



Live. Love. Learn.

Information for Families

4 Humble Street (Corner Thames Drive and Humble Street)

Reynella, South Australia, 5161.

Telephone: 8381 2086 / Fax: 83228753

Kindergarten Mobile: 0418 18 3465

Email us at: dl.3674_leaders@schools.sa.edu.au

Visit our website at: www.reynellakgn.sa.edu.au

Our logo was developed by Sarah Dale (2013) when we changed our name. It was created in consultation with children, families and staff. Our mulberry tree is a big focus at our kindergarten with children enjoying this “tucker” in term 4 each year. The rainbow colours are the children’s idea and staff asked for the children to reflect diversity. We hope you like it!

WELCOME!

Welcome to Reynella Kindergarten (formerly Reynella South Kindergarten) - your child's learning centre. We're sure the time your family spends with us will be of benefit to all. We know parents are the most powerful educators of their children and worthwhile learning occurs when home and kindergarten cooperate with and support each other.

Your family may have skills or interests like gardening, cooking, craft, music, working with children or administration which you'd like to share. You're very welcome to participate in any way you feel comfortable - by joining in you'll enrich our educational program. We are a small kindergarten with a community focus. We look forward to your contribution!

Please know that we are a nut-aware site. This means no nuts, nutella, or nut bars. Our policy on this is available to all families, in the white policy folder by the parent/carer pigeon holes.

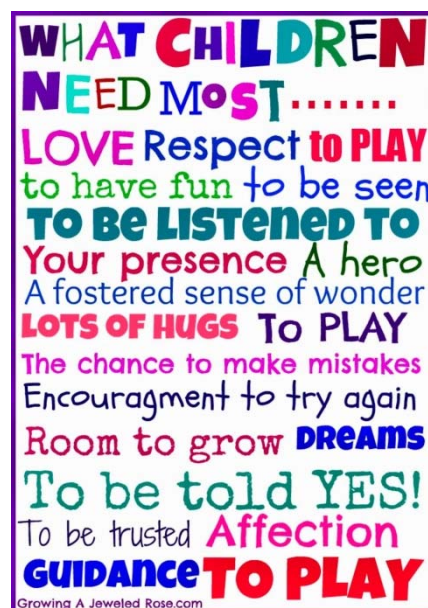
The approved education provider is the Department of Education and Children's Development. We underwent stringent National Accreditation in 2015 and were awarded with an overall rating of "Exceeding National Standards."

Reynella Kindergarten Philosophy statement

Our community believe children thrive in an inclusive and interesting environment. As educators we encourage each child to learn, beginning with their own interests as the starting point, playing, exploring, creating and investigating. We intentionally challenge children's thinking (and our own) in all areas including numeracy, literacy and science in exciting and fun ways and educators plan for this learning. Our children are nurtured in mind, body and spirit. Educators support all children to take calculated risks, increasing their wellbeing, engagement and readiness to learn. Family involvement in all aspects of the kindergarten helps promote children's sense of belonging and is highly valued. At our kindergarten we have strong relationships in our community that support children (from birth to school), staff and families through connections with Playgroup, neighbours and local businesses. We make a positive difference to our world by learning about, and caring for, ourselves, each other and our earth. We strive to improve across all areas of the kindergarten in tiny and gigantic ways.

Always developing in consultation with children, staff, Governing Council & families.
Feedback always welcome.

Policies: DECD (Education Department) and Centre Policies are available in the folder by the family pigeon holes. These are regularly updated and revised. Feedback and suggestions are welcome.



2017 KINDERGARTEN SESSIONS:

Terms 1, 2, 3 and 4:

TUESDAY: 8.30am – 4pm

WEDNESDAY: 8.30am – 4pm

Children are entitled to 15 hours of preschool per week. Session times have changed following extensive community consultation. Responses from children, staff and families will be reviewed during the year.

Please remember your child's regular and timely attendance helps them feel secure and happy at kindy. It also profoundly enhances their learning. Please see the Director if you need some support around attendance. We aim for 93% attendance. Every day counts at preschool.

ENROLMENT: Since 2014 there has been strictly one intake (Term 1). Children turning 4 on or before April 30 of the kindy year will start in term 1 of that year. Any child turning 4 on or after May 1 must start Kindergarten the following year.

- We are a part-time centre so children attend full days.
- See policy folder for more information.

PROOF OF BIRTH DATE IS NOW REQUIRED AT ENROLMENT. Please supply an original we can copy on site and return immediately.

PRE-ENTRY: To help your child transition to kindy we will offer orientation visits in term 4 (**October-December**) of the year before your child starts kindy, resources allowing. This is not government funded and staff will attend as an additional workload. We highly value this experience for children, therefore the site will subsidise the service. **Families are required to make a contribution of \$40 to these costs, payable on the first week.**

Please see the Director/email/telephone for dates and times.

EARLY ENTRY: Early admission or extension of time is negotiable and may be offered to children with additional needs, such as developmental delays, giftedness, culture, family and social circumstances, or health/medical conditions. Early admission will only occur following full consultation and agreement between families, the Director, Department of Education and Children's Development and/or others. \$40 per term.

Special Needs including Bilingual Programs are staffed as required. Support may be available from some specialist staff to meet children's and families' individual needs. Free services can include speech therapy, child psychology, special education assistance and behaviour support. Please speak to the Director if you feel your child would benefit from extra support in any area.

Emergency care and late pick up - \$5.00 per half hour or part of. PLEASE TELEPHONE.

PLAYGROUP: MONDAYS: 9.30 - 11.00 am.

Our playgroup is held every Monday from 9.30am to 11.00am. It offers a variety of fun craft, musical and play activities and is a lovely way for families to get to know the kindy and other families. All children (birth to 5 years), parents and carers are welcome. Please bring a piece of fruit and water for your child. \$4.00 per family. First visit is free. Playgroup operates during school term and not on public holidays.

Education program

Our curriculum is based on the National Early Years Learning framework. It's called "Belonging, Being and Becoming":

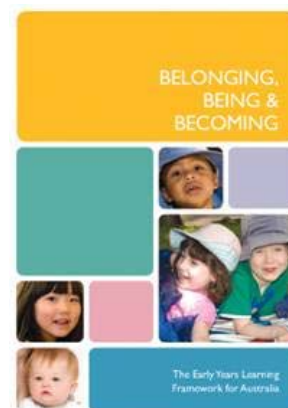
BELONGING - *Feeling connected in key relationships.*

BEING - *Immersion in the here and now of relationships, interests & day to day events.*

BECOMING - *Changing and growing in understandings, skills and possibilities.*

The program aims for learning outcomes across these 3 areas. During your child's time at Kindergarten we will support your child to:

1. **have a strong sense of wellbeing;**
 2. **develop a strong sense of identity;**
 3. **be increasingly connected with and contribute to their world;**
 4. **be an effective communicator;** and
 5. **be a confident and involved learner.**
- These are the 5 key outcomes of the above Early Years framework curriculum.**



Numeracy key elements



Literacy key elements



We also use the **Preschool Literacy and Numeracy Indicators** to plan and report. This provides more detail to families about Numeracy and Literacy at Kindergarten.

Key indicators include using language, representing our world with symbols, quantifying using number, analysing and reading data, measuring and making comparisons.

We know children learn best through play, discovery and imagining. As educators we constantly reflect on our practice, practice of others, and research to improve learning outcomes, children's enjoyment, quality, equity and wellbeing. We base our beliefs on this reflection and observation of children and our staff team works regularly on these principles.



We respect and celebrate different ways of seeing, knowing and living and we **honour the importance of links with family, culture and community**. Our program focuses on learning experiences which foster development of **social skills and life competencies**. To meet children's individual needs, we collaborate with them and their families to develop experiences that are **age- and stage-appropriate**. We enjoy connections with our local community and value our neighbourhood walks as part of our educational program. The permission slip, included in the enrolment pack, must be signed for your child to be included in these walks. We strongly support children's development of oral language as we know this is a precursor to strength in Literacy. We promote opportunities for informal conversations ("Strive for 5") and more formal presentations during the year. Children's Wellbeing and Numeracy are key focus points for our educators. Your feedback and involvement in our learning program is valued. Please refer to the 2-page information sheet at the end of this booklet for more information on the national curriculum.

Individual Learning Portfolio – Each child will help their educators to develop their own Learning Portfolio. It provides evidence, through samples of drawing, writing and photographs, of what your child knows, can do and understands. Educators assess each child and comment on achievements. The portfolio celebrates little steps and giant leaps in learning. It shows outcomes achieved in line with the curriculum and dispositions your child shows including confidence, creativity, interdependence and independence. Families can access the portfolio any time and are formally sent home each term. Please write your own comments in your child's portfolio.

What to Bring to Kindy

- **Named** medication & Doctor's plan – not to be kept in children's bags THIS MUST BE PROVIDED AT PRE ENTRY OR IN WEEK 1 OF TERM 1 IN ORDER FOR YOUR CHILD TO ATTEND.
- A **named** bag.
- A **named** drink bottle (for water only).
- A **named** roll-on sunscreen to be kept on a high shelf - not in bags.
- A **named** broad brimmed / bucket hat.
- A change of clothes – appropriate to the season and **including socks & underwear.**
- **Morning and Afternoon Fruit Time:** 2 pieces of fresh fruit or vegetables and yoghurt.
- **Lunch:** We request you pack a **savoury multigrain sandwich/wrap/pasta, yoghurt and fruit. No sweet, processed or commercially packaged foods** at kindy as we promote healthy eating, dental care and a healthy lifestyle. Homemade, low sugar muffins or cake are ok. Children are encouraged to eat crunchy foods and crusts to develop strong facial muscles which help with speech.
- See Policy booklet about Food and Nutrition - NO NUTS. We cannot refrigerate lunches so use a freezer pack if you are concerned about food contamination.
- **Water** - We only allow water to be consumed at Kindy. Staff will refill bottles or cups with our filtered water at any time. We encourage drinking water throughout the day.
- **A box of tissues to donate at the start of the year.**

Birthdays -: We have a "pretend" kindy cake with real candles to blow out and sing to, and we always celebrate using this.

Toys & Jewellery - Please don't allow your child to bring their own toys or jewellery to kindergarten because they could get lost or broken.

Clothing and footwear

Children's learning opportunities can be enhanced or limited by the clothes they wear. Please dress your child in clothes which can get messy and don't restrict movements when climbing. Your child should wear shoes or sandals, not thongs or crocs. Children must bring a named, broad brimmed **unsafe hat**. Clothing should always cover shoulders and legs and please tie long hair back. Parents can apply sunscreen at home or on arrival at Kindergarten from April to September. **Please name all clothes and other items and pack spare clothes (including underwear) in your child's bag** - let your child/ren know the clothes are there if they need them. See Policy folder for more information.

To help your child play outside during Spring and Autumn please bring them a named pair of gumboots and a complete change of clothes in term 2 and 3. We celebrate the seasons and develop our understanding through hands-on experiences. In summer we often have bare feet so we can experience through all of our senses. As we play with water in the warmer months your child will need a complete change of clothes so we can help them change if they need to.

When I'm playing outside I'm learning

Absorption Arranging Adapting Action
Animals Autonomy Balance Belonging
Calculating Caring Change Cause and Effect
Chemical Reaction Community Classification
Creative thinking Construction Co-operation
Density Communication Creatures Culture
Connections Confidence Depth Conservation
Distance Evaporation Exploring Force
Experimenting Environment Friction Feelings
Friendship Gravity Height Identification
Inertia Insects Investigation Initiative
Independence Invention Light Listening
Language Manipulating Movement Matching
Measurement Mass Myself Negotiation Nature
Nurturing Number Observing Ordering
Patterning Physics Planning Problem Solving
Propulsion Plants Questioning Reaction
Risk Responsibility Self Control Size Shape
Speed Spatial Representation Suspension
Scent Seasons Scientific Method Touch
Temperature Team Work Texture Vibration
Volume Weight Weather and so much more!

**Playing outside makes me
happier, healthier, smarter**

On Arrival – Please encourage your child to ‘have a go’ at signing their name. We focus on name recognition, pencil grip, making an attempt and a developing understanding that print has meaning. **We do not focus on being able to write their name in a legible way as they are usually just beginning to ‘write’.** Children then find their named hook or shelf and put their bag on it. Fruit and lunch stays in the bag and their named drink bottle goes into the red tray. We ask that your child does these tasks independently to promote self-confidence and help them remember where their things are.

Parents and/or caregivers **MUST** enter the kindy to deliver and collect children. Please sign your child in and out each day. **NO** child will be permitted to leave the Centre until the parent or caregiver has arrived and the child has been farewelled by staff. Please advise staff if somebody other than a person you have authorised on your child’s enrolment form is to collect your child by filling in the comments section on the sign-in sheet.

Rosters - Your name will be included in the washing roster and, at the end of each term, you’ll be given a “job stick” from Governing Council requesting that you perform one specific cleaning job. Please complete this by week 8 of the term. You will be asked to help in a variety of other ways such as fundraising BBQ’s and/or events. Your help takes pressure off staff, saves the kindergarten money, raises funds for the Kindergarten and is greatly appreciated. 😊

Governing Council - Governing Council consists of interested parents and staff who work together to effectively manage the kindergarten. We meet twice per term at kindy (Weeks 3 & 7) to discuss the educational program, funds, fundraising, maintenance, community needs and more. Everyone is welcome to attend; it is a great way of meeting other parents and having an active role in decision making.

Volunteer! - If you’d like to be part of your child’s kindy we’d love you to join us, gardening, cooking, building, creating art works big and small, sharing music and song. Please don’t be shy – come and talk to one of the educators and we will help you work something out! Volunteer guidelines are followed – please see Policy folder. Your child’s confidence will greatly increase as a result of your involvement.

Communication

Our aim is to work with families to assist children to achieve their full potential while at kindergarten. We do this by regularly discussing your child's progress with you. We encourage you to discuss any concerns with us as they arise. Staff are available for quick chats between 8.45 am and 3.30 pm. If you’d like to discuss important issues that may take longer please make an appointment for another time to meet or telephone. You’re welcome to telephone to check your child’s settled if you’re worried.

- Your family has a **pigeon hole** located on the shelves near the front door. It is labelled with your child’s name. Please check this each day for any notes.
- Regular **newsletters** will be emailed. If you prefer a paper copy it can be collected from the “Newsletter” pigeon hole.
- We have several **noticeboards** displaying information for your interest. The kindergarten term program is displayed outside the front door. The kindergarten weekly program is displayed inside the front door – please ask a staff member if you’d like more information.
- A written **exit report** (“Statement of Learning”) and learning portfolio of children’s achievements are provided for each child when they leave kindergarten to attend school.
- **Feedback** is always welcome from children and families about all issues. We value diversity in backgrounds and culture so please share some of your family traditions and celebrations with us so we can celebrate with you.
- We hope you feel comfortable to discuss any ideas with staff or to write a note and drop it into the suggestion box on the shelf by the parent pigeonholes.
- You can ring, text the kindy mobile or email any time.

Adult Library - books with a range of information on children's and family issues eg new baby in the family, behaviour support, development, activities to do with your children, children's illnesses. Located in the white labelled cupboard near the toilets.

Children's Behaviour

Children are supported to engage with each other and staff in a friendly, sociable way. At 4 years of age children are undergoing great changes in themselves and in relation to others. Skills are constantly developing. Staff support children to act with care for themselves, others and kindergarten property. Should a child need to move from an area or from other children they will be supported to do this and have "time in" with a staff member. They will have the time to calm so they can think about what has happened and how people (including themselves) have been affected. They will have the opportunity to make amends if this is deemed important by themselves, staff or other children. Staff encourage children to make positive choices at every opportunity and praise them for doing so. Please see the Director immediately if you have any concerns about the behaviour of your child, another child, another adult, the policy or staff actions at our centre. Please ensure confidentiality, especially in front of children. Please see the Policy folder for further information.

Sick children - Please do not send sick children to kindy, as staff and other children can become ill as a result. If your child becomes ill at kindy staff ring parents first, then the people on your emergency contact list. Please contact kindy asap when you know your child will not be attending. Leave a message on the kindy landline / mobile the night before if it's easier.

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU UPDATE CHANGES IN CONTACT INFORMATION FOR YOUR FAMILY AND EMERGENCY CONTACTS.

Complaints

1 Please speak to the Director if you have any issues. Confidentiality will be maintained. Please refrain from discussing concerns with other parents until resolution is achieved. Please **do not** discuss problems in front of your children as this can negatively impact on their relationships. The Director will provide the Kindergarten community with all reasonable resources to achieve mutually agreeable outcomes, with the centre's and children's best interests in mind.

2 If there is no resolution with the Director parents can contact Christine Hatzi at the Southern Adelaide Regional Office (ph. 82073700).

3 If there is still no resolution you can contact the Parent Complaint Unit on 1800 677 435 to discuss concerns or to seek advice about resolving kindergarten or school issues.

Please see the kindy Policy folder and/or website (www.reynellakgn.sa.edu.au) for further information about the Department of Education's Parent complaint and resolution guidelines and pamphlet.

Fee notices are put in your pigeonhole, above the bag hooks before the beginning of each term. Parents experiencing difficulty in paying fees are respectfully asked to discuss this confidentially with the Director. **Please pay your child's fees in the first 2 weeks of term.** When paying by Electronic Funds Transfer you'll need to leave a note for the Treasurer in the fees box or email the Director to let know us know you have paid. Fees are \$100 per term per child. Parent contribution is vital for effective running of the kindergarten. Excursions may be an extra cost but are usually limited to \$15.00 once per term.

Child Care Drop Off / Pick Up Service

Our kindergarten has an ongoing agreement with Kindy Patch Reynella (formerly called “Snow White Child Care Centre”). If you wish to arrange this service which includes kindy drop off, pick up and care at their centre, please call them direct. Families must inform the kindergarten if you use this service and complete the “Authority to collect” section on your child’s enrolment form.
Kindy Patch Reynella - 90 Main South Road, Reynella. Telephone 8381 1269

School enrolment

Our children go to a great range of primary schools. School enrolment is parents’ responsibility and we recommend children be enrolled approximately six months before they are due to start school. Please ask us if you have any questions.

Term dates - government preschools and schools

2016	1 Feb - 15 Apr	2 May - 8 Jul	25 Jul - 30 Sep	17 Oct - 16 Dec
2017	30 Jan - 13 Apr	1 May - 7 Jul	24 Jul - 29 Sep	16 Oct - 15 Dec
2018	29 Jan - 13 Apr	30 Apr - 6 Jul	23 Jul - 28 Sep	15 Oct - 14 Dec

To confirm the dates provided phone 8226 1083 during business hours.

Check with [your local school](#) for information on open days, tours and events.

This information is current as of September 2016.

Check information at the DECD website:

www.earlyyears.sa.edu.au or www.decd.sa.gov.au including tips for choosing a school.

- **Children’s Health/Parent Helpline ph. 1300 364 100 - 24 hrs**
- **SA School Dental Service ph. 8384 9244 - Free for pre-schoolers & toddlers**
- **Child & Youth Health ph. 1300733606**
- **GP Plus Noarlunga ph. 81649111**
- **Kindy Patch Reynella ph. 8381 1269**
- **DECD, Southern Adelaide Office, Noarlunga ph. 82073700**
- **DECD, Flinders Street ph. 82261000**
- **Reynella Kindy Mobile ph. 0418183465**
- **Reynella Kindy Landline 83812086**

Reynella Kindergarten Daily Schedule

Inside setup – follow children’s interests – may include paint, pasting table, home corner, puzzles, blocks, magnetics/ maths/science/story table/art/music table activity (**follow children’s interests**, draw, write, cut, paste, THINK).

Outside setup follow children’s interests includes sandpit toys/buckets/ trucks, cubby house props, plastic plates etc & pencils/paper etc, swings, climbing frames, soft fall mats, mini tramp. Children’s interests on the lawn? – eg balls/sport/”picnic”/camping/ cubby.

We acknowledge, when having “free play” at kindy, children are making choices, building social relationships and skills, sharing, taking turns and doing lots of communicating. To promote this learning we aim to maintain uninterrupted, supported free play for approximately 1 to 2 hours in the morning and again in the afternoon. Educators are always present to direct, facilitate, scaffold and observe play. Educators are always involved with children and take opportunities to ‘teach’ and question in supportive ways during play.

Apart from drop off and pick up, times listed below are approximate and always subject to change according to the needs of individuals and the group.

8.15am	Families can access the outdoor areas prior to doors opening
8.30 am	Getting Organised – Children to take the lead
9:15	Large Group: Hello Song, Roll Call, story etc.
9.25	Focused learning projects
10.00	Fruit Time and Yoghurt
10.20	Outside/Inside Supported Free Play
11.45	Group song, Lunch & Group relax (“Stretch and Rest”)
12.30 pm	Supported free play; afternoon fruit/Yoghurt - optional
2.50	Optional group time, optional afternoon tea
3.45	Group time/song/activity/game, families are encouraged to join in
4pm	Departure

Children can play outside if there is an educator present. Children can help with outside setup, promoting children’s voice and choice. Children help with pack up (good learning opportunity showing responsibility, self-discipline, care for others and environment). Times are flexible to allow for extended learning opportunities.

Verbal discussions with children are encouraged at all times to develop oral communication skills (“Strive for 5”). Staff will take photo’s and make observational notes of individual learning, questions and interests when possible.

Families are asked to respect our valuable teaching and learning time. If you arrive early for pick up at the end of the day please join your child on the mat and direct their attention back to the educator so we can finish the day joining in together with our learning.

Our educators will help children practice their social skills, encouraging them to show they are ready, sitting formally on the mat and making eye contact with the educator/s. Children are expected to have a formal verbal exchange with further eye contact and use their words to say goodbye. Please help your child to do this if they need support.