PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Centre number: 6508
Centre name: Coomandook & Districts Kindergarten

1. General information

- Preschool Director
  Ally Mead
- Postal address
  C/- Post Office, Coomandook SA 5261
- Location address
  Coomandook SA 5261
- DECS Region
  Murray & Mallee
- Geographical location
  0.5 Kilometres from local GPO
- Telephone number
  (08) 85733176
- Fax number
  (08) 85733176
- Preschool website address: ??
- Preschool e-mail address
  kindy.director@coomandookgn.sa.edu.au

- Enrolment/Attendance

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<th>Term 1</th>
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- Co-located/stand-alone
  Stand alone site however it neighbours Coomandook Area School Grounds
- Programs operating at the preschool
  - Pre Entry
This is offered in the term prior to the child starting Kindergarten. It builds from 2 hours in the first Transition to a full day by the end of the Transition.

- **Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children**
  
  Children ages 3.5 are eligible to attend Kindergarten due to our early entry program. We offer 3 full days per fortnight (Tuesday, Thursday one week and Tuesday the following week).

- **Occasional Care** eligible for children ages between 2 to 5 years. Operates on Tuesday Mornings from 9.00am-11.30am Cost is $5.00 per session or $1.50 per session with relevant eligibilty

- **Extended Care**
  
  Nil

- **Lunch/Full Day Program**
  
  Yes

- **Bilingual Support**
  
  Nil

- **Preschool Support**
  
  To identified children requiring support
2. **Key Centre Policies**

- **Centre Priorities/Statement of Purpose**
  The purpose of the Coomandook & Districts Kindergarten is to support a play based quality teaching and learning environment for all children that results in a high level of student engagement and involvement.

3. **Curriculum**

- **Framework used:**
  *The Early Years Learning Framework of Australia – “Belonging, Being & Becoming”*

- **Core Values Program**
  Manners, Sharing, Fun, Kindness, Friends, Respect, Listening & Self Confidence

- **Specific curriculum approaches**
  We provide a play based and structured, child centred learning program.

- **Joint programmes/special curriculum projects**
  Transition Program occurs from Home to Kindergarten and Kindergarten to School throughout the term and year. We have strong links with the Junior School that enhances the children movement from one environment to another.
  We connect with the school in Assemblies, Book Week Activities and Performances & Productions where possible.

4. **Centre Based Staff**

- **Staff Profile**
  Ally Mead – Director/Teacher
  Wendy Williams – Early Childhood Worker (Permanent)
  Fiona Simon – Early Childhood Worker & Occasional Care Worker (Contract)

- **Performance Management Program**
  Management Meetings occur approximately once per term in a formal manner. Staffs engage in Professional Conversations both formally and informally on a regular basis.

- **Access to special support staff**

- **Other**

5. **Centre Facilities**

- **Buildings and grounds**
  The building was built in 1986. It has had a small renovation recently to enclose a back verandah. The Kindergarten grounds are attractive with 2
slides, a boat, swings, playgroup equipment, vegetable garden, amphitheatre area, sandpit, storage shed, a path that meanders through a mounded garden. There is a grass area for the children to play and enjoy. The site is fully fenced providing children with a secure place to learn and explore. The site is boarded with the Coomandook Area School enabling us to access the School Library and other facilities throughout the year.

- Capacity of 19 children per session
- Centre Ownership
- Access for children and staff with disabilities. The site has wheelchair access.
- Other
6. **Local Community** (intended for country preschools)

- General characteristics:
  Working opportunities is Coomandook would consist of mostly Farming Positions. It is a large cropping and grazing district.

- Parent and community involvement in the preschool
  Parent Roster to assist at Kindy, Governing Council Meetings, and Fundraising

- Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool
  Coomandook Area School

- Other local care and educational facilities,
  Child Care Facilities available in Meningie and Murray Bridge.

- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
  Coomandook General Store in is 0.5 kilometres from site.
  Tailem Bend is 34 kilometres from site that provides more shopping facilities
  Murray Bridge is 58 kilometres from site and provides a vast range of services and facilities.

- Other local facilities
  Medical Facilities are available in Tailem Bend and Murray Bridge.
  Sporting Clubs include Peake & Districts Football and Netball Club, Tailem Bend Football & Netball Club, Boarder & Tintinara Downs Football & Netball Club, Tennis Clubs and Cricket Clubs in the local area.

- Availability of staff housing
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- Accessibility
  130 kilo metres to Adelaide
  Major Public Transport options are available from Tailem Bend or Murray Bridge by Bus/Coaches.

- Local Government
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7. **Further Comments**

- Partnership arrangements with other groups
  We are involved with the Murray and Mallee Region. The Site Leader attends Regional Leadership Days approximately once or twice per term.
  We are also involved in a Cluster Group that involves the local Kindergarten and Schools. (Coonalpyn, Meningie, Coomandook, Karoonda, Tintinara)