

MELROSE RURAL CARE AND OUTREACH PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated:

Centre number: **6913 and 6637**

Centre name: **Melrose Rural Care and
Melrose Outreach Preschool**

1. General information

- Centre name
:Melrose Rural Care and Melrose Outreach Preschool
- Centre number
:6913 and 6637
- Preschool Director
:Mrs Jennifer Stringer
- Postal address
:PO Box 42
Booloroo Centre SA 5482
- Location address
:29 Stuart St.
Melrose 5483
- Telephone number
:08 8666 2145
- Fax number
:08 8666 2201
- E-mail address
: kindy.director@boolerookgn.sa.edu.au
- DECS Region
:Yorke and Mid North
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km)
:270 kms from GPO
- Enrolment/Attendance numbers and trends
: 4 rural care enrolments (under 5 years old), with BSC (Before School Care) and ASC (After School Care) and school holiday care available for children up to 12 years of age.

- Co-located or stand alone centre
 - : Melrose Rural Care and Outreach Preschool is located next to the Melrose Primary but maintains separate management and operation.

For **care** and **preschool (kindy)** enquiries please contact our service on 08 8666 2145.
- Programs operating at the centre, with a brief description of each:
 - ❖ Rural Care
 - :Rural care is a child care service provided in this centre from Monday to Friday. Hours of service are 8.00am to 6.00 pm Permanent or regular bookings are required. There is a priority of service to working parents, those seeking employment or undergoing training. Rural Care also operates during school holidays. Children may be aged between 0 to 12 years of age to be eligible for care.
 - ❖ Outreach Preschool
 - : The Outreach Preschool is provided on Monday and Wednesdays. Monday 8.45am to 11.45am and Wednesdays 8.45am to 3.15pm To children from 3.5 years to 5 years old, with capacity for pre entry. The outreach has an early years teacher with a preschool director based at Booleroo Centre, through which both the outreach and care service are funded.

2. Key Centre Policies

- Centre Priorities
 - :Site Learning Plan priorities include the development of a safe, secure and stimulating outdoor learning environment; the improvement of integration between services and groups that use the site; a focus on curriculum development for early childhood emphasising literacy and Early Years Learning Framework.
 - :All policies related to the Centre are displayed on our front counter for public perusal or can be found on our website, www.melrosekgn.sa.edu.au

3. Curriculum

- Framework used: EYLF
- Core Values
 - :The vision of Melrose Rural Care and Outreach Preschool is to work in partnership with the community and DECS to create a centre of early childhood excellence. We are committed to providing a high quality learning environment for young children and their families, which empowers individual children to continue their life journey with confidence.

- Special curriculum approaches
:Staff at this centre have evaluated their performance in relation to a social constructivist approach.
- Joint programmes/special curriculum projects
:The staff have established the Melrose Literacy and Information Service.

The outreach preschool has transition with the Melrose Primary School for children moving on to school.

4. Centre Based Staff

- Staff Profile (numbers, employment categories, fractions of time)
:The kindergarten staff consists of one .2 Director for the site. The Rural Care Worker program is for 55 hrs per week and is comprised of three part time Rural Care workers who have (or are studying) for their Diploma in Children's Services. The teacher for outreach is employed 0.4 days
- Performance Management program
:Staff develop performance management programs in consultation with their line manager. The Director's line manger is the Assistant Regional Director based in Clare and the Teacher/Rural Care worker's Line Manager is the centre's Director
- Access to special support staff
:Special support staff are accessed through DECS Regional Office.

5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
:The centre is an upgraded building next to the school site. It is an excellent facility with an office, sleeping room for children in Rural Care, indoor and outdoor play area, kitchen and toilet, babies bath and change table. Heating, cooling and security systems are installed.
- Centre Ownership
:The centre is owned by DECS.
- Access for children and staff with disabilities
:There is access and facilities for children and staff with disabilities, including ramps and toilets.

6. Local Community

- General characteristics: (eg. work, languages, culture)
:Melrose is a small rural centre nestled at the base of Mount Remarkable in the southern Flinders Ranges. The community consists of farming families, small business operators and employees, and some parents work out of the area. The culture is mainly Anglo- Australian. Art, craft and sporting

interests are catered for, the Easter tennis tournament and Fat Tyre Festival are two annual events that attract visitors. The local National Trust group is also very active, with Melrose having buildings of historic importance.

- Parent and community involvement in the preschool
:The Governing Council meets twice a term at Booleroo Centre District School. You may wish to nominate as a Rural Care representative and Outruch Preschool representative on this decision making body if your child is using the site for either service.
- Other local care facilities
:There is also a Rural Care service at Booleroo Centre, providing the same service hours.
- Other preschool facilities
There is a kindergarten located in Booleroo Centre, phone 8667 2055 and located Wilmington, phone 8667 5115
- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
:Local facilities are available to do basic shopping and business. Bank agencies are provided through local shops. A public hospital, doctor and police are available at Booleroo Centre.
- Other local facilities
:The office of the District Council of Mount Remarkable is located in Melrose.
- Availability of staff housing
:There are a few private homes are available for rent
- Accessibility to Adelaide and relevant major centres, including public transport and its availability, frequency and cost, road quality
:Access to Adelaide is via road and the nearest major centres are Port Pirie and Port Augusta. There is no public transport. Bus transport is available from Port Pirie and Port Augusta.
- Local Government body, availability of publications describing the local area; characteristics, level of involvement
:The Local Government Body is the District Council of Mount Remarkable. It covers an extensive area of 3,422 sq kilometres and has a population of over 3000. Publications on the area are available from the Council, phone 8666 2014

7. Further Comments

- Establishment of new service(s)/program(s)
:Melrose Rural Care have been accredited by the National Childcare Accreditation Council Inc. with a good to high quality profile being attained.