PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT  

Centre number: 4623  
Centre name: Holden Hill Kindergarten  

1. General information  
   - Centre name  
     : Holden Hill Kindergarten  
   - Centre number  
     : 4623  
   - Preschool Director  
     : Mrs Shelly Collins  
   - Postal address  
     : 80 Valiant Road, Holden Hill, SA, 5088  
   - Location address  
     : 80 Valiant Road, Holden Hill, SA, 5088  
   - Telephone number  
     : (08) 8261 6464  
   - Fax number  
     : (08) 8266 6012  
   - e-mail address  
     : dl.4623_leaders@schools.sa.edu.au  
   - DECS Region  
     : Northern  
   - Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km)  
     : 12 kms  
   - Enrolment/Attendance  
     : 38  
   - Co-located/stand-alone  
     : Stand alone  
   - Programs operating  
     - Pre Entry  
       : One session per week of entitled term, integrated into other session times.  
     - Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children (15 hours per week)
Early entry programs are frequently accessed by eligible children as per DECS policy.

- Occasional Care (funded): available Monday and Wednesday morning, for children over 2 years old
- Playgroup: Parent run on Wednesdays, 12pm to 1.30pm
- Bilingual Support: As required
- Preschool Support: As required

2. **Key Centre Policies**

- Centre Priorities/Statement of Purpose

  We have a high focus on Literacy and Numeracy skills for all children attending our service. As we have a large number of children who have English as a second language we support their understanding of our culture and communication systems by literacy development. We also use our environment to educate children in sustainability of our world.

  There are a number of policies which apply to the centre under the directions of the Department for Education and Child Development. These are available on request and are included in the introduction and enrolment package.

**Centre Philosophy:**

At Holden Hill Kindergarten, we aim for all children to become confident and involved learners, who grow and develop in their own time.

We provide flexible, open ended play based experiences which foster a sense of belonging, being and becoming. Our program enables children to make choices and decisions and have an impact on their world, in a safe and secure active learning environment. An active learning environment is one where children are encouraged to explore and interact with the environment to make meaning and knowledge through their experiences, social interactions and negotiations with others.

We believe educators need to be engaged with children and their play, encouraging and supporting them to discover deeper meanings and make connections amongst their ideas and concepts, and where the adult and the child can learn from each other. We believe that children’s wellbeing is essential for involvement. Wellbeing includes happiness and satisfaction, effective social functioning and the dispositions of optimism, openness, curiosity and resilience.

Our intent is to ensure that all children’s experiences are valued, and that all children have access to equipment and resources allowing them to participate in quality, rich
learning experiences. We also endeavour to provide opportunities for children to demonstrate their learning and appreciate and value difference.

**Holden Hill Kindergarten’s Values**

The following values represent the key ideas that underpin what the centre believes are important to teach and foster to the young children within our care. It is also vital that staff, Governing Council members and parents model these values so there is continuity and consistency across the centre. We believe it is never too early to begin to teach children about values. It is also our belief that values promote a sense of moral purpose, help all of us to co-exist with others in the community and develop skills and attitudes that lay the foundations for life.

**Value: Independence**

**Operational Definition:** which includes the ability to confidently make choices, be resourceful and self-reliant, demonstrate self-help skills and initiate their own learning.

**Value: Connectedness**

**Operational Definition:** which includes, developing a sense of community through friendship, care, cooperation, acceptance, belonging and sharing.

**Value: Growth**

**Operational Definition:** which includes, developing across all areas of learning and development in ways which are measurable or observable and demonstrate improvement over time.

**Value: Resilience**

**Operational Definition:** which includes being able to recognise and manage emotions, nurturing optimism, persistence and a positive state of wellbeing.

**Value: Participation**

**Operational Definition:** which includes being actively involved/engaged in a variety of learning experiences which are purposeful and meaningful.

**Value: Respect**

**Operational Definition:** which includes demonstrating care, consideration, thought and tolerance towards self, others, belongings, equipment and the environment.

**Value: Confidence**

**Operational Definition:** which includes demonstrating a positive sense of self and a sense of belonging, taking considered risks and trying new experiences, accepting new challenges and developing a ‘have a go’ attitude.
3. **Curriculum**
   - Framework used: The Early Years Learning Framework: Belonging, Being, Becoming
     - All learning presented is within the structure of The Early Years Learning Framework document and is assessed using the Outcomes from it.
   - Core Values (please see above)
     - Inclusion of all families in the support and education of their child/ren is a high priority. We value respect for all people and expect everyone using the centre to support our approach to respecting each individual coming into the service. This approach allows for the individual learning needs of all children and their families.
   - Specific curriculum approaches
     - High focus on individual achievement using defined learning outcomes.

4. **Centre Based Staff**
   - Staff Profile
     - 0.6 Director
     - 0.6 Teacher
     - 0.6 ECW
     - 0.21 ECW2 (Occasional Care)
   - Performance Management Program
     - 6 monthly or as required.
   - Access to special support staff
     - Yes
   - Other
     :

5. **Centre Facilities**
   - Buildings and grounds
     - One large building in a well fenced yard.
   - Capacity (per session)
     - 38
   - Centre Ownership
     - DECD
   - Access for children and staff with disabilities
     - Yes, but limited depending on need.
   - Other
     :

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

- General characteristics; (eg. types of work available, languages usually spoken at home, local developments)
  
- Parent and community involvement in the preschool
  :Parent involvement is encouraged

- Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool
  :Dernancourt Primary School, St Pius X, Torrens Valley Christian School

- Other local care and educational facilities, eg child care, schools, OSHC
  :Several child care centres close by, Family Day Care in the area, Dernancourt PS has Out of School Hours Care on site.

- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
  :Gillies Plains Shopping centre close by.

- Other local facilities, eg medical, sporting, social, cultural, recreational
  :Holden Hill Community Centre next door, large oval and playground located at the rear of the site.

- Availability of staff housing
  :N/A

- Accessibility to Adelaide and relevant major centres, including public transport and its availability, frequency and cost (especially by air), road quality
  :N/A

- Local Government body (name, phone number), availability of publications describing the local area (with source, cost), characteristics, level of involvement
  :N/A

7. **Further Comments**

- Establishment of new services and/or programs
  :Occasional Care for children over 2 years of age stared in Term 4, 2009. Two sessions of occasional care will be offered, on Monday and Wednesday mornings, integrated within the preschool program.

- Partnership/incorporation arrangements with other groups
  :Holden Hill Kindergarten is part of the Modbury Partnership of schools and preschools