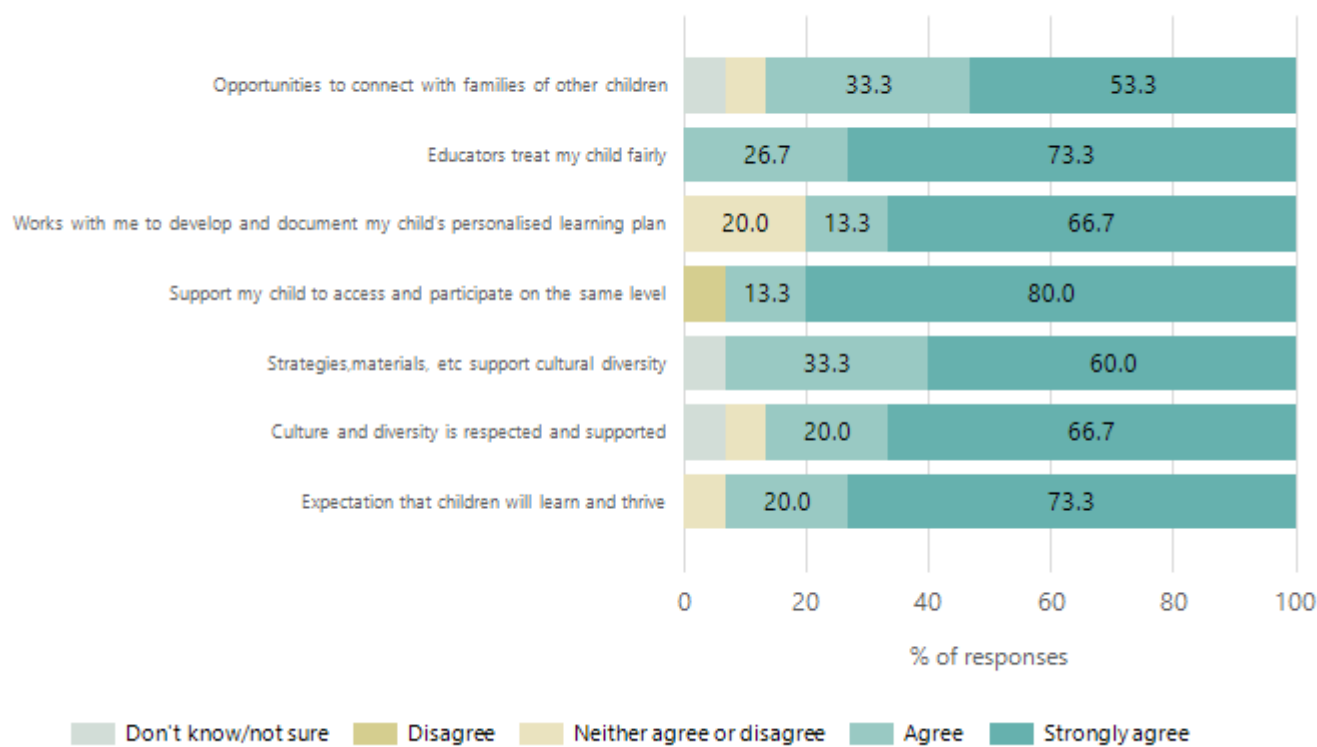
Data Source: 2024 Department for Education Preschool Family Opinions Survey, Term 3 2024.

# 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
0372 - Ramco Primary School	14.7%	27.7%	41.9%
0456 - Waikerie Primary School	41.2%	47.7%	41.9%
0571 - Blanchetown Primary School	11.8%	3.1%	
8400 - Waikerie Lutheran Primary School	14.7%	6.2%	12.9%
9999 - Unknown	17.7%	15.4%	

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
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	3.0	0.0	1.0
Persons	0.0	4.0	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	651,077.21
Grants: Commonwealth	0
Parent Contributions	20,280.00
Fund Raising	0
Other	1758.13

Data Source: School supplied data.