

# BALLARA PARK KINDERGARTEN

## 1. General Information

**Centre name**

: Ballara Park Kindergarten

**Centre number**

: 3608

**Preschool Director**

: Cathy Hopkins

**Location address**

: 9 Ormonde Avenue, Warradale, SA, 5046

**Telephone numbers**

: 8296 2928            0445 151 272

**Fax number**

: 8358 1804

**E-mail address**

: [dl.3608.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.3608.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au)

**Website**

: [www.ballarapkgn.sa.edu.au](http://www.ballarapkgn.sa.edu.au)

**DECD Partnership**

: Holdfast

**Geographical location**

: 10 kms from GPO

**Enrolment/Attendance numbers**

: Our current staffing allocation means that we are able to offer 66 places in our preschool program. We have 33 places in each group. Trends appear to indicate that there is an increase in demand for pre-school services due to many younger families moving into this locality.

## **Ballara Park is a stand alone centre**

### **Programs Operating at this Centre**

#### **Pre-entry**

: Due to capacity restrictions, we are currently unable to offer pre-entry sessions in the term before children's eligible year.

#### **Sessional Kindergarten for eligible 4 year old children**

: All children attend kindergarten for full days. One group of children attends on Mondays and Wednesdays and the other group attends on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Our session times are from 8.30am until 4.00p.m. This provides 15 hours of preschool a week for each child.

#### **Playgroup**

: Playgroup is offered on Fridays from 9.15 am to 10.45 am.  
This is facilitated by parent volunteers.

## **2. Curriculum**

Our educational program is based on the principles and practices of the Early Years Learning Framework.

#### **The learning outcomes for the Early Years Framework are:**

Outcome 1: Children have a strong sense of identity

Outcome 2: Children are connected with and contribute to their world

Outcome 3: Children have a strong sense of wellbeing

Outcome 4: Children are confident and involved learners

Outcome 5: Children are effective communicators

We link our educational program planning with the Australian Curriculum outcomes.

Learning opportunities in literacy and numeracy are integral to all activities and experiences we offer. Literacy and numeracy development in young children is best fostered through purposeful play activities rather than paper exercises and drills. While we do provide some explicit instruction in both literacy and numeracy, we focus on providing activities that develop children's skills and knowledge in the areas of oral language, phonemic awareness, visual acuity, pattern awareness, number and space applications and physical development.

Our learning program usually follows a project or topic in which the children are interested. We encourage families to become involved in our program and contributions to the children's learning are welcomed.

Having previously had a program for hearing impaired children at our site, we promote the use of signing as an alternative communication method. We teach and use a range of basic Auslan signs.

## **Core values**

: We believe that the individual child is the focus of the curriculum and our role is to provide experiences which support, stimulate and structure a child's learning in order to bring about a progression of development appropriate to their needs and abilities.

We believe that the optimum development of each child's skills, competencies and positive self-concept are achieved when families and early educators work together in partnership.

We believe that play experiences and quality interactions are important to children's learning and significantly contribute to their social, emotional, physical, intellectual and creative growth.

## **National Quality Framework**

This centre was assessed in November 2012 as exceeding National Standards.

## **3. Centre Based Staff**

### **Staff profile**

:Director (PSD1):	Fraction of time 1.0
:Teacher:	Fraction of time 1.4
:Early Childhood Worker(s) Level 1	Fraction of time 1.2

### **Performance Management Program**

: All staff reviewed by their line manager twice a year (6 monthly).

## **4. Centre Facilities**

Ballara Park Kindergarten is located in a quiet park setting and is surrounded by large shady trees and grassed areas. We have access to neighbouring tennis courts and playground.

Features of the educational site are:

- ❖ A bright, airy indoor area which has been acoustically treated
- ❖ A well equipped outdoor play area which provides a safe but challenging learning environment
- ❖ A sound proofed withdrawal room
- ❖ The premises are leased from Marion Council and maintained by DECD.

Paringa Park Primary, Warradale Primary and Christ the King Schools are nearby. We also have children go on to Glenelg Primary, Brighton Primary and a range of private schools. The kindergarten is close to both bus and train transport and is within walking distance of Westfield Marion Shopping Centre.