

2022 Annual Report

Site Context and Highlights

The Annual Report for Bains Road Preschool highlights the accomplishments and education for 2022.

In 2022 the preschool offered sessional preschool for up to 55 children, two Inclusive Preschool Programs for up to 12 children who have disabilities and complex health needs and an Occasional Care program for babies from 12 months to preschool age for up to 55 children per week.

The educator team have worked tirelessly throughout the year providing a nurturing, supportive and engaging environment for children.

The consistency of the team was maintained throughout the year and as a team everyone should individually and collectively be proud of the achievements made in such a short time frame. In 2022, we continued to focus on developing dispositions for learning. Children's learning is child-centred and self-directed in a relationship driven environment.

The program is based on the principles of respect, responsibility and community through exploration, discovery and play. Some of our 2022 highlights were continuing our supported playgroup, encouraging borrowing from our community library, family BBQs, special person's day, visits from Glenn the Nature Education and Junk Man, dental checks with the Mobile Dentist, Mud Week, Movie nights, hosting transition visits and parent information sessions, visits from SAPOL and the Metropolitan Fire Service, The Henny Penny chicken program and an end of year Christmas celebration at Wilfred Taylor Reserve.

Educators worked together to redesign the indoor environment, which enhanced the play area and created a flexible space for children's learning. A highlight for many of the educators was to work alongside Thilan Legierse who helped us create a well-functioning educator team who are happier, healthier and more creative, this helped us unlock our potential, which in turn has created a wonderful environment for the children in our care.

Another educator highlight was engaging in professional development in the Circle of Security approach, this approach helps educators to confidently meet many of the aims of the Early Years Learning Framework, in particular, supporting learning and development through interactions with children.

Bains Road Preschool continues to be a preschool that highly values equality, inclusion, play and collaboration.

Governing Council Report

During 2022 we held Governing Council meetings twice per term. The Governing Council were a small group of parents who advocated for children, educators and families engaging in the centre.

Some of the Fundraising efforts in 2022 were a Wine drive, Tea towels with children's artwork and a Kyton's Bakery fundraiser. The money was used to purchase new home corner furniture for the preschool and occasional care spaces.

The Governing Council believe that despite the impact of Covid, 2022 was a productive and insightful year. Throughout the year the Governing Council were kept informed about the educational programs implemented and the various professional development attended by educators, as well as developments within the Department for Education. As a group the Governing Council had a productive term of office and believe that our involvement enhanced the educational program and environment.

The Governing Council voted to raise the age of babies accessing Occasional Care in 2022. The age was lifted from 3 months to 12 months. Educators and Governing Council made this decision thinking about the safety of young babies and the educators caring for them.

I would like to thank the Governing Council members for making 2022 a great year for Bains Road Preschool.

Preschool Quality Improvement Planning

Literacy Goal

To improve all children's ability to meaningfully communicate with other children and educators.

Challenge of Practice

If we provide multiple communication tools and strategies for all children to use, then we will see improved communication outcomes for all children with an extended ability to meaningfully communicate with other children and educators.

Success Criteria

Through ongoing analysis of our pedagogical documentation, we will see children:

- Using communication tools such as visuals.
- Communicating their thinking with others.
- Engaging in 'back and forth' interactions.
- Communicating in multiple ways including movement, dance, visual arts, verbal and non-verbal.

Numeracy Goal

To increase children's capacity to recognise and create patterns.

Challenge of Practice

If we support children to recognise patterns in their environment, then we will see children creating and responding to patterns.

Success Criteria

Through ongoing pedagogical documentation, we will see children:

- Identifying patterns in the environment.
- Creating patterns with materials.
- Seeing routines as a pattern.
- Recognising patterns in songs and rhymes.

Preschool Enrolment

Number of children enrolled at Preschool for Term 4 2022:

57

Performance and attendance

83%

We support positive learning and wellbeing for all children. Maintaining a priority focus on attendance and engagement in preschool recognises that educational success is central to the lifelong achievement, wellbeing and success of our young people. To foster family and community understanding of the importance of attendance, we build relationships with children and their families from their first contact with the preschool. This is fundamental to our approach. The ways we ensure attendance are by building relationships, inclusion, child centred practices and promote the importance of regular participation in early childhood education and care to set up future patterns for attendance and learning. Educators approach families with care and respect and understand the barriers families at times face with attendance. The attendance rate is very high at Bains Road Preschool, we keep in regular contact with families and do our best to work through any attendance issues with them. Attendance during 2022 was severely impacted by Covid with many families being exposed for the first time since border restrictions changed.

Destination Comments

Families attending Bains Road Preschool choose different schools depending on their child's need. In 2022 the schools chosen by families were:

Antonio Catholic School – 21.4%

Emmaus Catholic School – 7.1%

Pimpala Primary School – 3.6%

Prescott College Southern – 28.6%

Reynella Primary School – 25.0%

Southern Vales Christian College – 3.6%

Woodcroft Primary School – 10.7%

Parent opinion summary

Family comments on Quality of Teaching and Learning

- It is a warm positive environment with caring staff, makes the kids want to go there even when it is not their day.
- My child is happy and supported and the teachers are amazing. All the staff are amazing. Pip is the perfect Director and works perfectly with parents when needed.
- My child has thrived at Kindy and it's thanks to the lovely educators that teach her.
- The teachers at this Kindy have been nothing short of amazing. They have been proactive in helping my child thrive, and are actively supporting him and us to find the best possible option for school next year.

Family comments on Support of Learning

- The staff have been outstanding in supporting the students.

Family comments on Relationships and Communication

- Excellent communication from the whole team.
- Great communication provided. Thank you.

Family comments on Leadership and Decision Making

- Pip is a wonderful Director who is bringing out the best in the staff, and is very approachable.

General Comments from Families

- My daughter was previously at another preschool but could not settle. Within two or three visits to Bains Road, she was much more comfortable and actually looking forward to attending. It has been a revelation. Thank you, Bains Road Preschool.
- This by far the best preschool we have used. We are very impressed with the organisation and leadership, as well as the wonderful support given to the students and parents.
- We are very happy with Bains Road Preschool and feel they have provided a wealth of education and knowledge to our child, who is thriving being there.

Relevant History Screening

Relevant history screening applies to everyone engaged with or participating in a department site or service or providing a service to a department site, child or young person, including:

- Department employees
- Volunteers
- Employees and volunteers of school governing councils and preschool management committees

For teachers, the department approved screening is the Teachers Registration Board of South Australia screening as part of the teacher registration process. For all others, the department approved screening is a child-related employment screening through the Department of Human Services. All permanent, contract and relief educators have current history screening and copies are kept on file at the preschool.

Financial Statement

State Grants: \$856,990

Parent Contributions: \$26,690

Other (Fundraising): \$374

Improved Outcomes Funding

In 2022, 11 educators engaged in a Lisa Burman Story Table professional development. The training encouraged educators to look critically at our current story tables and understand how story tables can offer the opportunity to connect language, literacy, dispositional and intellectual learning intentions. 3 teachers engaged in Orbis' Preschool Literacy Program aimed at improving literacy teaching practices. The program included 5 days of intensive workshops.

We have made huge progress in providing multiple communication tools and strategies. We have used the strategies across all groups of children including the Inclusive Preschool Program and Occasional Care settings. This has been easy due to the seamless transitions between the groups and the multiple opportunities for these children to interact. All the educators believe that we have achieved our goal this year. We believe keeping the same goal for a second year will help to strengthen our pedagogical approach and working with another group of children will give us a different data set to review. We have many verbal children using visuals.

In 2022 we used IESP funding to support 4 children who required an additional educator to support their development and their physical, social and emotional wellbeing.

Outcome 3: Children have a strong sense of wellbeing.

Outcome 4: Children confident and involved learners.