

2024 annual report to the Community

Mannum Kindergarten



Mannum Kindergarten number: 6550

Partnership: Murraylands



Preschool director:

Beverly Harrison

Date of endorsement:

03/03/2025



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

Context Statement

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

Governing Council Report

2024 was another great year for the Mannum Kindergarten, where we welcomed Bev Harrison as Acting Director as Mary took some well earned time off. As a Governing Council we enjoyed supporting Bev in getting to know our community and we are so happy to have her continuing on in 2025.

Firstly, I'd like to thank Bev and all of the Rural Care and Kindy staff for their hard work, as well as the Governing Council members. There has been so much work done on program development, policy and facility upgrades which continues to benefit the children and their families.

Here is some of the development and policy work done this year –

- Working on Philosophy review together
- Consultation and family voice to give feedback to staff on:
 - Documentation practices
 - Family Event Planning and Review
 - Barefoot play
 - All weather Play
 - Food storage and purchase of fridge
 - Healthy Food and Nutrition
 - Birthday policy
 - Sun safety policy
 - Online communication platforms
- Contribution and feedback to the development and endorsement of:
 - Safe arrivals policy and risk assessment
 - Updated Sleep policy and risk assessment

A major win for the community was in working with the Director and providing support, family voice and endorsement for a change of Kindergarten session times and an increase of spaces in the Rural care program. This has meant more families have been able to benefit from the wonderful child care provided by the Centre.

Over the year, the committee ran several fundraisers raising \$1471.05 for the Mannum Kindergarten. Thank you very much to the Governing Council members, Kindergarten staff and local businesses that contributed to these fundraisers. Because of the committee's hard work fundraising throughout the year, the children were able to enjoy a fun-filled and memorable trip to Monarto Zoo and an end of year Family Performance from the Drumming Monkey's, funded by the Governing Council.

We would also like to thank the Mannum Progress Association who provided a grant for purchase of a new fridge.

I'd like to wish the new Governing Council all the best in continuing to support the great work that the Mannum Kindergarten does in providing a safe, fun and inspiring learning environment for our children.

Kim O'Malley
Chairperson

2024 Director's Report

Our year of thinking and growing together: Laying the foundation for change and improvement.

As we reflect on the past year, it's remarkable to summarise and share our journey of challenges, adventures, and progress. Capturing the passion, discoveries, heart, soul, and inspiration in words is no easy task. Our community has come together with a common purpose: to continually improve the quality of our service for children and families.

The year started with a new Acting Director, a team with open minds for what was to come, a welcoming parent group, and a supportive Governing Council. Our initial focus was on revisiting our Philosophy and Quality Improvement Plan as we got to know each other and set our direction for the year. It was heart-warming to see the joy and enthusiasm in each educator's eyes as they shared what they loved about Mannum and what was important to them both personally and professionally. As we listened to families' hopes and expectations and invited children to share their thoughts, we crafted a guiding statement for our decision-making throughout a year of possibilities and potential.

We soon recognised a high demand for childcare in Mannum, with many on waiting lists or seeking care in other communities. With a shared vision and enthusiasm, educators, families, the Governing Council, and our dedicated DfE Central Office staff collaborated to initiate a two-worker program in Term 2, effectively tripling the available care spaces.

Our Improvement Priority for the year was to enhance children's ability to communicate their thinking and theories. Engaging families in partnership to plan and support children's learning remains a priority. Educators bravely explored new ways to document learning, such as floor books, group displays, and improving our digital documentation platform. The Governing Council provided invaluable support, investing time and ideas, even when meetings ran overtime! An end-of-year review of our pedagogical documentation showed that all children made progress in expressing their thinking, alongside achieving other EYLF outcomes.

A continuous priority is for our educators to grow in cultural responsiveness and understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives. There will always be more to learn and room to grow. During 2024, our connections with families and the community offered opportunities to learn about what home and 'Country' mean to different people. We learned new words and songs in Ngarrindjeri and Pitjantjatjara, shared art experiences with a generous Wiradjuri Nana, participated in Reconciliation and NAIDOC Week celebrations, and enjoyed traditional storytelling. We appreciate families sharing their cultural stories and celebrations, enriching our curriculum and the children's sense of being, belonging, and becoming.

We introduced more opportunities for family and community involvement, responding to feedback from children, families, the Governing Council, and educators. Together, we offered a variety of events, including Family Chat mornings, Family BBQ evenings, our Obstacle-a-thon and Art Gallery, Drumming Monkey performance, Volunteer thank-you morning tea, visits from Emergency services, participation in community Reconciliation Week events, Book Week and Police Band with the school, Graduation Celebrations, and our end-of-year Family Craft event. These events have strengthened connections, supported children's learning, been a very special part of our year, and one of the amazing things about being part of our Mannum Community.

Our educator team have also shared their highlights from 2024 including

- Becoming part of our Mannum team and community. Miss Meg
- Starting the 2 worker Rural care program creating more child spaces and the opportunity for educator collaboration. Miss Nicole
- Exploring the use of floor books to document children's learning and the joy of working with the children and educators in this way. Miss Jess
- The special experience for kindergarten children going to Gorge Wildlife Park, with some children never even having been on a bus before. Miss Brooke
- The children's ongoing interest and excitement in dinosaur and animal small world play. Miss Lena
- The high levels of participation in our family nights, filled with fun, joy and connection and making memories together. Miss Cassy
- Joining the Mannum KRC team and meeting the children and families. Miss Anne
- Refreshed and decluttered inside learning spaces. Mrs Pam
- Children's demonstration of being safe, secure and part of the community. Their willingness to share their learning, request resources and demonstrate engagement. Mrs Jenny
- Making dumplings with the children to celebrate Lunar New Year, being part of a caring, kind and supportive community, which is more than just a workplace, but somewhere that we feel valued, respected and appreciated. Miss Zhen

We have achieved so much together in one short year, working to meet standards, improve curriculum, and enhance quality. We are building a firm foundation for creating opportunities for agency, ensuring everyone feels heard, valued, and included. We are excited to build on this firm foundation, inviting everyone to join us in constructing a quality service: a calm, safe, and engaging learning environment for all. Many thanks to everyone for the important role you play. Let the adventures continue as we look forward to the stories we will create and share together in 2025

Bev Harrison
Acting Director
2024

Preschool Attendance

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2021 centre	90%	80.3%	91.2%	90.3%
2022 centre	84.4%	64.8%	74.4%	80.1%
2023 centre	87.4%	88.5%	82.4%	82.5%
2024 centre	87.1%		80%	

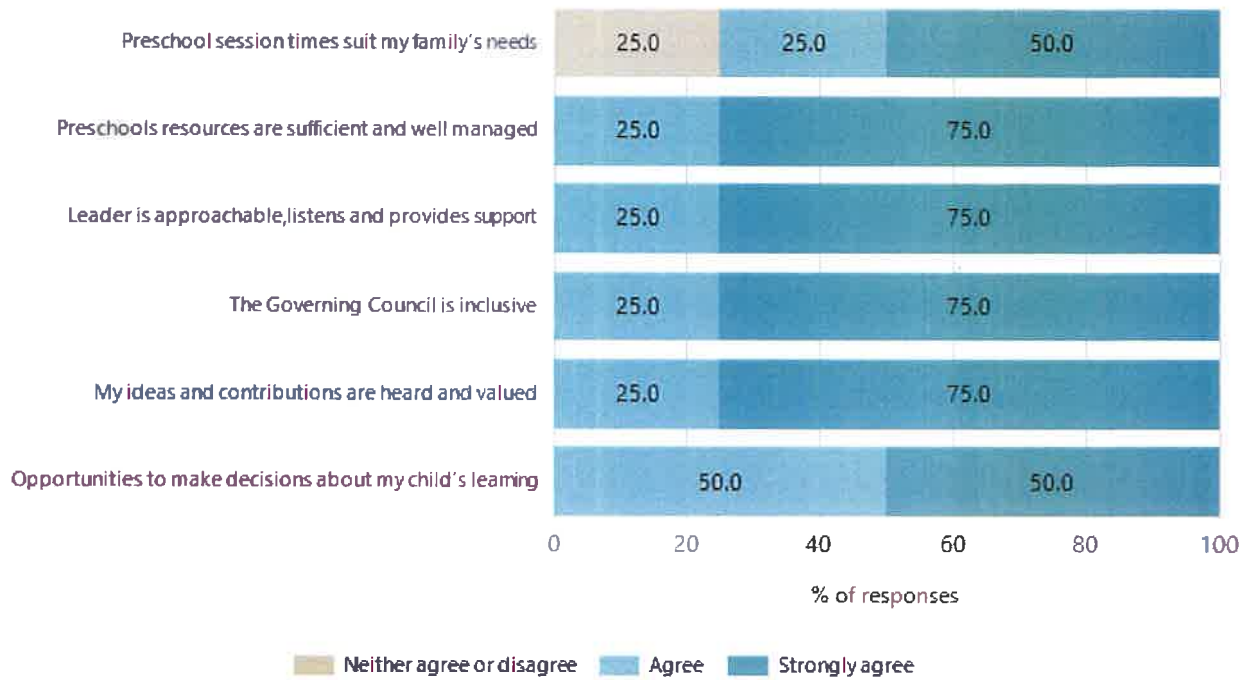
Based on attendances recorded in the two-week reference period each term. Data for eligible enrolments as described in the department's Enrolment policy. Attendance rates may differ to previous reporting with the transfer from calculations based on deemed attendance to actual attendance using booked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

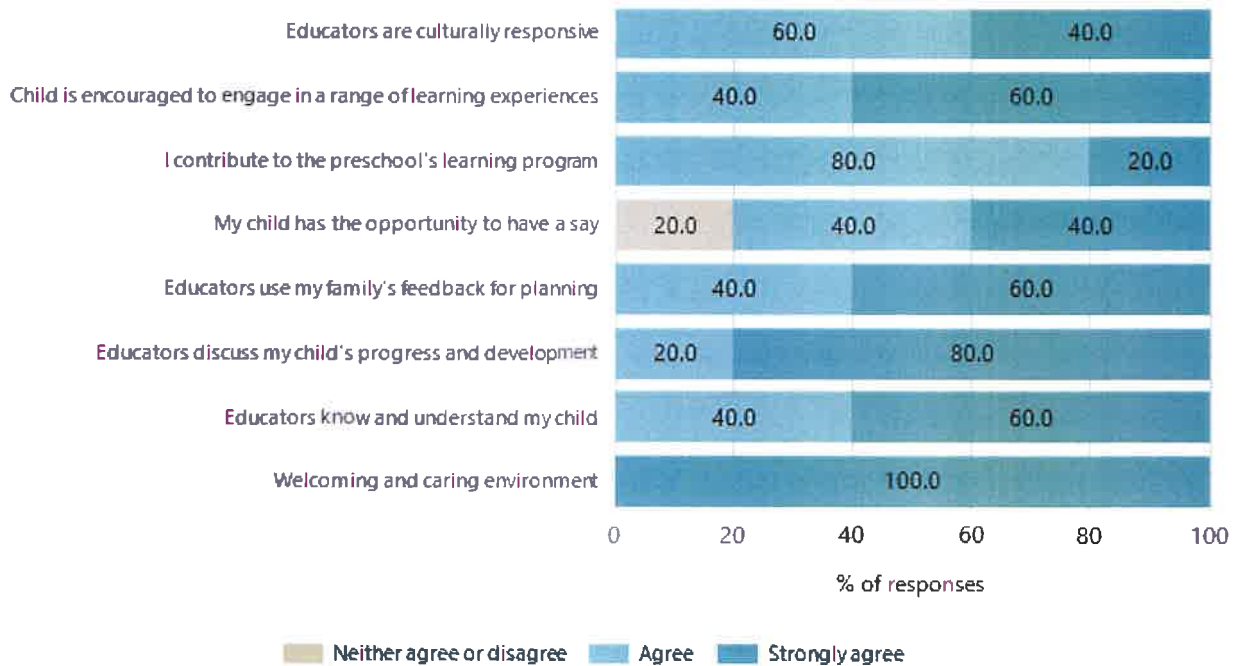
Preschool Family Opinion Survey

Governance, Leadership and Management



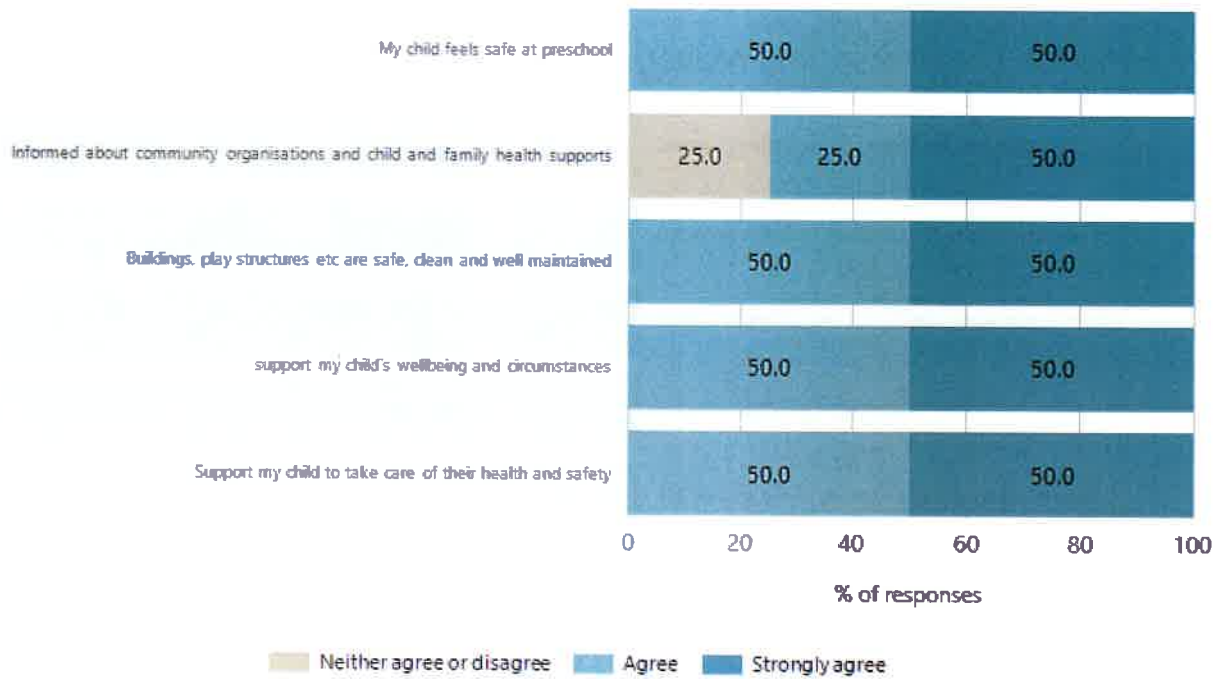
Data Source: 2024 Department for Education Preschool Family Opinions Survey, Term 3 2024.

Quality of Teaching and Learning



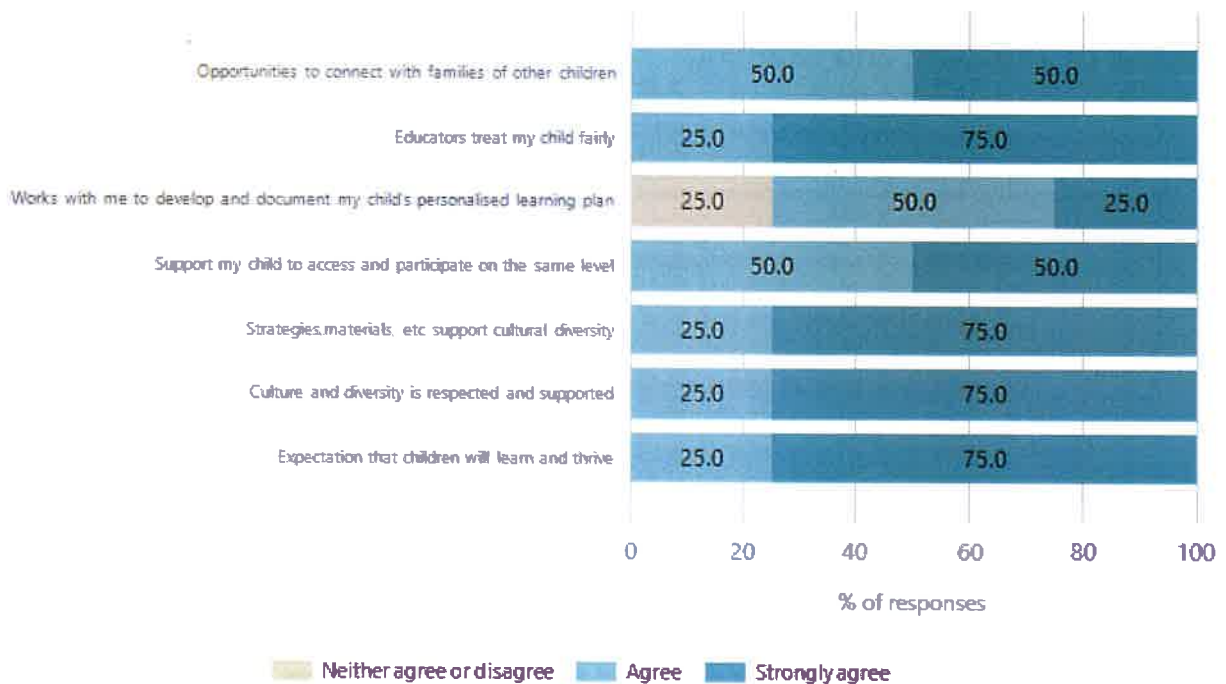
Data Source: 2024 Department for Education Preschool Family Opinions Survey, Term 3 2024.

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
0302 - Mypolonga Primary School	3.1%		
0326 - Palmer Primary School	3.1%	4.8%	4.6%
1170 - Mannum Community College	81.3%	69.1%	63.6%
9999 - Unknown	12.5%	21.4%	22.7%

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	5

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	5.0	0.0	4.3
Persons	0.0	6.0	0.0	7.0

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	745,038.43
Grants: Commonwealth	0
Parent Contributions	6681.84
Fund Raising	14710.5
Other	2716.11

Data Source: School supplied data.

