PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Centre number: 3696

Centre name: Victor Harbor Kindergarten

1. General information

- Centre name: Victor Harbor Community Kindergarten
- Centre number: 3696
- Preschool Director: Chris Taylor
- Postal address: 1 Oval Road, Victor Harbor. 5211
- Location address: 1 Oval Road Victor Harbor. 5211
- Telephone number: 08 8552 2028
- Fax number: 08 8552 8396
- e-mail address: dl.3696.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au
- DECD REGION: Fleurieu
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km): 83 kilometres
- Enrolment/Attendance: Average enrolment 60. Maintains 3 full time staff
- Co-located/stand-alone: Co-located with Family Day Care Victor Harbor Office and the Learning Together at Home program
- Children arrive at kindergarten by bus from outlying areas and VHCCCentre
- Programs operating:
  - Pre Entry 2015 – will be offered to children commencing full time kindergarten in January 2016 IF CAPACITY IS NOT EXCEEDED with eligible four year old children. Pre entry is usually 4 x 2 hour visits in Term 4 each year.
  - Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children 4 morning sessions OR 2 full days and every other Friday 8-30:12-30.
Programs operating (cont.)
  o Four mornings = Monday to Thursday mornings 8.30am – 12.00 noon.
  o OR Monday & Wednesday: 8.30am – 3.00pm.
  o OR Tuesday & Thursday: 8.30am – 3.00pm.
  o Both full day groups will be offered four hours 8.30am – 12.30pm on alternate Fridays.

Universal Access to Pre School is up to 15 hours per week. At Victor Harbor Community Kindergarten we have a 30 hour fortnight.

2. Key Centre Policies

- Centre Priorities
  Focus on provision of strategies that will promote the development of effective working relationships with parents. Quality Improvement Plan summarising the preschool’s contribution to improving student learning at this site through a focus on learning targets based on DECD priorities and other areas of local significance that are critical to learner’s achievements and well being.

  Quality learning
  Focus on the continual upgrade and redevelopment of indoor and outdoor learning environments to ensure the provision of a stimulating, challenging and purposeful learning environment for children.

  Wellbeing/Relationships – Through RRR Inquiry

  Literacy and Numeracy / Family Literacy
  Health and Nutrition Focus / Eat a Rainbow / Healthy Lunch boxes
  Sustainability – through vegetable and fruit gardening, recycling rubbish and sustainable practices through our worm farm and composting.
  Community – Walks to local areas, e.g. the Beach and coastal environments, Billabong and river areas with a community guide.
  Developing positive Transitions to kindergarten and to school through strong local partnerships.
  Implementing DECD ‘Child Protection’ curriculum.

  Aboriginal Culture - Ngarrindjeri

3. Curriculum

- Frameworks used
  : The National - Early Years Learning Framework and Reflect, Respect, Relate doc

- Core Values
  Caring
  Respect
  Honesty
  Trust
  Fairness
  Responsibility
Tolerance
Diligence

- Specific curriculum approaches guided by a commitment to the following principles
  - Focus on early intervention
  - Child centred, play based program
  - Partnership between families and early childhood educators
  - Critical reflection for continuous improvement
  - Responsiveness and innovation
  - Equity and access
  - Emphasis on quality relationships and building secure attachments
  - Accountability
  - Safe practices
  - Teambuilding and relationships
  - Enrichment program for students with high intellectual potential

4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff Profile
  - Director 1.0
  - Teacher 1.0
  - ECW 1.0
  - 0.4 Universal Access program Teacher.
  - 0.2 Universal Access program ECW1
  - Performance Management Program: Annual reviews with Director

- Access to special support staff through DECD Support Services:
  - Special educator
  - Speech pathologist
  - Psychologist

- Other
  - Southern Fleurieu Health Service – including Speech Pathology, Occupational Therapy, Psychology, Mental Health, Dietician, Women’s health, Physiotherapy, social work, Early Intervention Programs,
  - Child and Youth Health
  - Learning Together at Home program (co-located)
  - Family Day Care (office co-located)

5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
  - Large purpose built kindergarten located on spacious, established and well resourced grounds.
- Capacity of site (per session)
  Maximum of 45 children per session
- Centre Ownership
  : Department for Education and Child Development (SA State Government)
- Access for children and staff with disabilities
  Wheelchair access
  No toilet facilities for children /staff with disabilities

6. Local Community

- General characteristics: (e.g. work, languages, culture)
  - Victor Harbor is the major regional centre for business, retail and tourism on the Southern Fleurieu Peninsular. These enterprises provide a variety of employment opportunities for families living in Victor Harbor. The majority of families are Anglo/Australian, with the occasional addition of families from overseas. There is a diversity of family structures including two parent families, single parent families. Approximately 20 –25% of families have extended family support networks in Victor Harbor – ie Grandparents / other family members.

- Parent and community involvement in the preschool
  - The parents and Community are very supportive of the Kindergarten program. Parents are encouraged to be involved through a variety of opportunities including: excursions, cooking, interviews, sharing of information, governing council meetings and sub-committee structures. The Community is involved through excursions/visits: police station, post office, ambulance, fire service, the Whale Centre, support from the Times weekly newspaper in printing articles/photos of events in their ‘community events’ section.

- Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool
  Victor Harbor Primary School 70%
  Investigator College 10%
  Encounter Lutheran School 20%

- Other local care and educational facilities, eg child care, schools, OSHC
  Victor Harbor Child Care & Education Centre
  Family Day Care
  Playgroups – current information from local council office/kindergarten
  Busy Bugs
  Victor Harbor Primary School VOSHC
  World of Learning Child Care and Preschool Centre at Hayborough

- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
  : Good shopping – two major supermarkets, plus IGA open 7am – 10pm 7 days a week, variety stores.
  : Two industrial areas are located on the outskirts of Victor Harbor and house many small manufacturing, repair and automotive businesses

- Other local facilities
  Medical clinics, pharmacies, social, cultural, recreational support.
Dental clinics, including SA School Dental Clinic
Public and Private Hospital with X-Ray and emergency facilities
Excellent sporting facilities – 2 Golf courses, 2 Basketball stadiums, large tennis and netball complex, football ovals, hockey ground, yacht club, lawn bowls, motorcross, table tennis, badminton etc.
Swimming, boating and surfing, fishing.
Apex, Lions and Rotary Clubs
Very strong community spirit with lots of opportunities for involvement
Popular tourist destination.

- Availability of staff housing
  : n/a

- Accessibility to Adelaide and relevant major centres, including public transport and its availability, frequency and cost (especially by air), road quality
  : Sealed road to Adelaide – 83 kilometres
  Daily bus service
  Local taxi service will access to all areas by appointment.

- Local Government body, availability of publications describing the local area characteristics, level of involvement
  City of Victor Harbor
  Phone – 8551 0500
  Free Community Guide available from the City Council
  Local weekly newspaper – readily available at newsagents, supermarkets, delis $1-60.