



Yankalilla Community Children's Centre 2016 Annual Report to the Community



Government
of South Australia
Department for Education
and Child Development

Yankalilla Community Children's Centre Preschool Number: 3627

Partnership: Fleurieu

Name of Preschool Director:

Cathy Tozer

Name of Governing Council Chair:

Alison Wheaton

Date of Endorsement:

28/03/2017

Context and Highlights

CONTEXT:

Yankalilla Community Children's Centre is a rural integrated children's centre that provides preschool, long day care and a community playgroup. It serves a large, diverse and growing district that incorporates the towns and catchment areas of Inman valley, Delamere, Torrens Vale, Hay Flat, Parawa, Second Valley, Rapid Bay, Cape Jervis, Wattle Flat, Myponga, Carrickalinga and Wirrina Cove. In 2016 our preschool program had an enrolment of 27 children. The preschool children attend two days a week for terms 1 and 2 and 3 days a week for terms 3 and 4. The preschool is staffed by two preschool teachers, an early childhood worker and a preschool support worker (10 hours per week). Our childcare program catered for an average of 40 families throughout 2016. We started the year with a Full Time Equivalent(FTE) of 17.7 in January (providing care for 29 families) and grew to a FTE of 21.3 in November(providing care for 53 families). In 2016, 100% of our children come from English speaking backgrounds, 93% live in a two parent home, 4% are aboriginal and 15% had moderate to severe additional needs.

HIGHLIGHTS:

*Staffing - At the beginning of 2016, we welcomed T'Leah Barker to the newly created role of Early Childhood Teacher in our childcare program. T'Leah has worked diligently to inspire and provide curriculum leadership to our team of highly experienced childcare educators. She has formed quality relationships with children, parents and fellow educators and has brought fresh insights into the programs and planning for our over 2's childcare program.

*Community Events - 3 Outdoor Movie Nights, Easter Family Night, Grandparents Afternoon Tea, "Fella's" night, Preschool Graduation and End of Year Family night. These events are always well supported by our community and provide great opportunities to develop friendships, build relationships and reinforce the strong sense of community that is so vital in supporting families in their parenting journey.

*Incursions - Don's Demo Dogs, Yankalilla Ambulance, Ghana have some fun, Tum-Tum tinker, Trent Hill

*Excursions - Noarlunga theatre to see "Grug", Ingalalla waterfall, South Coast playground crawl and fun on the Fleurieu

*Chicken Hatching - After watching 11 chickens hatch from eggs, this year we decided to keep the hens. We now have four chickens that are loved by the children and who provide a constant supply of eggs!

Report from the Governing Council

I would like to thank parents, staff and governing council members for an enjoyable and productive year. Much has been achieved this year which would not have been possible without the enthusiasm and generosity of your time and efforts. A huge thankyou to Megan and Renee (our volunteers of the year) who made SO many contributions towards improving the centre for both the children and their families. They have been responsible for so much including; organising the family fitness program, helping organise playgroup sessions, making vests for the children to wear on excursions and building a chook tractor for our backyard.

One of our main focuses for the year has been making improvements on the backyard. Our aim has been to create an inviting play space for the children in the interim, whilst we wait for the outdoor classroom to be built and a more permanent nature play inspired outdoor area to be created. By holding working bees and with the generous donations from local businesses and tradesmen we have installed a large sandpit, soft fall areas under trees and the wooden frame, a vegetable garden, chicken coop and bays for materials that children can use for building.

Another main focus for the year has been increasing the involvement of families with the centre thereby creating opportunities to provide information and assistance where needed. This has been done by increasing communication (including the purchase of a centre mobile phone), hosting community events such as special event celebrations, movie nights and hosting workshops/presentations on varying topics where a need or interest has been identified.

Finally, we updated many policies including the sleeping policy, excursion policy, fee policy and the centre's philosophy and installed new blinds under the verandah.

Hopefully we will have another productive year in 2017!

Alison Wheaton - Chairperson 2016

Quality Improvement Planning

Our 2016 Quality Improvement Plan was developed in consultation with staff and parent representatives after a thorough assessment of our current practices against the National Quality Standards. Areas of strength and areas for improvement were identified.

Quality Area 1: Educational Program and Practice

*Engagement with other cultures - 2 incursions were held during the year and connections were made with the Aboriginal Education Workers at the Yankalilla Area School

*Deprivatisation of Practice - A new process of "Team" performance reviews was successfully trialled in 2016.

*Working with children to reflect upon and document their learning - preschool have trialled different strategies to incorporate this into their practice

*Increased opportunities for "Team" reflection in childcare - Both childcare "Teams" have been allocated time to meet as "Teams" to reflect on their program and children's learning. This had enabled childcare staff teams to utilise reflection and evaluation as a primary source of information for planning and to improve the effectiveness of their program.

Quality Area 3 - Physical Environment

*Development of the "Backyard" - a 6mx9m shed was installed, new chook house donated, 3 working bees were held to; build a sandpit, border swing frame and fill with softfall, create a climbing tree with softfall, remove the iron walls from the old shed, install storage shelves in new shed and transfer equipment to new shed, install snake mesh along the back fence and build storage bays for "loose parts".

*Focus on respect for the environment - preschool children and educators discussed our "rules" for animals and creatures in our "backyard". Together we formulated the following statement to guide our interactions. "The backyard is the animals / birds / insects home. We will respect their homes, their bodies and their feelings by not touching them or disturbing them."

*Sustainability - Initiatives in 2016 included - growing our own fruit and vegetables and using them in cooking experiences with children; increasing awareness of water conservation; milk carton gardens; reducing waste - soap, paper, food; rain water gages and utilizing recycled materials in children's activities.

Quality Area 6 - Collaborative partnerships with families and communities

*Supporting families in their parenting roles - organising parent workshops - Child Safe Environments, "Bringing up Great Kids parenting program", and "Healthy Lunch boxes" parent session.

*Increase opportunities for parents to provide feedback and be involved in decision making - fortnightly program updates were distributed to parents with space allocated for feedback, parents were engaged in targeted discussions during preschool parent roster visits.

Quality Area 7 - Leadership and Service management

*Revision of our Philosophy Statement - All educators participated in a review of our philosophy statement. Draft philosophy was revised again in accordance with detailed NQS review by site leadership Team.

*In-depth study and self review against the National Quality Standards - The leadership team met throughout 2016 to conduct a detailed study and self audit against the National Quality Standards. Many administrative tasks were identified for completion. "Relationships" was identified as a key focus area from this review. To support this focus area, baseline data was collected through the video recording of children and scored using the Respect Reflect Relate relationships scale. The children's video's were "scored" in "Teams" to increase the understanding of all the components of quality relationships. In addition, educators attended two "in house", training and development workshops on responsive relationships.

Most of these improvement priorities will continue in 2017.

Enrolment

Year	Enrolment by Term			
	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2014	36	38	39	40
2015	39	39	40	38
2016	25	25	27	

Based on person counts in the two week reference period each term. Excludes pre-entry. Source: Preschool Data Collection, Data Management and Information Systems.

Enrolment Comment

Enrolment in our preschool program was significantly lower in 2016. This is supported by a trend of lower enrolments in our childcare program - especially in our "under 2" program for the last few years.

Attendance

Year	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2014 Centre	86.1%	81.6%	69.2%	97.5%
2015 Centre	89.7%	79.5%	82.5%	89.5%
2016 Centre	96.0%	96.0%	92.6%	
2014 State	90.0%	88.9%	86.1%	87.1%
2015 State	90.5%	88.7%	86.3%	86.3%
2016 State	89.6%	88.7%	87.7%	

Based on attendances recorded in the two week reference period each term, and calculated to an average unadjusted daily attendance (deemed attendance). Attendance percentages are based on the calculated deemed attendance (integer), divided by the number of enrolments. Excludes pre-entry. Note: Figures have been revised for previous years, using integer deemed attendance not decimal. Source: Preschool Data Collection, Data Management and Information Systems.

Attendance Comment

It is pleasing to note a significant increase in our attendance percentage for 2016. This is the first year for many years that our attendance percentage has not only been above 90% for the year - but also above state average in every term during the year. Lets hope we can maintain the fantastic attendance figures for 2017!!

Destination Schools

Feeder Schools (Site number - Name)	2014	2015	2016
0303 - Myponga Primary School	10.5%	2.5%	4.2%
0650 - Rapid Bay Primary School	5.3%	7.5%	4.2%
0766 - Yankalilla Area School	81.6%	85.0%	87.5%
8498 - Tatachilla Lutheran College	2.6%	2.5%	0.0%
9412 - Investigator College Vic Harbor Camp	0.0%	2.5%	4.2%
Total	100%	100%	100%

Destination Schools Comment

Yankalilla Area School continues to be our main feeder school. The percentage of children going to Yankalilla Area School has increased over the last three years correlating with a drop in percentage of children feeding into Myponga and Rapid Bay Primary Schools. The percentage of children feeding into private schools remains fairly consistent with approximately two families on average choosing this option each year.

Client Opinion Summary

In 2016, all parents (27) of preschool children were invited to complete the DECD parent opinion survey. It was disappointing that only three surveys were returned. The 2016 results presented below represent the responses of the three parents who returned the survey.

The parent opinion survey consisted of 44 questions which were divided into four categories.

The first category relates to the quality of TEACHING AND LEARNING. Our score for this category was 4.9 out of 5.

The second category relates to the SUPPORT OF LEARNING. Our score for this category was 4.8 out of 5.

The third category relates to RELATIONSHIPS AND COMMUNICATION. Our score for this category was 4.8 out of 5.

The fourth category relates to LEADERSHIP AND DECISION MAKING. Our score for this category was 4.7 out of 5.

Our results in 2016 were extremely supportive of all areas in our preschool program. We achieved our target of 4.0 or above in each category. However, our other target of a significant improvement in responses to question 38 - "The preschool seeks parent opinions about educational programs" was not achieved. In addition, preschool educators have reflected on all responses to individual questions and have identified "increased creative opportunities for parental involvement in educational activities" as the second parent survey improvement goal for 2017.

DECD Relevant History Screening

Yankalilla Community Children's Centre retains accurate Criminal History Screening records for staff, TRT's, Governing Council and Parent volunteers. In addition, due to the nature of "assistance" required by parent volunteers on excursions, the Yankalilla Community Centre has developed a site policy which requires all volunteers to have a current DCSI police clearance in order to attend excursions.

Financial Statement

	Funding Source	Amount
1	Grants: State	312,530.00
2	Grants: Commonwealth	273,037.24
3	Parent Contributions	152,173.40
4	Other	

2016 Preschool Annual Report: Improved Outcomes Funding

Improved Outcomes Category (where applicable to the site)	Briefly describe how the 2016 funding was used to improve the relevant DECD Standard of Educational Achievement * outcomes (where applicable):	Outcomes achieved or progress towards these outcomes:
Improved outcomes for numeracy and literacy	<p>In 2016, preschool educators engaged in significant professional development to support their knowledge and understanding of the preschool literacy and numeracy indicators. Professional Development workshops included: Assessing children's learning - links to indicators, Preschool Numeracy Indicators in practice & Results Plus</p> <p>In addition, the Yankaililla preschool was supported by our Early Years Results Plus Partnership Leaders who met with us three times during the year to monitor our existing practices, support changes to pedagogical practices, share intervention processes across the partnership and trial our new collaborative planning tool.</p>	<p>* YCCC has a documented literacy and numeracy improvement cycle *YCCC participated in our partnership trial of the collaborative planning tool</p>
Improved ECD and Parenting Outcomes (Children's Centres only)	<p>YCCC had 4 children eligible for preschool support funding in 2016. To support these children YCCC received an average of 2.25 hours per term of DECD preschool support funding. In addition, YCCC site funded a average of 4.6 hours per week to support early intervention programs.</p>	<p>The funding enables educators to work in partnership with parents and specialists to implement individualised programs and achieve learning goals.</p>
Improved outcomes for children with disabilities	<p>n/a</p>	<p>n/a</p>
Improved outcomes for children with additional language or dialect	<p>n/a</p>	<p>n/a</p>

* The DECD Standard of Educational Achievement is defined as children and young people progressing and achieving at or above their appropriate year level.