



PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Centre number: 4603

Centre name: Athelstone Kindergarten

1. General information

- Preschool Director: Suzana Mladenovic
- Centre name: Athelstone Kindergarten
- Postal address: 338 Gorge Rd. Athelstone 5076
- Location address: 338 Gorge Rd. Athelstone 5076
- DECS District: Campbell Partnership
- Geographical location – The preschool is located at the back of the carpark behind the Marchant Community Centre.
- Telephone number: 8337 5493
- Fax number: 8365 5738
- E-mail address: dl.4603.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au
- Web address: <https://athelstonepre.sa.edu.au/>
- Enrolment/Attendance: 30 sessional (average per year)
- Co-located/stand-alone: Stand alone
- Programs operating
 - Transition Visits: Two visits per child offered in term 4 or term 2 each year.
 - Full Day Program- Monday to Friday 9am - 3pm
 - Bilingual Support
 - Preschool Support

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.

Attention to improvement in the teaching programme, and an awareness of individual **children's needs is a priority**; improvement to facilities, particularly the outdoors teaching environment – are in keeping with the values of the surrounding community.

Current Priorities- Quality Improvement Goal

Further strengthen the preschool environment to proactively support every child's sensory and regulation needs, ensuring optimal conditions for engagement, learning, and wellbeing.

Families

We encourage all family members to feel valued, informed, and welcome as part of our kindergarten family network.

We continually review and improve ways of communicating our fortnightly and daily program to parents and caregivers who are unable to access the kindergarten regularly. Information about the kindergarten program and each child's learning and development is shared through Storypark, regular newsletters, learning displays, and flexible opportunities for parent-educator discussions.

We recognise and value the diverse cultures within our community and actively invite families to contribute their knowledge, experiences, and perspectives to the kindergarten program

Governing Council

Athelstone Preschool has a strong Governing Council of parent and staff representatives It:

- Inputs into the pre-schools policies and activities.
- Manages the Preschool assets and finances according to the present budget and evaluates and monitors the accuracy of the predicted income and expenditure.

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 1.4
- ECW 0.6 (Permanent) 0.2 (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.

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. We are going into there stage outdoor area upgrad, with the first one commencing in 2026.

Capacity: 55 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 Preschool 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.

Accessibility

Public transport is available with a bus stop directly in front 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 through the OPAL program which promotes healthy eating and active lifestyles.

