



2023 annual report to the Community

Kirton Point Children's Centre

Kirton Point Children's Centre number: 6627

Partnership: Port Lincoln



Preschool director:

Pam Stanley

Date of endorsement:

26/02/2024



Government
of South Australia
Department for Education

Context Statement

Site context and highlights

KPCC Category Ranking: 1

2023 has been mildly impacted by cases of COVID. Numbers have continued to grow where we had 55 enrolled in 2022 there has been 63 children enrolled in 2023.

Number of preschool enrolments over the year- 63: Aboriginal 14 - 4 year olds -, Aboriginal 12 - 3 year olds; & 2 Children In Care
Number of staff- 23; volunteers -12

New staff included 1 Preschool teacher (early career teacher); 1 Admin/ Finance Officer (19 hrs/wk), 4 ECW1 preschool support workers.

In 2023 63 children enrolled in the preschool including 6 children in the Inclusive Preschool Program (IPP). Attendance averaged 81%. Children attended in 3 groups over 2 full days (6.75 hrs) and 9 Fun Fridays (6.75hrs). Preschool was staffed with two 1.0 teachers; a 1.0 ECW; and 1 part time preschool support worker (19.75 hrs). The IPP had a 0.6 teacher & 0.6 ECW1 and preschool support worker (ECW1)10 hrs per week in Term 3&4. Due to the mid-year intake KPCC was provided with an additional 0.6 teacher and 1.0 ECWs as our capacity was raised to 90 children\.

A total of 90 children enrolled in Occasional Care, with 3 sessions of under & over 2s operating, staffed by 3 ECW2s. Attendance was 81% for under 2s and 99% for over 2s. The lower total number of children enrolled was due to an increased number of high priority children

Educators had a deliberate focus on developing secure relationships with children to develop emotional safety then they will see children communicate their thinking through mark making. This was the goal for children aged birth to five years. We did this by participating in a series of 10 responsive Relationship workshops.

Community Programs included Kid's Cafe, Let's Talk, Inclusive Playgroup, Song Time (at KPCC and at the Hub), Nunga Playgroup, Mum's & Bub's, Linc n play (a new group which started in term 4; Community Playgroup, and the Multiple Births Group. Parenting courses have included Preparing for Parenthood, My Baby and Me, Circle of Security, Baby Massage, and First Aid for Parents. Community Programs were accessed by 120 -130 children and families per week.

Learning Together at Home changed to Learning Together. Home visits were no longer permitted. The Learning Together Educator was required to facilitate or mentor other playgroup facilitators.

The Early Links Coordinator engaged 43 families (56 Aboriginal children & 44 Aboriginal adults) in playgroup, occasional care or through the home visiting programs and continued building strong links with many agencies to support the families with referrals. On average Nunga Playgroup attracted 25 - 30 people per week.

A highlight for the year happened in November when KPCC was honoured to win the Reconciliation Initiative Public Education Award for our Nunga Playgroup. Carly, Brooke, Leona and Pam were present at the Adelaide Convention Centre to receive this surprise award.

Governing Council membership has included representation of parents with children accessing preschool, occasional care and many of the community programs. Members have provided highly valued discussion and contributions from a parent's perspective. Parent opinion survey was very positive with families appreciating the welcoming centre, the relationships that staff formed with children, children enjoyed the indoor and outdoor environment, they felt listened to, and the Director showed strong leadership and management of the centre. Families preferred text messaging and seesaw as methods of finding out about their child's learning. Kids Café was great for building their child's confidence, and Star of the Day supported children to build confidence to greet others, learn other children's names, and children enjoyed being the staff helpers. Parents saw learning about growing and caring for the environment as being very important part of their child's learning, especially the chickens, as well as many other areas of learning including literacy and numeracy, yoga, listening and communicating. All families were happy to recommend KPCC preschool to family and friends. A suggestion was made to offer more opportunities for parents to meet others and to have more parent involvement. We will consider how to implement this in 2024.

The transport grant from Bendigo Community Bank allowed the Centre to continue to support children and families to attend the range of KPCC programs. Unfortunately we were not successful in a subsequent application so we will have to seek other funding sources for the offer of transport to continue in 2024.

KPCC Governing Council Report

I am pleased to present the Kirton Point Children's Centre's Annual Report for the year 2023. It has been a year filled with significant achievements, collaborative efforts, and heartfelt dedication from our children, staff, and the entire community.

We were delighted to announce that the Kirton Point Children's Centre was honoured with the prestigious State Education Award for our Nunga Play group in recognition of our commitment to reconciliation. This accomplishment underscores our ongoing dedication to fostering inclusivity and cultural diversity within our centre and beyond. The year 2023 saw the continuation of our collaborative efforts within the Governing Council. I extend appreciation to all the parent delegates who actively participated in shaping the direction of our centre. Your valuable insights, ideas, and discussions have contributed immensely to our progress. As Chairperson for the past two years, I have thoroughly enjoyed working alongside each of you to uphold the values and mission of Kirton Point Children's Centre. Throughout 2023, the Governing Council remained committed to developing vital policies, approving expenditures, and sustaining our diverse programs. The atmosphere within our council remained welcoming and conducive to constructive dialogue, reflecting our collective dedication to our children's education and well-being.

As my tenure on the Governing Council comes to a close after three fulfilling years, I reflect fondly on the journey we have shared together. Kirton Point holds a special place in the heart of my family, and I am immensely grateful for the opportunity to have served as Chairperson for the past two years. I extend my best wishes to all new families joining our community and to the incoming Governing Council. Your dedication and commitment will undoubtedly shape the future of Kirton Point Children's Centre.

In closing, I encourage all parents to consider joining the Governing Council for the upcoming year. Your involvement is vital in shaping the future of our centre and ensuring the continued success of our programs.

I eagerly anticipate the opportunities and accomplishments that await Kirton Point Children's Centre in 2023.

Warm regards,

Victoria Gregory

Chairperson, Governing Council 2023

Preschool Attendance

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2020 centre	84.3%	83.6%	85.6%	88.3%
2021 centre	87.4%	95.1%	81.9%	84.6%
2022 centre	83.7%	77.4%	84.9%	65.7%
2023 centre	88%	78.3%	81.1%	78.1%
2020 state	89.1%	81.8%	84.6%	85.8%
2021 state	87.3%	85.3%	87.1%	84.5%
2022 state	83.6%	77.6%	77.9%	77.8%
2023 state	85.4%	82.9%	83.4%	81.4%

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 2023. A blank cell indicates there were no students enrolled.

Note: Term 2 2020 data may not be available for all preschools.

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 life and school. These benefits include establishing positive routines and habits, friendships and connections as well as developing communication, problem-solving, creative skills, resilience and dispositions for learning. All children are entitled to access a preschool program over 4 terms the year before they start school. Aboriginal children and children in care are able to commence preschool when they turn 3 years of age. They can access up to 12 hours of preschool per week. 4 year old children can access up to 15 hours per week.

Destination Schools

Feeder Schools (Site number - Name)	2021	2022	2023
0351 - Poonindie Community Learning Centre	2.2%	0	0%
0899 - Kirton Point Primary School	34.4%	35.9%	39.2%
1277 - Port Lincoln Junior Primary School	31.3%	46.2%	35.3%
1801 - Port Lincoln Special School	3.1%	2.5%	5.9%
8333 - St Joseph's School - Port Lincoln	6.3%	7.6%	7.8%
8425 - Navigator College	12.5%	5.1%	9.8%
9999 - Unknown	12.5%	2.5%	1.9%

A total of 50 children moved to 5 feeder schools at the end of 2023 (& one child moved intrastate and the school they are attending is unknown.)

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	4

Data Source: Data extracted from Mandatory Workforce Information Collections as on the last pay date of June 2023. 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	3.6	0.3	6.4
Persons	0.0	4.0	1.0	11.0

Please note: Data includes staff who are actively employed and on extended paid leave. "Indigenous category" is self-reported by staff in the system.

Data Source: Data extracted from Mandatory Workforce Information Collection as on the last pay date of June 2023.

Financial Statement

Funding Source	Amount
Grants: State (DHS)	\$ 7628
Grants: Commonwealth (NIAA)	\$125,652
Parent Contributions (Preschool & Occasional Care)	\$ 26,390
Fund Raising (Picture Products)	\$ 1264
Other (DfE reimbursements)	\$ 16913

Early Links Coordinator 2023 Report– Carly Orchard

Nunga Playgroup was extremely well attended in 2023 with 56 children, and 45 adults participating throughout the year. We facilitated many art/craft sessions with Jaq, visited kinder gym, visited the Port Lincoln Children's Centre bike track, visited Matthew Flinders Home, welcomed visitors to our group such as Ngahua Trewatha for wellbeing, Port Lincoln Aboriginal Health staff including their dietician, held a first aid course and celebrated significant events such as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day, Reconciliation Week, NAIDOC week, Mother's Day, Father's Day and Christmas.

We won an award for Outstanding Reconciliation Initiatives at the SA Public Education Awards ceremony in November. This entailed a professional film crew joining us while facilitating Nunga Playgroup in September and filming the staff, children and families. The clip was first shown at the awards night, with Pam, Carly, Brooke and Leona in attendance. The awards night was live streamed with Nunga Playgroup families watching, in anticipation. It has been well celebrated and received with pride by all involved.

I have been involved in collaborating off site playgroups and programs such as Sista 2 Sista, NAIDOC March, school holiday playgroup, and a Community event to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day.

I continued to facilitate Song time at KPCC each Thursday morning, the group continues to be well attended and many referrals and enrolments have been processed for young children to Allied Health Services and other Education and Care Services.

In Term 4 I began facilitating Song time at the Community Hub at Lincoln Garden's Primary School each Monday morning. It has been wonderful meeting the staff who work at the hub and also seeing the participation of families increase throughout the term.

Also in Term 4 I collaborated with Zoe Foord, Learning Together Educator, to facilitate our new group

Linc-N-Play, which is held each Wednesday at the Kirton Point Primary School Performing Arts Centre. This group has given us the opportunity to collaborate with Mitch Ollington and his team at Kirton Point Primary School. Linc-N-Play has been extremely well attended with large attendance each week, and very positive feedback. We strive to provide high quality playgroups, with a range of fine motor and gross motor activities for young children, birth to 5 years.

Learning Together Communities 2023 Report– Zoe Foord

Learning Together had some staff changes mid-way through the year with Hayley Anderson taking long service leave. Jaquie Carmichael and Zoe Foord backfilled for Terms 3 and 4 and continued running the current programs.

During term 4, Jacquie partnered with Kerry Schubert (DHS) and ran a playgroup called "Let's Play Together" at Matthew Flinders Nursing home every fortnight which was very successful and even made the local paper. Zoe partnered with Carly Orchard (Early Links Coordinator) and ran a playgroup at the Kirton Point Primary School called 'Linc'n'Play' to support families through the transition from playgroup to Preschool then to the school. The group was very popular and once the word spread, we had 63 people attend in one session!

In term 4 alone we saw an average of 70 families a week across all playgroups, with referrals going out and coming into our programs, speech and OT being a large portion.

Going forward to 2024 there will be a new staff member taking over the Learning Together role as Hayley has put in resignation in. The Inclusive playgroup will not go-ahead next year due to low numbers and 'Linc'n'Play' (Matthew Flinders Nursing home) will unfortunately not be run by Learning Together Communities next year but will continue under DHS.

Speech Pathologist (SP) 2023 Report– Tamara Strudwick (0.3)

During 2023 Tamara established Let's Talk, a program for families of children between 18-36 months for whom there are concerns regarding communication development. The program was structured each week to include parent capacity building, modelling and coaching during play, a story time and song time. This program was supported by an ECW, funded across the year by KPCC and DHS.

The program initially ran for 7 weeks but in response to observations and parent feedback this was extended to 10 weeks in terms 2 and 3, and then 8 weeks in term 4. Participants were able to self-refer or have the program recommended to them by educators or other health professionals. Feedback across the year from families was very positive with families reporting increased skills and confidence to support their child's communication at home. They also valued playgroup environment which provided a supported opportunity for children to play with others and build social skills. Increased were also observed and reported for the number of words children use, or their ability to connect words together.

Tamara also supported a number of community programs such as Song Time, Baby and You, Playgroup plus and Community playgroup. Tamara also worked with a number of individual families. Some families engage through a once-off consultation, with recommendations provided for home programming or referral onto other services. Other families engage with the service for several sessions with the aim to provide parent education for communication development within the home prior to the

commencement of regular therapeutic services. This service has helped to relieve pressure from long term waitlists at other services whilst also providing early intervention and parent education for more complex clients.

Recommendations for 2023:

- Continue Let's Talk
- Continue to support universal programs
- Work collaboratively with OT on mealtime/sensory workshops
- Continue to build connections with community programs outside of KPCC

Occupational Therapist (OT) 2023 Report – Alice Beckoff

In my 0.3 FTE role, I have been involved in a variety of universal and targeted group programs; support and collaboration with Educators within the occasional care and preschool programs; as well 1:1 therapeutic support for families.

I regularly attended the *Community Playgroup*, *Linc n Play*, *SongTime-Stay and Chat*, and *Baby and You* group programs. Conversations centred on sleep, mealtimes, play, child development and emotional regulation. Specific topic areas covered within *Baby and You* included: Baby massage, Connection rituals, Sleep, and Self-Care. *Mud Day* one-off playgroup was a highlight this year too!

I facilitated a targeted parenting program run over 4 sessions, *Little people with BIG feelings*, based on a foundation of neuroscience, attachment and emotional regulation. 10 families registered interest, 3 families engaged in the program. I also supported the *Circle of Security* parenting program facilitated by the Learning Together staff member.

In Term 3, I trialled a 4 session *Jump n Jive* music and movement playgroup program, 4 families attended.

In line with the centre's PQIP goal areas, I facilitated a whole-of-staff 10-session workshop series, *Responsive Relationship* program – a program fostering educators to provide attuned caregiving and a foundation of emotional safety.

Support was provided for the PCP Occupational Therapy student project that focused on 'Sleep' for pre-schoolers.

I spent various amounts of time working with 16 families within a 1:1 support capacity, either in-person or remotely with phone call and email/text message support. Most of the support needs related to sensory and emotional regulation, sleep, mealtimes and toileting.

Community Development Coordinator (DHS CDC) 2023 Report

2023 has been an exciting and busy year for the CDC and she continues to support the community, working both from Centre and the DHS office. The role of the CDC is to provide support to families and communities, with the wellbeing, safety and development of children as the primary focus. Many positive outcomes for children and their families have been successful through the community programs and innovative ideas are being introduced and implemented.

Throughout 2023, DHS has funded the Centre over \$17,000 which supports salaries for Song Time @ the Hub, Let's Talk and Community Playgroup. Proposal outcomes outline opportunities to enable social connections, engagement and enrichment activities for children and build collective capacity, through shared language, networking and learnings while building skills to support safer communities.

The Centre has received donations throughout the year from One Heart and were fortunate to receive over 60 Christmas presents for the pre-school children.

The highlight of the week is Kids Café, which is usually run twice weekly during school terms. Kids Café has proven to be a highly successful conduit for the CDC to engage with families and children, while providing information about the community and being responsive to community need. The information and support provided by the CDC has encouraged families to link in with the CDC, other families and services.

Multiple Births group continues monthly, a New to Port Lincoln group has commenced and Let's Play together has recommenced at Matthew Flinders Centre.

The CDC continues to strengthen relationships with other agencies by delivering information, services and programs to the vulnerable community in the area and in coordinating Part A (community development) for the Child and Family Safety Network (CFSN) meetings.

Throughout the year, the CDC has promoted and encouraged families to access Foodbank, a food charity services that presents fortnightly in Port Lincoln and in Term 4 2022 commenced offering fruit and vegetables from the Centre and throughout 2023, bread donated by Bakers Delight. Families and individuals are also supported with Angel Flights, food hampers and Treasure Box items.

The CDC continues to provide support to the community with food, referrals and support.

There has been a recent realignment within DHS and the CDC now sits under Child Safety and Family Support, Safer Family Services in the Central team.