PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Centre number: 4603
Centre name: Athelstone Preschool

1. General information
   • Preschool Director: Emma Schulz
   • Postal address: 338 Gorge Road, Athelstone, SA 5076
   • Location address: 338 Gorge Road, Athelstone, SA 5076
   • DECS Region: Campbell Partnership
   • Geographical location – The preschool is located at the back of the carpark behing the Marchant Community Centre.
   • Telephone number: 08 8337 5493
   • Fax number: 8365 5738
   • Preschool website address:
   • Preschool e-mail address: dl.4603.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au
   • Enrolment/Attendance: Average enrolment of 65-70 children
   • Co-located/stand-alone: Stand-alone preschool
   • Programs operating at the preschool
     ☐ Transition Visits: Two visits per child offered in term 4 each year.
     ☐ Full Day Program- Monday to Friday 9am - 3pm
2. **Key Centre Policies**

- Centre Priorities/Statement of Purpose
  At Athelstone Preschool we provide a rich play based curriculum which aims to foster children’s creativity, resilience, social skills, problem-solving and social justice.

3. **Curriculum**

- Framework used: Early Years Learning Framework.
  We believe that children’s love for learning is enriched by strong relationships between home and kindergarten. We encourage parents to actively participate in their children’s learning. At Athelstone Preschool staff work in collaboration with the parents and broader community to create a strong leaning community.

- Joint programmes/special curriculum projects

4. **Centre Based Staff**

- Staff Profile
  Director 1.0
  Teachers 2 X 0.5 (Permanent), 0.4 (Universal Access)
  ECW 0.5 (Permanent) 0.5 (Contract)

- Performance Management Program
  All staff create an annual Performance and Development Plan which is reviewed and discussed throughout the year.
• Access to special support staff
  Staff work closely with DECD support staff and with private providers.
• Other

5. **Centre Facilities**

• Buildings and grounds: The preschool was built in 1969. The centre is spacious with a variety of rooms such as parent communication room, library, store rooms and office. The centre has been well maintained by DECD and the Campbelltown Council.
  The outdoor learning environment is spacious and well shaded. There are two storage sheds.
• Capacity (per session): 45 children

• Centre Ownership: Council lease agreement

• Access for children and staff with disabilities: Disabled access to the preschool via a ramp.

• Other
6. Local Community (intended for country preschools)

- General characteristics:
  The centre is located in a residential suburb.

- Parent and community involvement in the preschool:
  Parents are involved in a variety of ways such as helping at special events, fundraising, yard cleaning, washing roster etc.
  We have an active and supportive Governing Council

- Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool
  Athelstone School
  Thorndon Park Primary School
  St Francis of Assisi School- Newton
  East Marden Primary School
  St Joseph’s School
  Stradbroke School
  Paradise Primary School

- Other local care and educational facilities,
  Goodstart-Gorge Road
  Emali Early Learning

- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities

- Other local facilities:
  The centre is located close to a range of medical centres and services.
  Thorndon Park is close to the preschool.
  The Marchant Community Centre is located next door.

- Availability of staff housing
  Private rental properties are available locally.

- Accessibility
  Public transport is available with a bus stop directly infront of the preschool.

- Local Government
  Campbelltown City Council
7. **Further Comments**

- Partnership arrangements with other groups
  
The preschool is part of the Campbell Partnership. We have close working relationships with local schools and preschools through this partnership. A close link between the Campbelltown City Council exists though the OPAL program which promotes healthy eating and active lifestyles.