PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Centre number: 2629

Centre name: Hamley Bridge Kindergarten

1. General information

- Centre name: Hamley Bridge Kindergarten
- Centre number: 2629
- Preschool Director: Chris Fisher
- Postal address: Recreation Park, Stockport Rd, Hamley Bridge. 5401
- Location address: Recreation Park, Stockport Road, Hamley Bridge 5401
- Telephone number: 08-8528 2298
- Fax number: 08-8528 2360
- E-mail address: kindy.director@hamleykgn.sa.edu.au
- DECS District: Yorke and Mid North
- Geographical location – i.e. road distance from GPO (km): 80 kms
- Enrolment/Attendance: 12 four year olds
- Co-located/stand-alone: Stand –alone – in process of moving to school site – should happen sometime in 2012
- Programs operating
  Pre Entry: integrated into sessions- usually 2½ hours
- Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children (4 years of age)
  - 5 sessions per week:
    - Monday 9am – 3pm
    - Tuesday 9am – 12noon
    - Wednesday 9am – 3pm

- Rural Entry (3½ years old and living more than 10km from centre)
  - Integrated into sessions.

- Funded Occasional Care
  - 1 Session per week on Mondays with ECW2 9am – 11.45am
  - Places for up to ten 2 - 5 year olds (including 2 emergency places)

- Extended Care
  - Early entry and extended time programmes are available

- Lunch/Full Day Program
  - Lunch Care is a free service for full day children

- Bilingual Support
  - If required

- Preschool Support
  - Allocated on a needs basis

- Local Management
  - The Centre is Locally Managed in conjunction with Governing Council

### 2. Key Centre Policies

- Centre Priorities/Statement of Purpose
  - We believe –
    - Children learn through play and the learning involved in the activity is of higher importance than the completed product.
    - In recognising and valuing the individuality of all children, and the diversity of their families.
    - Programs should cater for the developmental needs and interests of all children.
    - Children and staff have the right to feel safe and secure at all times.
3. Curriculum

- Framework used:
  - Early Years Learning Framework
  - National Curriculum
- Core Values
  - Respect and responsibility.
- Specific curriculum approaches
  - Learning through play
- Site Priorities
  - Literacy – Oral Language
  - Wellbeing

4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff Profile
  - 0.6 Director
  - 0.5 Early Childhood Worker
- Performance Management Program
  - The Director meets with the Assistant Regional Director who monitors performance.
  - The Director has the responsibility of monitoring the ECW's Performance Management plans.
- Access to special support staff
  - An additional ECW is employed to work 1 on 1 with children with additional needs, and to support the program.
  - The Centre accesses DECS support staff, and specialist services from Lower North Health.
- Other
  - Early Childhood Network:
    - There are hubs, which staff attend to network with local sites.

5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
  - The Kindergarten building is small but the outside learning area is a large playspace that promotes exploration and curiosity
- Capacity (per session)
  - 21
- Centre Ownership
  - The Department for Education put the building onto Wakefield Regional Council owned land in 1974
• Access for children and staff with disabilities
  : Reasonable but no disabled toilet facilities
• Other
  :

6. **Local Community** (intended for country preschools)
• General characteristics: (eg. types of work available, languages usually spoken at home, local developments)
  : There are occasional property sales within the township and little change of ownership of the surrounding farms.
• Parent and community involvement in the preschool
  : Parents are involved at different levels, in volunteer roles, in Governing Council, and in aspiring to the Centre goals.
  The community is involved as individuals in a minor way, and in affiliations with local organisations.
• Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool
  : The majority of children exiting the Kindergarten enrol at the Hamley Bridge Primary School. However a steady few go to Owen, Tarlee and Wasleys Primary Schools. Occasionally children transition to private Schools in Balaklava or Gawler.
• Other local care and educational facilities, eg child care, schools, OSHC
  : There are no child care facilities offered in town, aside from those offered at the Kindergarten.
  The closest Child Care facilities are at Riverton, Roseworthy or Balaklava.
• Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
  : Shopping facilities are restricted to a General Store/Post Office, a chemist, an Op. Shop, a hairdresser and Takeaway/Hotel.
• Other local facilities, eg medical, sporting, social, cultural, recreational
  : There is a well respected hospital, a Surgery and 2 Doctors in the town,
  Sport plays a big part in the town. Much of the recreational life of the residents appears to be centred in clubs i.e. sports (football, netball, tennis, swimming, etc)
• Availability of staff housing
  : No but private rental may be possible
• Accessibility to Adelaide and relevant major centres, including public transport and its availability, frequency and cost (especially by air), road quality
  : There is very limited access to public transport into and out of Hamley Bridge.
  Hamley Bridge is 30 minutes from Gawler.
Local Government body (name, phone number), availability of publications describing the local area (with source, cost), characteristics, level of involvement

Hamley Bridge is in the Wakefield Regional District Council and the Council chambers are in Balaklava (phone 08-88620800).

7. Further Comments

Establishment of new services and/or programs

There exists a plan to co-locate the Kindergarten with Hamley Bridge Primary School on the school site. Funding has now been approved and the move should happen in 2012.