



# Bishop Kindergarten 2019 annual report to the community



Government  
of South Australia  
Department for Education

Bishop Kindergarten number: 6607

Partnership: Port Lincoln

Name of preschool director:

Nicole Billing

Name of preschool management committee chair:

Kylie McGuire

Date of endorsement:

03/03/2020

## Context and highlights

Bishop Kindergarten...

- Is a full time, category 2, stand-alone Preschool which occupies a well maintained 54 year old purpose built building, with street parking
- Families come from diverse backgrounds and travel from within the city limits and outlying rural areas
- Has a warranted staffing of 2.5 and an enrolment capacity of 55 children and utilises the Universal Access funding to employ an additional 0.4 teacher
- Children attend either Monday and Wednesday 8:45am-3:00pm and Friday 8:45am-11:15am or Tuesday and Thursday 8:45am-3:00pm and Friday 12:30am- 3:00pm. Groups remain stable to maximise continuity of relationships and engagement in the curriculum.

Curriculum- Staff have embedded their learning and practices around conversational reading, developing children's oral language skills.

At Bishop Kindergarten we have had many incursions which complimented our program including Riding for the Disabled horses, paramedics, fire fighters, family pets, students from Muroto, dentist and dog safety experts.

Professional learning- Staff have been involved in professional learning which aligns with our site priorities. Staff members attended Emergent Literacy training in Wudinna which highlighted new learning around literacy teaching and learning. The whole staff team attended Number Sense with Lisa Jane O'Connor which supported staff understanding of the site's goal-developing children's numeracy vocabulary. On a LDAR day in term 4 staff analysed an audit on Quality area 1, Program and practice and made plans to meet Literacy and Numeracy goals for children.

On the last day of the year a closure day was used to deeply analyse our values which will form our site's Philosophy Statement.

Significant events- Children attended 'Kindy at School' as part of our transition program with our main feeder school, Port Lincoln Junior Primary. This was a highly successful event which developed relationships with school staff and children, alleviating anxieties.

Our graduation and Christmas parties were a highlight with 224 people attending across 2 nights. It was an opportunity for families to connect and celebrate their child's learning and growth in 2019.

A strong culture of learning has been developed through guest speakers at Governing Council meetings including Nature Play expert, Speech Pathologists and Occupation Therapists. Family mixer events throughout the year allowed families, children and educators to develop relationships out of kindy.

## Report from the preschool management committee

The 2019 year at Bishop Kindergarten has been productive and rewarding. Parents who were able to attend Governing Council (GC) Meetings were kept up to date and informed by staff in regards to programs and plans. Financial reports, staffing and the Quality Improvement Plan were also discussed regularly at meetings.

In 2019 the children's outdoor play area was improved by the purchase of a sandpit cover, replacing turf, resurfacing and new sleepers. Over the Christmas break renovations to the library and bathroom areas began.

The GC organised two well attended 'Kindy Mixers' in May and September for children and their families to meet and mingle. The September Kindy Mixer doubled as a Farewell for Margaret Henson, Kindy Director, who retired from her position of 22 years.

During this year the Bishop Kindergarten website was updated and new toys were purchased. We had visitors from music teachers, emergency services and work experience and Muroto Exchange students. Guest Speakers at Meetings included; Jordan Young (Occupational Therapist); Tamara Strudwick (Speech Pathologist); and Corinne Murphy (from Kirton Point Children's Centre) who discussed Nature Play.

We also had Education Director, Rowena Fox, attend our Meeting in October to discuss the advertising and interviewing process for the Bishop Kindy Director's position which was won by Nicole Billing.

The GC and staff coordinated the Woolworths Earn & Learn sticker program, Picture Products, and Kindy Photos. We were also a donation drop-off point for Little Bags of Hope Christmas Appeal. We entered in the Upcycled Christmas Tree Competition which was managed by one of the GC parent members.

The GC held a Dinner in September at Del Giorno's to farewell Margaret Henson and welcome Nicole Billing. Our annual Christmas Party was a luncheon at the Port Lincoln Hotel in November.

Kylie McGuire- Chairperson

## Quality improvement planning

-Literacy and numeracy goals- 1. Increase children's phonological awareness skills. -Strategy: Common understandings of phonological awareness skills. Incorporation of phonological awareness into conversation reading. Efficient use of transition times to teach skills. QA 1 audit to identify areas of strengths and needs. -Outcome: observations & PASM testing show growth from all children -Recomm: continue to embed strategies and up-skill new staff members.

2. Increase children's understanding and use of tier 2 words. -Strategy: develop a common understanding of tier 2 words. Incorporate into fortnightly planning cycles. Articulate the purpose to children. Embed use of tier 2 words in conversational reading. QA1 audit. -Outcome: children could identify the focus tier 2 word and articulate its meaning. Many children could use the focus word in conversation. Staff indicated they feel confident to identify, use and teach tier 2 words. -Recomm: continue to embed strategies and ensure new staff are up-skilled. Investigate appropriate tracking and monitoring for vocabulary.

3. Increase children's understanding and use of numeracy vocabulary. -Strategy: Develop whole staff understanding of mathematical concepts and language through training. QA1 audit. -Outcome: Whole staff numeracy training with Lisa Jane O'Connor & in-house training ensured common understandings. Incorporate numeracy vocabulary in play. -Recomm: continue to embed strategies and ensure new staff are up-skilled.

QA 1-Goal 1:Raise attendance rates to state's Preschool Attendance target of 93%. -Strategy: Parents to notify if child away, text messages, home visits, reviewing attendance patterns, particularly on Fridays. -Outcomes: Improved attendance for some children, staff accurately recording non-attendance. -Recommendations: Continue embedded strategies.

QA 2-Goal 1:Create a space for rest and relaxation. -Strategy: Creation of a quiet room for children access. -Outcome: the small room was used to create a quiet area with appropriate activities. Staff experimented with areas outside for relaxation including- teepee, books in the cubby.

Goal 2:Informative and succinct method of recording health and physical needs of children. -Strategy: Investigate different recording techniques and proformas. Refine notification process for parents. Provide wellbeing questionnaire to inform practice and knowledge of children. -Outcome: Parents quickly picked up the new reporting system. Questionnaire and observations data used to address the individual needs of children (toileting, food)

QA 3-Goal 1:Upgrade play spaces to remove hazards and provide a stimulating learning environment. -Strategy: source a sandpit cover to address cat excrement. Remove tripping hazards on paths and surfaces. -Outcome: Sandpit cover was purchased and reduced the occurrence of cat droppings. Paths paved to remove trip hazards. Resurfacing under trees and new turf. Replacement of garden bed sleepers. -Recomm: Monitor hazards and develop sandpit area for maximum use.

QA 6-Goal 1:Update parent resource library. -Strategy: Investigate best ways to provide information to parents. -Outcome: Governing Council identified information sources need to be regular and varied. Positive feedback about mobile phone purchase. -Recomm: develop communication survey for families.

Goal 2: Positive enrolment, orientation and transition program. -Strategy: support Governing Council to implement a 'meet and greet'. Six play visits to kindy. Involvement in 'Kindy at school' program with PL Junior Primary. -Outcome: Positive parent feedback about 'Kindy at School'. Well attended orientation sessions. -Recomm: maintain strong connections with feeder schools and gain parent feedback.

## Enrolment

Year	Enrolment by Term			
	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2016	57	59	56	57
2017	55	54	54	55
2018	55	55	55	55
2019	51	52	52	51

NOTE: The data is based on person counts in the two week reference period each term. Excludes pre-entry.  
Source: Preschool data collection, Data Reporting and Analytics directorate.

## Enrolment comment

In total there has been 55 children enrolled at Bishop Kindergarten in 2019.  
In term 4 two children enrolled in the 3 year old program (aboriginal child & Child in care)  
One child transferred out of Bishop Kindergarten in 2019 as their family moved to Adelaide.  
4 children transferred into Bishop Kindergarten in 2019 (2 from other kindergartens and 2 x 3yo).

In 2020 our enrolment cap has lifted for 12 months to 66 due to increasing enrollments across the town.

## Attendance

Year	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2016 centre	91.0%	90.0%	89.7%	92.7%
2017 centre	93.1%	89.3%	90.7%	90.3%
2018 centre	94.2%	89.3%	85.4%	93.5%
2019 centre	93.8%	86.4%	90.3%	
2016 state	91.1%	89.0%	87.2%	87.5%
2017 state	90.5%	88.2%	85.9%	87.2%
2018 state	90.7%	88.3%	87.0%	87.2%
2019 state	90.3%	87.4%	85.8%	

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.

## Attendance comment

Bishop Kindergarten attendance was above the state average in terms 1 and 3. An average attendance for 2019 of 90.1%.

Families communicated absences via a parent diary, in person or by note. A week of non attendance is followed up by staff and recorded accordingly.

Staff regularly review and track attendances. Conversations and home visits take place where appropriate.

## Destination schools

Feeder Schools (Site number - Name)	2016	2017	2018	2019
8425 - Navigator College	20.0%	0.0%	9.0%	5.8%
1277 - Port Lincoln Junior Primary School	45.0%	65.0%	41.0%	55.8%
8333 - St Joseph's School - Port Lincoln	32.0%	30.0%	47.0%	38.5%

NOTE: The data is collected in Term 3. It does not reflect actual schools enrolled in by exiting preschool children. Only schools that are a destination for 3% or more of students are shown.

Source: Data Source: Site Performance Reporting System (SPER), Term 3 2019 collection.

## Destination schools comment

A majority of children from Bishop Kindergarten continue to transition to Port Lincoln Junior Primary School and St Joseph School.

We promote public education, however, we maintain a close relationship with all feeder schools.

## Client opinion summary

In Term 3 2019 a Preschool feedback survey was utilised to collect parent voice. A total of 44 surveys were completed (84.5%).

A majority of families either strongly agreed or agreed with all 18 statements. Families felt strong relationships are built at Bishop Kindy and that the teaching staff are 'supportive', 'approachable' and 'encouraging'. They believed the Director showed strong leadership and management of the centre. Families were comfortable to approach staff to discuss their child's progress, interests and needs or any issues. Families thought highly of the outdoor learning space and commented on maintenance and design. Parents commented that learning programs are play based, child focused and fun.

"My child counts down the days until the next kindy day...I believe that is a testament to the amazing staff and the environment they have created"

"Bishop Kindy provides perfectly tailored age-appropriate, play based learning"

"I feel extremely confident in the care my child receives at Bishop Kindy. I can leave knowing she is safe and learning and having fun"

"The teaching and learning program at Bishop Kindy has exceeded our expectation. We love the creativity and thoughtfulness in the programs offered"

The survey identified that parents are eager to be involved in the Kindy program and that broader communication methods are sought.

## Relevant history screening

All staff are consistently screened and hold current qualifications as per departmental requirements.  
All volunteers have a 'working with children' check.  
All paperwork is kept on-site.

## Financial statement

	Funding Source	Amount
1.	Grants: State	\$399,294.33
2.	Grants: Commonwealth	
3.	Parent Contributions	\$12,963
4.	Other	\$3283.70

## 2019 Preschool annual report: Improved outcomes funding

Improved outcomes category (where applicable to the site)	Briefly describe how the 2019 funding was used to improve the relevant department's standard of educational achievement outcomes (where applicable):*	Outcomes achieved or progress towards these outcomes:
Improved outcomes for numeracy and literacy	Funding was allocated to support improved outcomes for Numeracy and Literacy The children were supplied with additional play materials and staff were supported to attend appropriate training and development New books and resources were purchased to be used during conversational reading	All children showed growth in their Numeracy and Literacy knowledge
Improved ECD and parenting outcomes (children's centres only)	N/A	N/A
Improved outcomes for children with disabilities	Funding provided support for those children with speech, language and behavioural needs.	All children showed growth in their skills and all transitioned to school
Improved outcomes for non-English speaking children who received bilingual support	N/A	N/A

\* The department's standard of educational achievement is defined as children and young people progressing and achieving at or above their appropriate year level.