PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 02/2010

Centre number: 3689

Centre name: Woodend Children’s Centre

1. General information

- Centre name
  : Woodend Children’s Centre
- Centre number
  : 3689
- Preschool Director
  : David Coulter
- Postal address
  : 20 Bathbank Crescent, Sheidow Park, SA, 5158
- Location address
  : As above
- Telephone number
  : 8322 1069
- Fax number
  : 8322 8756
- E-mail address
  : info@woodendcc.sa.edu.au
- DECS District
  : Southern Adelaide Region
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km)
  : 20 kms South of GPO.
- Enrolment/Attendance
  : Woodend has high enrolments of 4 year olds. A number of children attend for full day sessions. Attendances remain steady between 88 and 95, 4 year olds. Attendance of children is regular. Enrolments have been increasing during 2007/8 and which appear to be maintaining for 2008/09.
  The centre also provides 9 sessions of funded Occasional Care for children 3 months to 5 years. This program routinely runs at 100% or greater utilisation.
• Co-located/stand-alone
  : Stand alone centre located adjacent to Woodend Primary School.

• Programs operating
  ❖ Pre Entry
    : Available to children in the term prior to entry into preschool (around 3 years 9 months).
  ❖ Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children
    : Up to four sessions per week.
  ❖ Occasional Care
    : Nine funded sessions per week for over 2’s and five funded sessions per week for under 2’s.
  ❖ Playgroup:
    We have a playgroup session for all ages on Fridays 11 am-12.30 pm.
  ❖ Extended Care
    : Emergency care as required.
  ❖ Lunch/Full Day Program
    : Access to full days can be negotiated. From 2009 Woodend Children’s Centre has engaged an Early Childhood Worker to supervise / coordinate the centres lunch care program.
    Bilingual Support
      : As required.
    Preschool Support
      : As required for children with additional needs.

2. **Key Centre Policies**

• Centre Priorities/Statement of Purpose
  : The centre’s priorities focus on literacy and numeracy, healthy eating and food knowledge program and engagement with the Respect, Reflect, Relate program.
  : The program is child centred and based on play as the means for children to develop.
3. Curriculum

- In 2010 Woodend Children Centre will be transitioning to the National Early Years Learning Framework. For more information please see http://www.deewr.gov.au/EarlyChildhood/Policy_Agenda/Quality/Documents/EYLF_FactSheet.pdf

- Framework used until 2010: SACSA
  - The centre uses the SACSA framework to provide a relevant program for the children and also in assessing and reporting procedures. http://www.sacsa.sa.edu.au/

- Core Values
  - We are committed to pursue excellence in the provision of inclusive preschool and transition programs for children in their eligible year before school, and occasional care programs for children aged three months to five years.

- Specific curriculum approaches
  - The curriculum provided is play-based, integrated and inclusive of all children 0-5 years.
  - The site offers a number of regular programs during the childrens year at kindergarten. These include a road safety excursion, a water safety excursion, and a range of other activities such as visiting the ASO and Patch Theatre
  - The site learning plan has a focus for 2009 on literacy, numeracy and healthy eating programs.
  - The staff and Governing Council will work during 2008-09 to develop and implement a plan for a review and upgrade of the outdoor learning area.
    - In 2010 the Centre will participate in two projects.
      1. Early Years Learning Framework implementation trial and
      2. Languages other than English

4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff Profile
  - Staff consists of 1.0 Director and 1.5 Teachers, five Early Childhood Workers.

- Access to special support staff
  - Access is provided through DECS early childhood support services, community health centres and special needs agencies such as Autism association, Down Syndrome Association and IDSC.
Other

- The staff are widely experienced in providing relevant, inclusive early childhood programs for children ranging in ages 0-5 years. We add to this expertise by encouraging student teachers from South Australian High Schools and Tertiary institutions to accept placements at this centre.

5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
  - The centre was opened in 1991. The facilities are well-resourced and well-maintained.
  - Capacity for 4 year olds is 45 per session. In addition, up to 15 occasional care children attend each session.
- Centre Ownership
  - The building and land are owned by DECS.
- Access for children and staff with disabilities
  - Disabled car parks and ramp access are available.