PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Centre number: 5308
Centre name: Nuriootpa Community Children’s Centre

1. General information

- Preschool Director – Catherine Bury
- 14 Park Avenue, Nuriootpa S.A. 5355
- As above
- DECD Region - Barossa
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km)
- Telephone number - 85621 006
- Fax number - 85623435
- www.nuriootpacc.sa.edu.au

- Enrolment/Attendance

Figure 1: Enrolments by Term

[Graph showing Total Enrolments 2010 - 2012]
Table 1: Enrolments by Term

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>Term 2</th>
<th>Term 3</th>
<th>Term 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>105</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>97</td>
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<td>98</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>85</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Source: Preschool Data Collection, Data Management and Information Systems

Centre enrolments are down from previous years as a private Early Learning Centre was set up in Tanunda with Lutheran families encouraged to attend.

Figure 2: Attendance by Term

- Nuriootpa Community Children’s Centre is an Integrated Service which provides a Department of Education and Children’s Development (DECD) preschool and a non-profit community 30 place Long Day Care Service to the Barossa Community.
- Programs operating at the preschool
  - Sessional Preschool for eligible children, each child access to 5 x 3 hour sessions per week.
  - Lunch/Full Day Program (Monday to Thursday) – According to licensing guidelines the centre offers Lunch Care to families where both parents are working or studying. There is a charge as we employ Child Care staff to supervise children as preschool staff have lunch break. There is a limit of 27 children per lunch session in line with Licensing.
Bilingual Support – is accessed when required to support a child or family.

Preschool Support – is accessed when a child presents with needs requiring specialist intervention. DECD – Preschool support/ Inclusion SA – Child Care support.

Playgroup – Nuriootpa Community Children’s Centre playgroup has started up again thanks to the Nuriootpa Primary School allowing us to use their OSHC room on Friday mornings. We are members of the Playgroup Association.

2. **Key Centre Policies**

- Integration of services
- Wellbeing of staff and children
- Partnerships with families and a focus on smooth transitions.
- Centre curriculum focus areas – Literacy, Numeracy and Cultural Competence

3. **Curriculum**

- Framework used:
  Curriculum ~
  Children access a play based program using the Being, Belonging & Becoming document guided by the Early Years Learning Framework
  Protective Behaviour principles
  Respect, Reflect ,Relate
- Core Values
  Respect, Trust, Acceptance, Commitment, Honesty & Integrity and Care & Support
- Specific curriculum approaches
  Centre provides a play-based learning program embedding a range of theoretical approaches to meet the individual developmental needs and learning styles of our children. We provide a wide range of equipment, materials and experiences, encouraging children to challenge their understandings using inquiry and problem solving strategies.
- Joint programmes/special curriculum projects
  - Involvement in regional project to develop staff Cultural Competence 2012/13. Currently developing a Reconciliation Action Plan for the Early Years.
Working on critical reflections on theorists

- Professional Practice and implications for programming and assessment practices to meet individual children’s developmental and learning needs.

4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff Profile

  **DECD Staff**
  Director – PSD4  Responsibility for leadership and management of staff, facility and the education and care programs in partnership with the parents. The director also has a .4 teaching responsibility.
  Teachers – 1 plus .5 behind Director position in Integrated Services.
  Early Childhood Workers – 1.5 core staff/ depending on numbers

  **Centre Employed Staff**
  Assistant Director – 34hrs/wk
  Administration Officer - 38hrs/wk
  2 part time assistant clerical staff 14hrs/wk
  10 Core Child Care staff – part time  with team leaders in Under 2 and Over 2 rooms.

- Performance Management Program
  The performance management program follows the DECD Performance Development requirements. Staff are provided with opportunities to access training and development to meet professional requirements and are encouraged to ensure they are competent to deliver the areas identified in our Quality Improvement Plan.

- Access to special support staff – Children with identified needs are able to access support in preschool through DECD support staff and assistance grants and through Inclusion SA for Child Care children.

5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
  The Centre’s original building, Leila Bullock Kindy developed as a community venture in 1947. Nuriootpa Community Children’s Centre had a purpose built preschool/child care service established in 1995. A new section was completed in 2001 providing an administration area and Director’s office. This allowed the previous admin. area to become a baby sleep room increasing our number to 10 under two years.
  We are blessed with a large outdoor space where children engage with natural surroundings with opportunities to grow food in their vegetable patch, explore the frog garden, to interact with a wide range of materials and equipment and to develop their own challenges.
• Capacity (per session)
  Child Care – 30 children, Preschool – 45

• Centre Ownership
  DECD

• Access for children and staff with disabilities
  There is access at the back of the building if families have difficulty entering from the front.

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

• General characteristics:
  Nuriootpa is a large regional rural community, whose income derives chiefly from viticulture, tourism, farming and related industries. Area still taps into mainly German language and customs.

• Parent and community involvement in the centre
  Parents support us in a governing role with centre maintenance, ensuring financial viability and provision of high quality programs.
  Our families support us by sharing the responsibility for looking after our large grounds. We encourage families to share their knowledge and skills to enrich the children’s programs.

• Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool
  We have 7 feeder schools in the Barossa Region with Nuriootpa Primary, Redeemer Primary, Greenock Primary, Light Pass Primary and Truro Primary being the main feeder schools.

• Other local care and educational facilities,
  Nuriootpa High School students access our service for Child Studies, work experience and joint programs.
  Nuriootpa TAFE students train at our centre.
  ABC Child Care centre shares some of our children accessing care.
• Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
  The local shopping area provides support for the centre with donations of items and finances for centre developments.
  Community Store, Hardware, Bakery, Chemists and many more.

• Other local facilities
  Caravan Park, Coulthard Park, Barossa Bush Gardens, Public Library

• Availability of staff housing – not provided

• Accessibility
  Private vehicle, taxi service

• Local Government
  Angaston Council
  Local Member – Ivan Venning

7. **Further Comments**

• Partnership arrangements with other groups
  The centre works very closely with training facilities providing opportunities for – University students, TAFE students, High School students and volunteers interested in working in the early years.