St. Joseph’s Pre School
Hindmarsh

POLICY DOCUMENT

Enrolment & Orientation
St. Joseph’s Preschool Enrolment Policy

CESA, in partnership with The Department for Education and Child Development is responsible for providing preschool education programs in a number of Catholic schools across Adelaide. These centres provide sessional preschool for eligible children, and where possible, unfunded programs to support young children such as pre-entry sessions, emergency care and playgroups.

The Same First Day will commence in 2013 for children eligible to start pre-school and will commence in 2014 for children eligible to start reception. The minimum age for starting pre-school from 2013 will be three years and eight months. The minimum age for starting reception from 2014 will be four years and eight months. All children will receive four terms of pre-school and four terms of reception. The compulsory age by which a child is required to start school is six years.

Eligible enrolments

At St. Joseph’s preschool the following children are eligible enrolments:

1. **From 2013** children who turn four before May 1st will be admitted into pre-school on the first day of term one in that year. Children who turn four on or after May 1st will be admitted to preschool the following year.

2. **Children who are Aboriginal or under the Guardianship of the Minister** for Education and Child Development are entitled, through negotiation with the Principal, to attend preschool from the age of 3 years. The child can attend up to 12 hours per week which then increases to 15 hours once the child turns 4 years of age. The child is also entitled to continue attending the preschool program until 6 years of age.

3. **Children attending a Designated Rural Preschool** may attend from the age of 3 years and 6 months and access an entitlement over this period of up to 600 hours.

1. **Approved Early Entry or Extended Enrolment**
   Directors/principals may negotiate early entry or extended enrolment when:
   - additional time at preschool is likely to significantly improve a child's learning and developmental outcomes
   - the preschool has the capacity within its current resources and consultation has occurred between the director/principal, centre staff, parents and where applicable, personnel from the region, such as Preschool Support Program, Bi- Lingual Support Program, and/or specialist agencies.
   - These enrolments are to be counted as eligible enrolments for funding purposes, however where a service is experiencing enrolment pressures, children enrolled under Early Entry or Extended Enrolment will take second priority to other eligible enrolment
**Early entry** to preschool may be considered for:
- Children who live in small rural communities in exceptional circumstances, may be enrolled from age 3 years and 6 months in order to access this over a period of up to 600 hours.
- Children with additional needs such as a disability, developmental delay, gifted development, culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds or due to family and social circumstances may commence early entry 2 terms prior to their eligible year of preschool. These children are eligible to attend for 3 hours per week in the first term, increasing to a maximum of 6 hours per week from the beginning of their second term of early entry.

**Extended enrolment** in preschool may be considered for:
- Children with additional needs, who may be offered one term of extended enrolment following consultation between the director/principal, Centre staff, parents and, where applicable, DECD Support Services and/or specialist agencies.

**Pre-entry term**
- A pre-entry program to preschool may be offered to children in the term prior to their eligible attendance at preschool.
- The program is optional and is only to be offered where the preschool director, in consultation with the School Board, has identified that the program would suit the needs of the community and contribute to the aims and objectives of the service.
- A pre-entry program is not funded and is only available where staffing and physical resources permit.

\[Signature\]  
*Philip Schultz*  
Principal

\[Signature\]  
*Anne Burke*  
School Board Chairperson

Dated: June 2015