PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Centre number: 2633
Centre name: Kapunda Kindergarten

1. General information
   - Preschool Director: Sally Wuttke
   - Postal address: P.O. Box 58, Kapunda 5373
   - Location address: Beck St, Kapunda 5373
   - DECS Region: Barossa
   - Geographical location: Approximately 80 kms from Adelaide
   - Telephone number: 0885 662 431
   - Fax number: 0885 663 373
   - Preschool e-mail address: kindy.director@kapundakgn.sa.edu.au
   - Enrolment/Attendance:
     Enrolment and attendances are regularly above state averages. Over the past several years attendances have been on average 38.
   - Co-located/stand-alone: Stand alone
   - Programs operating at the preschool:
     - Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children: Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 8:45am – 3:30pm.
     - Funded Occasional Care:
       Wednesdays 8:45am – 11:30am
       Thursdays 8:45am – 11:30am
       12noon – 2:45pm
2. **Key Centre Policies**
   - Healthy Eating
   - Behavioural Code
   - Sunsmart
   - Illnesses

3. **Curriculum**
   - Framework used: The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia – Belonging, Being and Becoming.
   - Core Values:
     1. Learning through play
     2. Respect
     3. Honesty
     4. Tolerance
   - Specific curriculum approaches: Book-based and Project-based programming. Through this we aim to provide a secure, challenging learning environment which embraces family and community and fosters the lifelong love of learning for all our citizens of the future.
   - We have a strong focus on Literacy and Numeracy.
   - We have a strong ethos of learning in our natural environment and have upgraded our natural playspaces over several years.
• Joint programmes/special curriculum projects: Work closely with DECS Speech Pathologists and the Occupational Therapists from the Barossa Early Childhood Intervention team.

4. Centre Based Staff

• Staff Profile:

  0.8 Director  
  0.7 Teacher  
  0.5 ECW  
  0.3 Occasional Care Worker  
  0.1 Finance Officer

Over the past 12 months our enrolment numbers have increased creating additional Director and teacher time.

• Access to special support staff:

Additional staffing to support children with special needs is appointed as part of the DECS preschool support program.

Additional staffing is also employed to support the site Early Intervention program.

Therapy sessions for children referred to Community Health once a fortnight.

5. Centre Facilities

• Buildings and grounds:

The stand alone Kindergarten is situated in a quiet cul-de-sac next door to the town swimming pool. The town park is located directly behind the kindergarten. Recently the grounds have been redeveloped creating a fantastic lawned play area and paved paths. The building includes a kindergarten and a 10 place Occasional Care facility. The spacious, park like outdoor area includes an extensive undercover area and a large storage shed.

• Centre Ownership:

The spacious and well equipped building and grounds is owned by the local council and maintained by DECS and the Governing Council.
• Access for children and staff with disabilities:
  A paved path provides wheelchair access.

6. **Local Community** (intended for country preschools)

• General characteristics:

  Kapunda township was developed as a major mining settlement with a strong Cornish heritage. The town is situated on the fringe of the Barossa Valley and is a service town for the local agricultural community and families who have chosen a rural lifestyle.

• Parent and community involvement in the preschool:

  The Kindergarten Governing Council comprises representatives from the following services: kindergarten, playgroup and staff. Evening meetings are held twice per term in weeks 3 and 8.

  A range of socio economic groups are represented within the community thus a wide range of attitudes, values and experiences are expressed within the kindergarten.

  Family nights occur at least twice a year and a Father’s Day breakfast is a popular annual event.
• Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool:

Over 90% transition to Kapunda Primary School.
Families can also access St John’s Lutheran School located at Eudunda and Redemmer in the Barossa region.

• Other local care and educational facilities:
Kapunda Early Learning Childcare Centre.
Kapunda Primary School
Kapunda Out of School Hours Care located at Kapunda Primary School.
Kapunda High School

• Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
The town has 2 supermarkets, 2 bakeries, newsagency, a hardware store, chemist and several other specialist shops.

• Other local facilities:
The town offers excellent medical facilities including 2 doctors surgeries and a hospital with an emergency room attachment. The hospital has a helipad for emergency medical evacuations. There are extensive sporting facilities with a wide variety of sports available: football, netball, basketball, swimming, table tennis, cricket and tennis. Milo Cricket, Auskick and Net-a-ball are run annually. A variety of church denominations are available.

• Availability of staff housing:
Government Employee Housing and rental properties are available. The housing market in Kapunda is on the rise with affordable housing a plenty.

• Accessibility:
A significant number of people commute to Adelaide, Elizabeth and the Barossa Valley for employment. Express train services to Adelaide are available from Gawler, a 20 minute drive from Kapunda.

• Local Government: Kapunda is located in the Light Regional Council region. It’s office is located at the beginning of the main street of Kapunda.
7. **Further Comments**

- Partnership arrangements with other groups:
  
The Barossa Early Intervention Team use the kindergarten site on Fridays to provide group and individual therapy to those local families who have children with additional needs.