



# SEAFORD RISE KINDERGARTEN

*“Children are our future”*



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# 2023

## Information Booklet

Preschool  
Sessions:

Kuula Group

Monday &  
Tuesday:

8:30am-3:15pm  
& selected Fridays  
(8:30am-3:15pm)

Or

Wadla Group

Wednesday &  
Thursday:

8:30am-3:15pm  
& selected Fridays  
(8:30am-3:15pm)

# Index

Welcome	Page 3
Our Philosophy	Page 4
The Hundred Languages of Children Poem	Page 5
What to do upon arrival at Kindergarten	Page 6
Routine components	Page 6
Collection of children	Page 6
Car parking	Page 6
What to bring to Kindy	Page 7
Clothing	Page 7
Food/ Snack / Drink	Page 8
Birthdays	Page 8
Medication	Page 8
Behaviour Support	Page 8
Fees	Page 9
Forms of communication	Page 10
Absence	Page 10
Detail changes	Page 10
Emergency Policy	Page 10
Special Services	Page 10
Assessment and Reporting	Page 11
Governing Council	Page 11
Developing partnerships with Parents	Page 12
Out of School Hours Care (OSHC)	Page 12
Helpful information	Page 13

# Welcome

Members of the staff and Governing Council welcome you to Seaford Rise Kindergarten. We look forward to sharing your child's learning journey with you to ensure that our time spent together will be a happy and fulfilling experience for both you and your child.



Please take time to read through this information booklet as it will help you to gain an insight into our philosophy, goals, curriculum and routines. It will also outline the policies and procedures to ensure that you have a smooth transition into our Kindergarten community.

At the Seaford Rise Kindergarten we aim to provide a high quality flexible educational programme that is inclusive, equitable and accessible for all children, meeting the needs of individual children and their families. We encourage families to be involved in the services. You are welcome to visit or be a part of our programme after consultation with the Director or a Teacher.

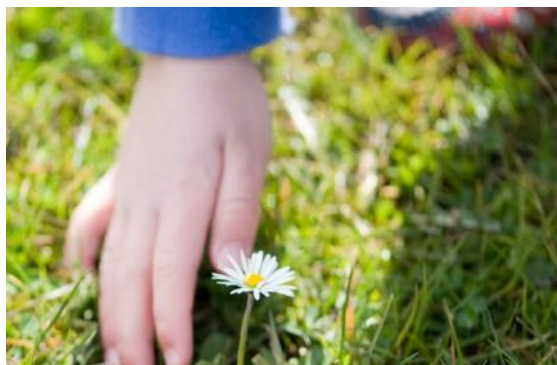
The Kindergarten curriculum is developed by the staff and is based upon the Australian National Curriculum, the "Early Years Curriculum Framework" (EYLF), "Belonging, Being & Becoming."

The outcomes that we develop the learning programme around are:

- Children have a strong sense of identity
- Children are connected with and contribute to their world
- Children have a strong sense of wellbeing
- Children are confident and involved learners
- Children are effective communicators

We offer:

- Kindergarten sessions
- Early Entry - for children with special needs (after consultation with the Director). Some support may be available for children with special needs, depending upon DECD funding.
- Occasional Care (2-4 years old)
- Child and Youth Health Checks



Seaford Rise Kindergarten is located next to the grounds of the Seaford Rise Primary School.

# Our Philosophy Statement

At Seaford Rise Kindergarten we believe that children are strong capable learners. We also believe in empowering children to make decisions on factors which affect them. Children learn through play, engaging in positive relationships with their educators and peers.

Through play we encourage children to use their imagination and creativity by providing open ended activities. Each and every child is respected and valued and is at the centre of the curriculum. Our programme uses the principles and practices of the Early Years Learning Framework to support children's learning and development. Through our teaching pedagogies we scaffold children's experiences and ideas, to create a kindergarten culture that is inclusive of all children and families.

We use the pedagogy of Nature Play to invite children to engage in outdoor play learning experiences and care for their natural environment. We believe that children who play in natural settings, play in more diverse and imaginative ways and build social connections and skills. We value sustainable practices and in embedding sustainability into our daily routine.

We trust in the value of early childhood education and that a positive sense of self and wellbeing is the foundation for learning success. We believe in promoting a sense of belonging and in encouraging children to take considered risks in their decision making. Children are encouraged to explore the world around them through dramatic play, sensory activities, literacy and numeracy exploration, developing their imagination, curiosity and creativity. We believe that children learn through extended play experiences and enjoyment.

We believe in building respectful and reciprocal relationships with families and the community. We believe that working in partnerships with families will support the holistic development of children. We have a team of passionate and dedicated educators who continue to strive for personal excellence in early childhood education. We believe in empowering children by encouraging self-help skills and independence.

We believe children and educators are both researchers and constructors of knowledge and ideas. We value our relationship with children and view the learning environment as the third teacher, which is responsive to the needs and ideas of children and values the child as a citizen within the community.

We believe in the philosophies of the Reggio Emilia Approach and in the 100 languages of children poem, which captures the true essence of the value of our teaching in early childhood education.

At Seaford Rise Kindergarten we believe that children are strong capable learners and in empowering children to make order thinking. Each and every child is respected and valued and is at the centre





# The Hundred Languages of Children

*The child is made of one hundred.*

*The child has  
a hundred languages  
a hundred hands  
a hundred thoughts  
a hundred ways of thinking  
of playing, of speaking.*

*A hundred.  
Always a hundred  
ways of listening  
of marvelling of loving  
a hundred joys  
for singing and understanding  
a hundred worlds  
to discover  
a hundred worlds  
to invent  
a hundred worlds  
to dream.*

*The child has  
A hundred languages  
(and a hundred hundred hundred more)  
but they steal ninety-nine.  
The school and the culture*

*separate the head from the body.*

*They tell the child;  
to think without hands  
to do without head  
to listen and not to speak  
to understand without joy  
to love and to marvel  
only at Easter and Christmas  
They tell the child:  
to discover the world already there  
and of the hundred  
they steal ninety-nine.  
They tell the child:  
that work and play  
reality and fantasy  
science and imagination  
sky and earth  
reason and dream  
are things  
that do not belong together.  
And thus they tell the child  
that the hundred is not there.  
The child says:  
NO WAY. The hundred is there.*

*Loris Malaguzzi  
Founder of the Reggio Approach*

It is through this approach to learning which encompasses the teachings of great thinkers such as Piaget, Dewey and Vygotsky, that we believe children are both researchers and constructors of their own ideas and knowledge. We believe that our task as early childhood educators is to help children communicate with the world using their skills, strengths and potential, building the foundation for learning success.

## What to do upon arrival at Kindergarten

1. Sign your child in – sign in sheets are on the table under the veranda
2. Encourage your child to put their own kindy bag in a bag cubby under the veranda
3. Say ‘goodbye’ before you leave

## Routine Components

**Small and/or large group time** - Small and large group times build a sense of community. Educators and all the children come together for movement, music activities, interactive storytelling and other shared experiences.

**Outdoor and indoor free play** – Children are able to freely choose indoor or outdoor play.

**Rolling snack time** - By providing rolling snack time the children have a choice of when they would like to eat, and snack time becomes an integrated activity within the session. This allows children to continue their play undisturbed.

**Lunch time** - Children come together for lunch which allows them to enjoy eating healthy food in a supportive and social setting.

**Relaxation time** - After lunch, children are encouraged to rest. We introduce mindfulness, yoga and interoception during this time.

## Collection of Children

If someone other than a parent is collecting your child from Kindergarten, please ensure their details have been recorded on your child’s enrolment form under ‘Authority to Collect’ or as an ‘Emergency Contact’ and you have notified the kindergarten.

Should an emergency arise, and you are unable to collect your child, please phone the Kindergarten to let us know who will be collecting your child in your absence.

When coming and going from the Kindergarten, please ensure the gates are closed behind you and that no one goes through the gate other than you and your child/children.

Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) children will be ‘signed out’ from Kindergarten and escorted to the Seaford Rise Primary School OSHC room and signed in by a kindy staff member. See page 12 for more information on OSHC.

## Car parking

Please note that the car park on the southern side of the Kindergarten is for Kindergarten and School staff parking only. Families are permitted to park on Grand Boulevard, which has a 25km/h speed limit when children are present. The Kindergarten disabled car park is the designated and signed park closest to the Kindergarten for disable permit users only.

# What to Bring to Kindy

- Bag
- Hat
- Fruit/healthy snacks
- Drink bottle (water only)
- Lunch box
- Ice brick (to keep lunch box contents cool)
- Spare clothing in a plastic bag
- Any Medication (*see Medication page 8*)

Please ensure that all items are labelled clearly and your child is independently able to manage their belongings.

## PLEASE DO NOT BRING TOYS

Children often get distressed if they bring a toy to Kindergarten and it is then lost or broken. Please support us by keeping children's toys at home.

## Hat

Your child will need to bring a **named** broad brimmed or legionnaires hat. Please remove any drawstrings or cords that go under the child's chin as these present a high risk for possible severe injury.

Our centre has a policy "NO HAT, NO OUTDOOR PLAY." This supports the recommendation of the Anti-Cancer Foundation. Children need to wear a hat on any day when the U.V. level is predicted to be 3 or above. This level can be achieved during the winter months as well as at other times during the year so please ensure that you pack a suitable hat **every day**.



We encourage children to be independent and take on the responsibility of caring for their own belongings. Please encourage your child to apply sunscreen before the start of the session. Sunscreen will be given to children at lunch time. As part of protection from the sun, children need to wear clothing which **covers their shoulders**.



## Clothing

A child's Kindergarten year is a special time where children have the opportunity to explore, grow and develop through the use of a wide range of learning experiences.

You can support your child by:

- Dressing your child in clothing and footwear that is suitable for climbing, running, jumping and swinging, and can withstand paint, glue, sand etc.
- Sending a change of clothes with your child (please place spare clothes in a plastic bag in their Kindy bag. Name all of your child's belongings).
- Ensuring that clothing covers your child's shoulders.

## Food/ Snacks/ Drinks

Your child will need to bring healthy food/ snacks to Kindy. We encourage healthy eating in compliance to the Rite Bite food supply and nutrition policy for preschool. We are finding that children are hungry early on in the day and rolling snack times are a wonderful part of our routine, which supports the wellbeing of children. We are an **ALLERGY AWARE** centre; therefore, **NO NUT PRODUCTS** are to be brought into the centre e.g. Peanut Butter, Nutella. Please check packaging labels carefully. See our Healthy Eating Policy for more information. If you have any questions, please see a staff member. Children's named lunch boxes (insulated, containing a cool pack/ ice brick) are kept in their bags. When children feel hungry, they may go to their bags, get their lunch boxes and sit at a table under the veranda to have their snack. At lunch time all the children gather under the veranda to have their lunch and engage in shared conversations with educators and peers.

Visit [www.education.sa.gov.au/sites/default/files/right\\_bite\\_manual\\_colour.pdf](http://www.education.sa.gov.au/sites/default/files/right_bite_manual_colour.pdf) for more information

### Drinks

We encourage children to drink water at Kindergarten. Please supply a **named** drink bottle of **water** to be kept in your child's bag.

### Birthdays

We support and encourage participation in a range of cultural celebrations including birthdays. We celebrate birthdays at the Kindergarten by singing "Happy Birthday." We provide a pretend 'cake' so that the birthday child can blow out the candles.

We support family choice for those families preferring not to be involved in this celebration; please let staff know. We ask that birthday food is kept for home as it would mean that children could be eating birthday cake several times a week if every child brought cake to share for their birthday! We love to celebrate birthdays but please do not send along any items for your child to give out to the other children.

### Medication

If your child suffers from a medical condition or allergy, the Kindergarten will require a Health Care Agreement and Health Care Plan (and any further required documents) from your child's doctor to ensure that the staff can support your child in their health needs. Please see the Director for the appropriate forms or for more information. **Under no circumstances should any type of medication be left in children's bags.**

### Behaviour Support

Positive reinforcement and encouragement for appropriate behaviour is modelled by staff. Redirection/distraction and early intervention to avoid escalation of conflict are practiced as well as communication and problem-solving skills that encourage self-awareness and self-discipline. **Consequences for inappropriate behaviours must reflect the dignity and rights of the child.** Children are encouraged to develop social skills that will allow them to resolve conflicts and meet their needs without the use of aggressive or destructive behaviours. We encourage children to



respect themselves and others and have staff members guide children's behaviour and provide clear guidelines as to why a particular behaviour is unacceptable while they are at the Kindergarten.

## Fees

The Kindergarten fees are \$130.00 per term.

We offer concession to families that hold a current Health Care Card.

Public Kindergartens in South Australia are administered by the Department for Education. We rely heavily on fees to cover the costs of consumables, new equipment and to maintain a high-quality learning environment for the children. Fees are set by the Governing Council and accounts are distributed via email.

If you have any difficulty in paying fees, please see the Kindergarten Director.

Internet Payments (preferred method)

ACCOUNT NAME:	Seaford Rise Kindergarten
BSB:	035-087
ACCOUNT NUMBER:	127580
REFERENCE:	Child's name

Internet payments will be reconciled weekly & receipted against fees outstanding.

A receipt for internet payments will only be issued upon request.

Cash, Cheque or Money Order

Personal payments can be made at the Kindergarten. Cash payments are paid into the locked fees box located at the end of the kitchen bench via a payment system (please see a staff member for assistance).

The following procedures are to be used:

- Parents complete payment details on the Fees and Money Verification sheet.
- Parents complete details on a fee envelope located at the end of the kitchen bench.
- Have details checked and counter-signed by a staff member **before** sealing the envelope.
- Post the fee envelope containing payment into the fee box at the end of the kitchen bench.

All other payments such as social event payments will be recorded in the same manner unless otherwise indicated.

**PLEASE SEE A STAFF MEMBER IF YOU HAVE ANY QUERIES.**

## Early Entry into Kindergarten

Early entry may be available to children with additional needs such as a disability, developmental delay, culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds or family and social circumstances. These children may attend a modified programme, as early as two terms before their eligible year of preschool. If you believe that your child may qualify, please don't hesitate to speak to the Director.

## **Forms of Communication with Parents**

The primary form of communication is through the Class Dojo App, a safe and simple communication app for educators and parents. Educators also provide updates through the floor books and individual portfolios. Families can also contact the preschool via email, phone and sms text messaging.

There is a notice board under the veranda. It provides additional information of upcoming events as well as other important information. Please check at each attending session.

In the case of an injury or incident, the nominated care giver will be notified by phone call or message via the Class Dojo app or Kindy mobile phone (0448 175 897). It would be useful to put the kindy mobile number in your contacts.

## **Absence**

Please advise staff of any child absences. To enable each child to gain maximum benefit from the Kindergarten programme, it is essential that children attend regularly.

If your child is running a temperature or showing any signs of being unwell you must keep them at home. Please keep children home for 24 hours after the last episode of any vomiting or diarrhoea to aid your child's recovery and to prevent the spread of infection. We also ask for notification in the incidence of infectious or contagious diseases in the family.

## **Detail Changes**

If at any stage during your child's time at Kindergarten there are changes to your circumstances such as telephone number, address, family situation, intended school and medical conditions, it is important that you inform us as soon as possible to ensure we are able to provide the best quality care and education for your child.

## **Emergency Policy**

All children in attendance at the Kindergarten are signed in/out by you on an attendance sheet when they arrive/leave their Kindergarten session. This attendance sheet is used to identify all children in the event of an emergency or evacuation process. It is important to remember to sign your child in/out and to notify us should your child not be attending Kindergarten for their nominated session. Evacuation and lock down procedures are practised with the children and staff on a regular basis as required by the Education Department (at least once per term). An ambulance will be called in the case of an emergency. All staff are trained to administer First Aid.

## **Special Services**

The Kindergarten has restricted minimal access to some DfE services including Speech Pathologist, Psychologist, Social Worker and Special Support Staff. If you think that your child may require any of these services, please speak to the Kindergarten Director.

## Assessment and reporting

Assessment and reporting involve collecting information about your child in a variety of ways including:

- Written observations
- Individual Learning Plans
- Photographs
- Parent interviews (Individual Learning Plan meetings)
- Summative Report/ Learning Statement

We encourage you to provide feedback on your child's learning and our program.

## Family Grievances

Our team is here to ensure you and your child enjoys a happy and healthy experience at Seaford Rise Kindergarten. Should a problem arise that you feel you need to resolve with our staff, then please let us know. Communication is the key, the first person to speak to is always the staff. In almost all cases, parents together with the staff will be able to resolve the issue. Should this not be the case and you find yourself unsatisfied with the outcome, please contact the Director, who can work with you and the staff to resolve the problem.

*All grievances will be taken seriously, and our best efforts will always be forthcoming.*

## The Governing Council

**What is Governing Council?** The Seaford Rise Kindergarten Governing Council provides a wonderful opportunity for parents to become involved in the Kindergarten community by strengthening the partnership between families and staff. The Governing Council aims to provide a supportive network of interested parents who can provide suggestions, advice and feedback to the Director and staff about how the Kindergarten is run and where any improvements can be made in meeting the needs of the children.

**Who can join the Governing Council?** All parents and caregivers of children at Seaford Rise Kindergarten are invited to join. At the Annual General Meeting in term one, the governing council elects a committee of office bearers and various small roles are shared between council members. You do not require any committee experience to be involved in the Governing Council, as a parent or caregiver of a child at the Kindergarten your opinions and ideas are highly valued – all we ask is that you bring a positive and enthusiastic attitude towards strengthening the Kindergarten community partnerships.

**How much time is involved in being on the Governing Council?** Two meetings per term! Meetings are an opportunity for parents to have input into the management of the Kindergarten and to get to know the inner workings of the centre. It is a good way to get to know other parents, the Director and some members of the Staff. The Council fosters an environment where parents work together with staff to make Governing the Kindergarten a fun and enjoyable experience for all involved.

## Developing partnerships with families

At Seaford Rise Kindergarten, we believe that developing positive relationships with the children, families and Kindergarten community are essential. A vital part of this is ensuring we are communicating effectively and providing lots of opportunities for dialogue about your child's learning and development, as well as the Kindergarten's programmes and environment. Learning capabilities improve when the parents are involved with their children's education.

So, what can you do at home?

- Encouraging a positive attitude towards learning is one of the most beneficial things that a parent can do for their child.
- Helping your child to understand that learning is important. Actively showing an interest in what your child is learning and what is happening at the Kindergarten is essential.
- Please let the Kindergarten Director or one of the staff know, should there be a situation at home which might affect the child's interest in participation. A seriously ill relative, the arrival of a new baby or general changes in the home situation can be upsetting for the child.
- Educators are better able to provide positive learning outcomes for the children if they are informed of things that affect the child in the home setting.

## How you can help us

There are many ways that you can help us including: bringing in recycling materials and resources; volunteering your time (Governing Council); offering your services (trade, skill, interest) to improve our facilities or enrich our learning experiences. Please see staff for more information or to offer your services. 2

## Out of School hours Care (OSHC)

We are unique as we can offer our families attending Seaford Rise Kindergarten, a before and after kindy hours care program.

The service is provided by Camp Australia

[www.campaustralia.com.au](http://www.campaustralia.com.au)

Before and after school care is held in the OSHC rooms at Seaford Rise Primary School (E suite).

For more information please check their web site or please call 1300 105 343.



## Helpful Information

### Child Youth Health (CYH) Screening

Child Youth Health screenings are offered to children from 4 years and 3 months old. Information is given when the time for your child's screening approaches.

### SA Dental Service Noarlunga

The School Dental Service is a free service available to children attending preschool. It is located at the GP Plus Super Clinic Noarlunga, 2 Alexander Kelly Drive, Noarlunga Centre. Open Monday to Friday Ph: 8382 9244

### South Australian state school terms dates:

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2020	28 January to 9 April	27 April to 3 July	20 July to 25 September	12 October to 11 December
2021*	27 January to 9 April	27 April to 2 July	19 July to 24 September	11 October to 10 December
2022	31 January to 14 April	2 May to 8 July	25 July to 30 September	17 October to 16 December
2023	30 January to 14 April	1 May to 7 July	24 July to 29 September	16 October to 15 December
2024	29 January to 12 April	29 April to 5 July	22 July to 27 September	14 October to 13 December
2025	28 January to 11 April	28 April to 4 July	21 July to 26 September	13 October to 12 December

\*Please note that the 2021 term dates were updated in February 2019.

This information is current as of January 2020.

Visit [www.greatstart.sa.edu.au](http://www.greatstart.sa.edu.au) for everyday ideas for you and your child.

