PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Centre number: 3620
Centre name: Clarendon Kindergarten

1. General information

- **Preschool Director:** Ida Dillon
- **Postal address:** PO Box 345, Clarendon, 5157
- **Location address:** 82 Grants Gully Road, Clarendon, 5157
- **DECD Partnership:** Sea and Vines
- **Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km):** 28km
- **Telephone number:** 8383 6115
- **Fax number:** 8383 6612
- **Preschool website address:** www.clarendonkgn.sa.edu.au
- **Preschool e-mail address:** dl.3620.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au
- **Enrolment/Attendance:** The site has a capacity of 22 with new adult:child ratio regulations. Attendance is generally high at around 90% with the variation being for illness and family commitments.

- **Co-located/stand-alone:** Stand Alone, located opposite Clarendon Primary School

- **Programs operating at the preschool**
  - Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children. Part time centre open from sessions Tues afternoons 12-3pm, Wednesday and Thursday 8.40am-3pm (lunch care included)
Occasional Care: Unfunded and available when the kindergarten program is not full. It serves as a year long 3-year-old Pre-Entry program, and is restricted to those children enrolled in our kindergarten program for the following year.

Associated Programs: A parent run playgroup operates on a Monday morning 9.15-11.15am

Lunch/Full Day Program: Included in kindergarten program

Bilingual Support: Can be accessed as required.

Preschool Support: Can be accessed as required.

2. Key Centre Policies
   - Centre Priorities/Statement of Purpose: Our Centre operates a play based learning program, based around an Inquiry Approach and incorporating Reggio Emilia principles. Our priority is to provide an excellent program in cooperation with families so that all children can learn and develop confidently at their unique pace.

3. Curriculum
   - Framework used: Early Years Learning Framework
   - Core Values: Play based, Inquiry Approach, incorporating Reggio Emilia principles.
   - Specific curriculum approaches: see above
• Joint programmes/special curriculum projects: N/A

4. Centre Based Staff

• Staff Profile: The centre is staffed by 1 Director (0.6) and 1 teacher (0.6) any required Preschool Support staff and extra staff as the centre employs from time to time.

• Performance Management Program: Conducted formally twice per year, in line with DECD policy. Staff at this site typically operate at high levels, and self-reflection and program review are occur weekly.

• Access to special support staff: As required. Typically we have employed an ECW tp assist with setup on a Tuesday morning to facilitate admin time for the director, assist our teacher and guarantee safe handling practices.

• Other: N/A

5. Centre Facilities

• Buildings and grounds: The kindergarten was formall established in 1975, and is a small, country kindergarten. We are physically attached to beautiful historic stone Community Hall and share the Hall and the kitchen facilities with the Community Association (who hire the Hall out, out-of-kindty hours). The main centre consists of an activity centre with a large L-shaped yard, with 5 veggie gardens. Sustainable living practices are a key value of our families and children feed into small local schools with kitchen garden programs.

• Capacity (per session): 22

• Centre Ownership: The building is leased from the Clarendon Community Association.

• Access for children and staff with disabilities: No wheelchair access.

• Other: N/A
6. **Local Community** (intended for country preschools)

- **General characteristics:** Most families have English as their first language and live locally in the towns of Clarendon, Kangarilla on small farms, or come from nearby suburbs of Happy Valley and Aberfoyle Park, who opt for smaller sites.

- **Parent and community involvement in the preschool:** Parents are generally interested in the kindergarten program, are usually working by typically help out when requested.

- **Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool:** In recent years, most children have gone onto Clarendon Primary School, some to Kangarilla Primary School and some to local independent schools.

- **Other local care and educational facilities:** Kangarilla School hosts the area OSHC with a school bus linking the kindy and school sites.

- **Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities:** The local towns have few facilities, so many families access Aberfoyle Park and suburban facilities.

- **Other local facilities:** There are many local sporting and other clubs, a great local oval and Riverbend Park facilities. There is a local Kauna Cultural Centre at the top of Sturt Road (Warraparinga)

- **Availability of staff housing:** N/A

- **Accessibility:** There is no public transport available

- **Local Government:** City of Onkaparinga

7. **Further Comments**

- **Partnership arrangements with other groups:** Not as yet.