Centre number: 6605

Centre name: Augusta Park Childhood Services Centre

1. General information

- Centre name: Augusta Park Childhood Services Centre
- Centre number: 6605
- Preschool Director: Sonya Gee-Davis
- Postal address: P.O. Box 585, Port Augusta SA 5700
- Location address: 2 Bailey Street, Port Augusta SA 5700
- Telephone number: (08)86423399
- Fax number: (08)86410136
- Website address: augustapkcsc.sa.edu.au
- e-mail address: kindy.director@augustapkcsc.sa.edu.au
- DETE District: Far North and Aboriginal Lands
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km): 5kms
- Enrolment/Attendance: 62 eligible enrolments, 5 pre-entry enrolments
- Co-located/stand-alone: Stand-alone centre
- Programs operating: Pre Entry
Pre-entry is provided for one session per week, for one term prior to eligible attendance at preschool. Flexible sessions are provided to facilitate access to the pre entry program.

Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children

10 sessions of preschool are offered on a weekly basis from Monday to Friday. Morning sessions run from 8.30am -11.30am and afternoon 12.00pm - 3.00pm. Five sessions of preschool for four-year-olds, for four terms prior to starting school. Aboriginal children or under the guardianship of the Minister for Families and Communities, may attend for four sessions from the age of three years, and once they have turned four they can attend for five sessions per week. Early enrolment is available for children identified with additional needs who would benefit from an early introduction to preschool. Early entry provides one preschool session per week two terms prior to commencement of the child's eligible year. Extended enrolment may be offered when it is agreed that extra time will advantage a child educationally.

We offer two options for attendance for families to choose from and one option for three year old children, they are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option 1</th>
<th>Session Time</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>full day 8:30am - 3.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>full day 8.30am - 3.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>morning 8.30am - 11.30am</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option 2</th>
<th>Session Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>afternoon 12.00pm - 3.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>full day 8.30am - 3.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>full day 8.30am - 3.00pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3 year old (Aboriginal children and children on early enrolment)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session Time</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday afternoon 12.00pm -3.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday afternoon 12.00pm -3.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday afternoon 12.00pm -3.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday afternoon 12.00pm -3.00pm</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Occasional Care (indicate whether funded or unfunded)

Occasional care (unfunded) is available by negotiation with the director e.g. lunch time care and emergency care.

Extended Care

Before and after session care is available by negotiation with the director.

Lunch/Full Day Program

A lunchtime program operates for children attending full days.

Bilingual Support
Preschool Bilingual Program:
3 hours per week through the Preschool Bilingual Program.

Preschool Support:
The Department of Education and Children's Services have specialist staff and resources to support children with special needs and their families. Extra support is provided through the preschool support program to support children's access and participation.

2. Key Centre Policies

- Centre Priorities and other key statements or policies
  - Goal 1: Improved engagement and achievement in literacy, numeracy and science.
  - Goal 2: Improved attendance rates.
  - Goal 3: Enhanced learning through an active learning environment.

3. Curriculum

- Framework used:
  - Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) – Belonging, Being & Becoming (B,B&B).

- Core Values
  - To provide high quality teaching and learning programs where each child is encouraged and supported to reach their full potential.
  - To develop positive partnerships with families and the community.
  - To work as a collaborative team that is reflective and committed to improving service delivery.

- Specific curriculum approaches
  - Provision of a play based curriculum that is age appropriate and includes explicit teaching opportunities.
  - Plan, implement and evaluate programs in place.
  - Assess and report on children's learning and development.
  - Communicate with parents/caregivers regarding their children's progress.
  - Staff to develop their own learning to enhance their work in early childhood education.

- Joint programmes/special curriculum projects
  - Transition Program: A transition to school policy has been established for Port Augusta preschools and primary schools. A consistent transition-to-school program occurs in all Port Augusta primary schools.
  - Pika Wiya Health Service Inc: Provides a child hearing health program to the centre each term. The screening includes otoscope, tympanogram and audiology.
Child and Youth Health: Screenings are organised for children accessing the centre. The health checks are conducted at the centre. Appointment times and the distribution of a questionnaire are organised by the director. Child Health Team from Flinders Terrace Health Centre work closely with the staff to outline individual children's programs and provide training and development.

4. Centre Based Staff

- **Staff Profile**
  - 1 Director: (1.0), 1 Teacher (1.0) and 1 Early Childhood Worker (1.0). Additional staffing employed due to funding allocations.

- **Performance Management Program**
  - Staff are responsible for completing their own Personal Performance and Development Plan by the end of term 1. Plan jointly agreed to by staff member and director. Mid cycle review organised term 3. At the end of term 4 the plan is finalised.

- **Access to special support staff**
  - Disabilities Coordinator: Works in partnership with early childhood staff and parents to support the inclusion of children with additional needs within the centre.
  - Hearing Impairment Services: Teacher consultants provide a collaborative consultancy service.
  - Speech Pathology Services: Speech pathologists provide a support service to help meet the needs of children with communication difficulties.
  - Guidance Services and Early Childhood Psychologists: Guidance officers and registered psychologists provide an educational psychological service for staff to cater more effectively for the academic, social and emotional needs of children.
  - Interagency Student Behaviour Management Services: Student management team members support preschool staff in working with children with behavioural difficulties.
  - Port Augusta has a Child Health Team accessible through Flinders Terrace Health Centre: speech pathologist, occupational therapist, physiotherapist and dietician.
  - Other services available include Paediatrician, Child Development Unit, Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service and Child and Youth Health.
5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
  The centre building consists of the following areas: staff and children toilet area, change room, kitchen, office, storeroom and main classroom area.
  The outdoor area consists of three sheds, bike track, amphitheatre, swings, bridge, climbing structures, seating, sun shades, sensory path, turtle enclosure, lawn area, vegetable garden, native plant area, herb garden and garden areas.
  The centre is aesthetically pleasing, with well-established grounds and facilities.

- Capacity (per session)
  30 children

- Centre Ownership
  The centre is occupying council land.

- Access for children and staff with disabilities
  The centre provides wheelchair access to the main entrance of the building.

6. Local Community (intended for country preschools)

- General characteristics: (eg. types of work available, languages usually spoken at home, local developments)
  Augusta Park Childhood Services Centre is located in the city of Port Augusta. There is great diversity in the cultural backgrounds of people within the local community with differing socio-economic and family structures. These influences impact on our centre and thus we implement programs and structures accordingly. Currently approximately 20% of enrolments within the centre are Indigenous children.

- Parent and community involvement in the preschool
  The centre’s Governing Council consists of a group of parents who meet approximately once per month to make decisions related to the operation of the centre such as finance, fundraising, the purchase of new equipment/resources, building upgrades and maintenance.
  The centre promotes parent and community involvement in the following activities:
  * Community visitors to the centre
  * Christmas pageant involvement
  * Promote local community events
  * Encourage parental involvement into the centre’s program
  * Organise family events such as family nights
  * Links with Early Years Parenting Centre - Playgroup
• Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool
  : Our main feeder schools are Augusta Park Primary School and Caritas
  College, although children also may attend one of the five other schools in
  the community: Willsden Primary School, Carlton Primary School, Stirling
  North Primary School, Port Augusta West Primary School and Flinders
  View Primary School.

• Other local care and educational facilities, eg child care, schools, OSHC
  : Child Care Centres: TAFE, Port Augusta Child Care Centre.
  Preschools: Port Augusta West C.S.C, Flinders Children’s Centre,
  Willsden C.S.C, and Stirling North C.S.C.
  Primary Schools: Augusta Park P.S, Flinders View P.S, Port Augusta
  West P.S, Carlton P.S, Stirling North P.S and Willsden P.S.
  Port Augusta Secondary School: Seaview Campus and Stirling Campus.
  Combined Primary and Secondary: Port Augusta School of the Air.
  Catholic School: Caritas College (reception to year 12).
  Port Augusta Special School.
  Child Parent Centre: Located at Flinders View P.S.
  Family Day Care.
  Out of School Hours Care Service (including vacation care).
  RICE (Remote and Isolated Children’s Exercise).
  Spencer Institute of TAFE.
  Early Learning Program.
  Learning Together Program
  Early Years Parenting Centre

• Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
  : Port Augusta has a wide variety of shopping facilities available including
  speciality stores, clothing, hardware, furniture, home accessories and food
  stores. There is a main shopping centre situated on Commercial Road.

• Other local facilities, eg medical, sporting, social, cultural, recreational
  : Hospital, police station, Flinders Terrace Health Centre, council, church
  services, library, outdoor swimming pool, shopping centres, parks,
  playgrounds, cinema, Flying Doctor Base and tourism attractions (Arid
  Lands, Curdnatta Art Centre, Flinders Rangers and Wadiata).
  Port Augusta has a wide range of sporting club activities.

• Availability of staff housing
  : Yes

• Accessibility to Adelaide and relevant major centres, including public transport
  and its availability, frequency and cost (especially by air), road quality
  : Air service: Sharp Airlines provide a passenger service to and from
  Adelaide on a daily basis.
Premier Stateliner Coach Group provides passenger and parcel services daily to and from Adelaide.

- Local Government body (name, phone number), availability of publications describing the local area (with source, cost), characteristics, level of involvement:
  - Corporation of Port Augusta Phone number: 8641 9100/Fax: 8641 0357
  - Email: admin@portaugusta.sa.gov.au

7. **Further Comments**

- Establishment of new services and/or programs:
  - Staff provide a parent information session for new enrolments each term.
  - A major focus is to achieve a stimulating outdoor learning environment.

- Partnership/incorporation arrangements with other groups:
  - A Playgroup Coordinator has been appointed 3 hours per week to support the Early Years Parenting Centre’s playgroup services at Homestead Park. This strategy will work towards established stronger links with children and families accessing this service before transitioning to preschool.