PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Centre number: 3697

Centre name: Port Elliot Kindergarten

1. General information

- Preschool Director Mandy Stokes
- Postal address 5 Wright Street Port Elliot SA 5212
- Location address 5 Wright Street Port Elliot
- DECD Region Fleurieu
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km) 90km
- Telephone number 08 8554 2962
- Fax number 08 8554 2463
- Preschool website address www.ptelliotkgn.sa.edu.au
- Preschool e-mail address kindy.director@ptelliotkgn.sa.edu.au
- Enrolment/Attendance varying between 60 and 80
- Co-located/stand-alone Stand-alone but the Port Elliot Primary School is adjacent.
- Programs operating at the preschool
  - Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children Monday - Thursday
Lunch/Full Day Program Monday-Thursday as part of the Universal Access program

Bilingual Support available as required

Preschool Support available as required

2. **Key Centre Policies**

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<tr>
<th>PEK-P01</th>
<th>Skin Protection Policy</th>
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<tr>
<td>PEK-P02</td>
<td>Hot Weather Policy</td>
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<td>PEK-P03</td>
<td>Behavior Guidance Policy</td>
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<td>PEK-P04</td>
<td>Allergy Aware Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>PEK-P05</td>
<td>Healthy Food Supply and Nutrition Policy</td>
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<td>PEK-P06</td>
<td>Parent Complaints Policy</td>
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**Centre Statement of Purpose**

➾ We believe in the uniqueness of each child and family and the need for children to develop an understanding and respect for self and others.

➾ We believe that children have the right to feel safe, physically and emotionally, and we aim to encourage an awareness and understanding of equal opportunity and social justice.

➾ We acknowledge the critical importance of children, parents and educators as partners in a learning community that promotes the wellbeing, education and development of all children.

➾ We believe that children need a strong sense of wellbeing - self-esteem, self-confidence and independence, for good physical health, feelings of happiness and a positive sense of self.

➾ We view children as capable, competent, co-contributors and acknowledge them as active participants in their own learning through play.

➾ We believe the role of educators is to provide a stimulating and responsive environment where positive reinforcement and encouragement make learning possible.
We acknowledge and value our own indigenous heritage and those of the wider community. We will value and connect with people to create a sustained learning community.

We strive to support children in the ways they connect with the natural environment to promote awareness of environmental and sustainable practices.

We believe that a philosophy statement changes as new insights are gained and practice is evaluated.

3. **Curriculum**

- Framework used: Early Years Learning Framework
  - ‘Keeping Safe’ Child Protection Curriculum
  - ‘Respect Reflect Relate’

- Core Values:
  - Caring
  - Respect
  - Kindness
  - Sharing
  - Helpfulness

- Specific curriculum approaches:
  - Child initiated curriculum
  - Child focused, play based program
  - Partnership between families and early childhood educators
  - Emphasis on quality relationships
  - Assessment through ‘Respect, Reflect, Relate’ rating scale

- Joint programmes/special curriculum projects
  - Speech Links/Language Links program
  - Bike program

- Staff undertake joint reflection at the end of each day
4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff Profile
  
  Full time Director: Mandy Stokes
  Part time teacher 2015: Kate Baldwin
  Part time teacher 2015: Derek Tiller
  Fulltime Early Childhood Worker: Leanne Conlon
  Lunchcare Worker: Roz Perry
  Preschool Support: Kelly Ellbourn

- Performance Management Program:
  All staff participate in Performance Development Review interviews twice a year

- Access to special support staff: Access is available through the Fleurieu Regional Disability Support team

5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
  The Port Elliot Kindergarten is a purpose-built building (2007) with a spacious, bright interior and a large verandah space for all-weather outdoor playing. The kindergarten has an attractive playground with an undercover sandpit, shaded climbing area and a path for wheeled toys.

- Capacity (per session) 45

- Centre Ownership  DECD

- Access for children and staff with disabilities  Yes

- Parents are currently offered sessions from 8.30-4.00, but the site is flexible and there are a number of variations, eg 3 days of 5 hours per day, to achieve 15 hours per week under Universal Access
6. **Local Community** (intended for country preschools)

- **General characteristics:**
  Employment includes professional families, small business, pension recipients, labourers and transients. There is a large and growing retirement village near the Kindergarten, and many young families also. There is a sprinkling of families using languages other than English.

- **Parent and community involvement in the preschool** is welcomed, particularly in supporting the curriculum. The Governing Council is active in supporting the Kindergarten.

- **Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Name</th>
<th>Percent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0157 Goolwa Primary School</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0289 Mount Compass Area School</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0356 Port Elliot Primary School</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0453 Victor Harbor R-7 School</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9012 Encounter Lutheran College</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9412 Investigator College</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9412 Investigator College Vic Harbor Camp</td>
<td>4%</td>
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- **Other local care and educational facilities**
  There are two childcare centres at Victor Harbor, and one at Goolwa. There is limited Family Day Care in the area. A primary school, high school, R-12 school and TAFE are available at Victor Harbor, a primary school at Port Elliot, a primary school and an R-12 school at Goolwa.

- **Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities**
  Port Elliot has a small range of facilities eg supermarket, doctor’s surgery, pharmacy, hairdresser, clothes and gift shops. There is a light industrial area near by. Goolwa and Victor Harbor provide further shopping opportunities.

- **Other local facilities**
  Hotels, many cafes and restaurants and accommodation sites support tourist activities. Victor Harbor has a hospital and cinema and a range of churches. There are a number of local sporting teams and nearby Middleton is renown as a surfing destination.

- **Availability of staff housing**
  Currently there is a wide range of housing available for purchase, and some rental properties available across the south coast.
• **Accessibility**
  Adelaide is readily accessible by road, including a new freeway north of Noarlunga. The Premier bus line provides a twice daily service to/from Adelaide.

• **Local Government** - Port Elliot Kindergarten is in the Alexandrina Council area.

7. **Further Comments**

• **Partnership arrangements with other groups**
  The Kindergarten children visit the School library weekly to borrow books. Fleurieu Families hosts a Multi-Joy Playgroup at the Kindergarten fortnightly. Fleurieu Families also presents speakers for parents from time to time, on issues such as Fussy Eaters, Anger Management in small children etc. The Kindergarten accepts work experience students from local High Schools and TAFE.
  The local dance teacher visits the kindergarten weekly to give a half-hour exercise and dance session.
  The ELF team at Fleurieu Families in Victor Harbor provides speech, OT etc services for young children up to age 4.