PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Centre number: 4611

Centre name: Clarence Gardens Kindergarten

1. General information

- Preschool Director: Ms Amanda Fiedler
- Postal address: 45 Dinwoodie Avenue Clarence Gardens 5039
- Location address: 45 Dinwoodie Avenue Clarence Gardens 5039
- DECS Region: Southern Adelaide Region
- Geographical location: approx 6kms from GPO
- Telephone number: 08 8293 5986
- Fax number: 08 83714957
- Preschool website address: www.clarengdkgn.sa.edu.au/
- Preschool e-mail address: dl.4611_leaders@schools.sa.edu.au

- Enrolment/Attendance: the centre has a capacity of 40 children per session. Enrolment and attendance numbers over the last 5 years have varied between 30 - 40 children per session and average at 34.
- Co-located/stand-alone: This centre is a stand-alone site in a lovely quiet neighbourhood South East of the city.
- Programs operating at the preschool:
  - **Sessional Kindergarten** - Available for eligible children who have turned 4 years of age before 1st May. Children are entitled to 5 sessions per week for 1 year prior to starting school, where most children attend 2 full days and 1 half day. As we are a part-time kindergarten the available sessions are:
Monday  full / half day  8:45am – 3:00pm / 8:45 – 12:15 /11:30 – 3:00pm  
Tuesday  full / half day  8:45am – 3:00pm / 8:45 – 12:15 /11:30 – 3:00pm  
Wednesday half day only 8:45am – 12:15pm  
Thursday full / half day  8:45am – 3:00pm / 8:45 – 12:15 /11:30 – 3:00pm  

❖ Lunch/Full Day Program: Full days are offered on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays and incur an additional charge for lunch care.

❖ Playgroup – 2 sessions operate on Fridays - morning 9:30 – 11:30am and afternoon 12:30 – 2:30pm for families with children from birth – 5 years. A coordinator runs these sessions along with parent volunteers.

❖ Early Entry: Children may qualify to start kindergarten early if eligible for
  - Bilingual Support - Available to ESL children and on request.
  - Preschool Support - Available to children with moderate to severe additional needs.

2. Key Centre Policies

- Centre Priorities /Statement of Purpose:
  - Providing high quality learning experiences for all children with a focus on well-being, literacy, fine-motor development, the environment and sustainable practises.
  - Improving partnerships with parents through encouraged involvement in the Kindergarten in general, the program and their children’s learning.

- Centre Policies:
  - Have been developed to ensure that the safety & well-being of the families and staff at the centre are a high priority.
  - Available in the centre and include the following policies: OHS, Healthy Eating, Behaviour Management, Safety & Evacuation, Skin Protection etc
3. **Curriculum**

- **Framework used:** The National Early Years Learning Framework – ‘Belonging, Being and Becoming’, with the 5 Learning Outcomes:
  1. Children have a strong sense of identity
  2. Children are connected with and contribute to their world
  3. Children have a strong sense of wellbeing
  4. Children are confident and involved learners
  5. Children are effective communicators

- **Core Values:** Providing a high quality teaching and learning program that is play based in a caring, well organised, stimulating indoor and outdoor environment.

- **Specific curriculum approaches:**
  - Weekly Literacy focus ‘Letter of the Week’
  - Specific Fine motor tray activities
  - Inquiry play based learning

4. **Centre Based Staff**

- **Staff Profile:** Currently the centre is staffed by a Director (0.8, part-time), Teacher (0.8) and Early Childhood Worker (ECW 0.8).

- **Performance Management Program:** All staff have twice yearly Performance Management Reviews.

- **Access to special support staff:** As required and in response to individual children’s needs.

5. **Centre Facilities**

- **Buildings and grounds**
  
  The kindergarten is a besser block building of one main open plan room, with an adjacent office, small kitchen, small store room and rear verandah area. The centre has 3 toilets and is a larger kindy with the capacity of 40 children per session. The verandah area is used for the children’s lockers and has PVC blinds so to be utilised as an extended play/story time area. The building has very effective heating, cooling, lighting and large windows.

  The outdoor play area is the highlight of the kindergarten. It is of a substantial depth with plenty of shade in summer. It has a large gross motor/ climbing area with soft-fall, swings, cubby house and a large sandpit area covered by a shade structure. It also has a large grass area for running & ball
games, a wooden bridge/platform, boathouse structure, interesting paths to follow, lovely flowering gardens, veggie patches and a stream (man-made) for those warm summers’ days.

- Capacity (per session): As per DECS regulations this site's capacity is 40 children per session.

- Centre Ownership: The centre is owned by DECD.

- Access for children and staff with disabilities: Recent improvements have allowed for wheelchair access.

6. **Local Community** (intended for country preschools)

- General characteristics:
  Well established older suburb with some families that have diverse cultural backgrounds and majority are English speaking.

- Parent and community involvement in the preschool:
  Parents are encouraged to be regularly involved with fundraising, Governing Council and curriculum activities.

- Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool:
  The 2 main feeder schools are Westbourne Park and Edwardstown Primary, with others being Black Forest, St Anthony’s, Col.Light Gardens and Mitcham Primary Schools.

- Other local care and educational facilities:
  ABC child-care, Clarence Park Family day-care & other local Family day-care providers.

- Local Government: Mitcham Council