

PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated:

Centre number: 6631

Centre name: Laura Preschool Centre

1. General information

- Centre name
:Laura Preschool Centre
- Centre number
:6631
- Preschool Director
:June Cowin
- Postal address
:6 Booyoolie Street, Laura S.A. 5480
- Location address
:As above
- Telephone number
:8663 2252
- Fax number
:8663 2629
- e-mail address
:june.cowin625@schools.sa.edu.au
- DECD District
:UMN Partnership
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km)
:252 kms
- Enrolment/Attendance
:We currently have 14 children enrolled
- Co-located/stand-alone
:The Preschool is situated across the road from the Laura Primary School
- Programs operating
 - ⊞ Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children
:Children are offered 2 full day sessions 8.45 – 3.15 on Mondays and Wednesdays
 - ⊞ Rural Care

:Rural Care operates Monday to Friday 8.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.

⌘ **Preschool Support**

:A support worker is employed to work with children the staff have identified as needing help in apecific areas including speech and have been assessed by DECD speech pathologist. Hours per week vary each term and are allocated by DECD.

2. Key Centre Policies

- **Centre Priorities and other key statements or policies**

:Our underlying belief is that relationships between children, families, staff and the wider community are the foundation of learning.

Our vision is to provide high quality care and education in a fun and playful environment in order to promote well being and enthusiasm that leads to lifelong learning for all.

3. Curriculum

- **Framework used:**

:Early Year's Learning Framework

:Respect, Reflect, Relate

:Preschool Indicators of Literacy and Numeracy

:National Quality Standards

- **Core Values**

:Secure, respectful and reciprocal relationships

:Partnerships with families

:High expectations and equity

:Respect for diversity

:Ongoing Learning and Reflective Practice

- **Specific curriculum approaches**

:Holistic approaches

:Responsiveness to children

:Learning through play

:Intentional teaching

:Learning Environments

:Cultural Competence

:Continuity of learning and transitions

:Assessment for learning

- Joint programmes/special curriculum projects
:Transition program to Laura, Wirrabara and St Joseph's (Gladstone) Primary Schools

4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff Profile
:Director (PSD1) 0.5
:ECW1 0.45
:Preschool Support ECW 1 (currently 5 hours per week)
:Rural Care Workers ECW 2 (27.5 hours per week)
- Performance Management Program
:Self evaluation, performance conversations with line managers and appropriate training and development
- Access to special support staff
:Funded preschool support is available for children with additional needs.
- Other
:Contracted cleaner (daily)

5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
:The building is a transportable situated in established grounds.
- Capacity (per session)
:24 (combination of preschool and care children)
- Centre Ownership
:DECD building: DECD grounds
- Access for children and staff with disabilities
:Wheelchair accessible

6. Local Community (intended for country preschools)

- General characteristics: (eg. types of work available, languages usually spoken at home, local developments)
:Laura is a small rural town in the mid north of South Australia in a mixed farming area. The community is made up of farming, artistic, religious, sporting and conservation groups. Laura is famous for the Folk Fair that is held annually in April. This is a major fundraising event for all community groups.
- Parent and community involvement in the preschool
:Governing Council of parents and staff meet regularly and play an important role as they work closely with the Director in providing a high

quality education and care service. There is strong family and community support for the centre.

- Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool
 - :Laura Primary School
 - :St Joseph's Gladstone
 - :Wirrabara Primary School
- Other local care and educational facilities, eg child care, schools, OSHC
 - :Family Day Care
- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
 - :Farming industries and supermarket, Golden North icecream factory, cafes, hotel, newsagent, hairdresser, hardware store, garage, soap shop, shoemaker, other small shops.
- Other local facilities, eg medical, sporting, social, cultural, recreational
 - :Local hospital, chemist, sporting clubs (tennis, cricket, football, netball, bowls)
- Availability of staff housing
 - :Private rental
- Accessibility to Adelaide and relevant major centres, including public transport and its availability, frequency and cost (especially by air), road quality
 - :2.5 hours to Adelaide, ½ hour to Port Pirie
- Local Government body (name, phone number), availability of publications describing the local area (with source, cost), characteristics, level of involvement
 - :Northern Area Council 8664 1139

7. Further Comments

- Establishment of new services and/or programs
 - :Playgroup operates on Thursday 10.00 to 12.00
- Partnership/incorporation arrangements with other groups
 - :Laura Preschool is part of the Upper Mid North DECD Local Partnersip.
 - :Employment of School Service Officers as Finance Officers based at Laura Primary School for preschool finance
 - :Rural Care is funded through the Federal Government (DEEWR) and the Child Care Benefit and Rebates apply for families using the service