PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Centre number: 6661
Centre name: Burra Early Learning Centre

1. General information

- Preschool Director
  Sarah Stoddart
- Postal address
  8 Bridge Terrace, Burra, SA 5417
- Location address
  8 Bridge Terrace, Burra, SA 5417
- DECD – Upper Mid North Partnership
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km)
  160kms
- Telephone number
  (08)88922373
- Fax number
  (08)88922119
- Website address:
  www.burrapre.sa.edu.au
- Preschool email address
  dl.6661.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au
- Enrolment/Attendance
  2010 - 29/24
  2011 – 24/22
  2012 - 22/20
  2013 – 29/25
  2014 - 19/18
- Co-located/stand-alone
  Stand alone
- Programs operating at the preschool
  □ Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children (4 terms)
  □ Rural Care (Long Day Care)
    Monday to Friday 8am - 6pm
  □ Extended Care for bus children
2. Key Centre Policies

- Quality Improvement Plan devised in collaboration with Governing Council & staff using the National Quality Standard guidelines.  
  *Strengthening partnerships with the wider Preschool community through;*
  - Educational Program & Practice (QA1)
  - Physical Environment (QA3)
  - Collaborative partnerships with families and communities (QA6)

3. Curriculum

- Frameworks used:
  *Early Years Learning Framework*
  *Reflect, Respect, Relate*
- Core Values
  To provide and develop high quality educational opportunities for learning life skills through play for children, in a safe, caring, stimulating and interactive environment.
- Joint programmes/special curriculum projects
  Transition programs with feeder schools
  Collaborative commitment with Junior Primary staff to work together to achieve the best possible results for children.

4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff Profile
  Director – PSD1 (0.6) which includes (0.1) Rural Care Director
  Teacher (0.1)
  Teacher (0.6)
  Preschool support worker (hours determined by children with identified needs)
  2 x Rural Care ECW2 – 27.5 hours per week each
- Performance Management Program
- Staff/volunteer & student placement induction process
5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
  The centre was established in 1981 and is well maintained and equipped with permanent outdoor play equipment and a high security fence. The indoor learning area is made up of two large spaces both a wet area and carpeted areas. There is a large verandah with outdoor blinds and two large storage sheds.

- Capacity (per session)
  30 children

- Centre Ownership
  DECD

- Access for children and staff with disabilities
  Two ramped areas for access through double doors.
  Children’s disabled toilet.

- Other
  Change table facilities.

6. Local Community (intended for country preschools)

- General characteristics:
  Burra is a famous old copper mining town situated in the Mid-North. Sheep and cereal farms surround the township, with station country to the east of the township and the beautiful Clare Valley to the southwest. Small business, farming enterprises and local government provide the main source of work. There is some seasonal work available in the wool industry and in the nearby Clare Valley vineyards. Nearly all families are of Anglo Saxon origin.

- Parent and community involvement in the preschool
  Parental involvement is excellent. A focus on strengthening partnerships with parents and wider community is a priority at this centre. Parents contribute support in many ways e.g. Contributions, Governing Council, curriculum, asset management and fundraising.
  The Preschool has established strong links with community groups and local businesses that actively support fundraising and participate in experiences which support the learning program for children.
  Stronger links with the community school are being established through Partnerships within DECD and through developing a more comprehensive Transition program.

- Schools to which children generally transfer from this centre
  Burra CS, Booborowie PS, Farrell Flat PS & St. Joseph’s Catholic school in Clare.
• **Other local care and educational facilities**
There is one private day care provider in Burra.
The Lower North Community Health support families eg. CYHS, Paediatric Occupational Therapy, Paediatric Physiotherapy and Speech Therapy.
The Burra Community School is situated near the Preschool and caters for R-12 classes.
Burra Community Library is situated within the school.

• **Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities**
Shopping facilities are adequate with a supermarket, hairdresser, pharmacy, gift shops, newsagent, antique shops, cafes, roadhouses, stock firms and a hardware store.
There are also two garages and a tyre shop to cater for locals and visitors.

• **Other local facilities**
The Broadcaster (local newspaper)
The Burra Visitor Centre
Caravan Park and Paxton Square Cottages, Hotel, Motel and Bed and Breakfast accommodation is available.
A well equipped picnic area, which has playground equipment, is situated near the Burra Creek.
An Op Shop, is situated in the Uniting Church Hall
Local hospital and a local SA Ambulance Service.
Police Officers servicing the district.
Sporting clubs including tennis, football, netball, basketball, hockey, golf, lawn bowls and table tennis.
Community groups include volunteer Ambulance officers, Red Cross, Guides, Quilting, Probus, CFS, SES, Day Care, Gardening Group & Dog Obedience Club.
Churches: Anglican, Uniting, Lutheran and Catholic.

• **Accessibility**
Adelaide is 2 hours by car. Bus companies provide transport to and from the city, once a week.

• **Local Government**
Regional Council of Goyder has offices at 1 Market Square
ph: 8892 2100 Fax: 8892 2467.

7. **Further Comments**

• Partnership arrangements with other groups
Volunteers from the numerous service clubs are generous with their time.
They are willing to spend time with the children whenever they are invited.