

# Kadina Preschool



## Annual Report 2011



## Context

**Preschool Name:** Kadina Preschool

**Preschool Number:** 6609

**Preschool Director:** Jacky Vogelsang

**Region:** Yorke Mid North

This year has been again one of staff changes for the Centre, with permanent .5 teacher Brooke Day, coming back to teaching after a year of maternity leave. She shared the 1.0 teaching position with Annie Hyland. Hopefully next year our staffing situation will remain consistent for 2012 as this does impact on the remaining staff members increasing their workload until regular routines and confidence has established in new members as well as knowledge of the EYLF and the new accreditation system coming into effect in 2012.

The Kindy Shop still presents with some major issues especially with staffing of volunteers. A repeated call for assistance from families has not been met with any positive interest and only one parent (whose child is now at school) has taken up the offer. We are in a bit of a dilemma as the current coordinator is planning on retiring and there are approximately 10 volunteers who are also going to be leaving at the same time. We have been informed that a new coordinator has been found and will begin after the Christmas period. The lack of volunteers is a serious concern.

It is vital to the Preschool that the Kindy Shop remains open as it nets a considerable income each year, which is vital in assisting many areas of the global budget, especially the resource and consumable lines.

Financially the Centre is in a very good and viable position to head into 2012. Money has been set aside for new outdoor blinds to help meet safety and health standards.

This year has been one where we have begun to increase community involvement within our Centre practice. Ideas within the curriculum and the organization of the Centre is still in its infancy however we are confident that in 2012 we can extend upon this year's ideas and continue to create a more inclusive environment.

Simon Harley our facilities manager was informed in term three of significant movement in the flooring of the main kindy building. He came out to assess the problem and stated that contractors would be in over the Christmas period to deal with the problem.

The outdoor stage area continues to present with OHS&W issues due to its close proximity to the sand pit, lack of hand rails on the steps, rubber matting surrounds beginning to subside and panels constantly falling off. Some serious considerations will need to be given to this equipment as it has already been part of a problem when a child sustained a broken leg whilst playing on this equipment when it was first installed.

## Site Improvement Plan

We had two general priorities this year

1). Improve family/community involvement. 2). Improve oral language outcomes for children.

### **Continue to improve family/community involvement**

As part of our strategy to continue to improve family/community involvement we are suggesting that as we received only 25 surveys back from families this year, we offer exiting families at the end of **every term** the chance to fill out the survey rather than waiting for term two and three to see if this will increase the response levels.

As part of involvement strategy we had over 50 percent of families responding to every survey we distributed. This could be accounted for by the more personal face to face approach as well as the many reminder notes within every child's communication pocket; however there is still significant room for improvement in this area. We are suggesting that we look for other areas of visual communication to attract Family interests in 2012.

We are now going to the Kadina Primary School library as well as the Community library every week. We have divided this up into a 3 week rotation so that all the children can attend the local library every Monday and every Thursday the oldest cohort of children visits the school library. We are also using this as a tool to assist with transitioning to another educational facility regardless of which school a child will attend.

The local private school has taken up the offer of transition visits including students and teachers to the kindy and school premises. Our main feeder school has yet to take up the offer but we do have an information sharing session each term with the school counselor who is sometimes accompanied by a teacher. We will continue to offer transition opportunities for teachers and students for this school in 2012 with a suggestion of a small group visiting on a regular basis and even swapping one of our teachers to the classroom so that the school teacher may interact with transitioning students.

With regards to our goal of 85% 'Communication' to be rated agree or strongly agree in preschool parent survey, we have achieved between 90 to 100%. However I hasten to add that we did only receive 25 replies for the preschool survey; this is something we recommend to address in 2012.

We had an exceptional year where many Community Groups were invited and attended our Centre to take part in our extensive curriculum we have been offering as well as being invited to take part in other activities and events. Programs such as Delta Dog Safety, Emergency services with fire (CFS & MFS), and police, as well as the local vet were included. A special party this was run over two days for our Kindy Shop volunteers. We were also invited over two day period to the local paper 'the Country Times'.

We continue to have strong ties with the local TAFE College and wish to enhance this practice next year offering our Centre as a place of learning for the students engaged in Early Childhood Studies.

We have had a school based trainee working within our Centre. This has meant a lot of extra paperwork and report writing as well as assisting the student with her studies; however it has also been an extremely rewarding and interesting process.

We were nominated for Employer of the Year in the medium business sector for the work we have been doing with cultures other than our own and additional needs students.

#### **Improve oral language outcomes of children**

- By children's final term of kindy, 100% of children will move up at least one level of the TROLL data analysis scale – this has been achieved with the exception of severe additional needs children whose language development has hampered their outcomes.

- 80% of children are engaged in quality conversations with an adult every week relating to Strive for Five data over 4 terms. Using the Strive for 5 data tool has significantly improved staff members attendance to achieving quality conversations with children. Even though we have achieved this goal there is still room for improvement using this very worthwhile tool as many staff meetings teaching staff often were reminded to attend to the data on a daily basis. It is a recommendation that we continue with this data and even begin to compare other terms/cohorts from previous terms upon exit of a cohort if possible. This will give tangible results that we can use as evidence to ensure that we are actually making a significant impact on children's oral language.

We did not achieve any training with the RRR tool other than basic theory due to a general lack of attendance opportunities from staff due to family and other work commitments. It is recommended that this be 'shelved' temporarily and revisited within the next 2 years due to the enormous amount of other training and understanding needed by staff members as we enter the 15 UA, National Accreditation requirements and provisions ready for the one year intake beginning in 2013. All staff members have a sound understanding of the importance of an engaging learning environment in both the indoor and outdoor areas and it is this which we will continue to recommend that we follow and increase upon next year.

### **Report from Governing Council**

Our Governing Council though few in numbers have been very supportive and helpful when assisting the Director of the Centre through various negotiations with bullying issues arising from the adjacent Primary school and other matters. It is this strength and consistent support that has enabled the Centre and the Director to establish them confidently and become meaningful advocates for quality education in the Early Years.

The Governing Council in conjunction with the Director, created new policies to assist with the ever present issue of outstanding fees. This has proven very beneficial to the Centre and eliminated many of the past financial issues the Preschool had to bear.

The planning of the implementation of the 15 hours Universal Access was discussed at length and the Governing Council assisted in publishing surveys so that all families may have a an equal opportunity in the process of access to the future programming format in 2012.

Governing Council was given the format of the National Quality Standards to assist in advising areas in which the Centre may improve upon to assist staff implementing the new Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) for 2012

## Student Data

### Enrolments

Figure 1: Enrolments by Term

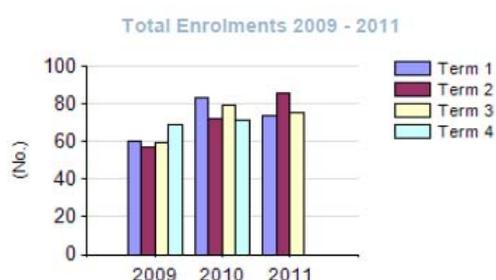


Table 1: Enrolments by Term

Enrolment by Term				
Year	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2009	60	57	59	69
2010	83	72	79	71
2011	74	86	75	

Numbers continue to be consistently high. Transitory movements between metropolitan and interstate due to parent/family work commitments has continued and this did affect the results in term one and three as well as the increased intake in term two. We envisage numbers to remain at or near our capacity of 74 for 2012.

### Attendance

Figure 2: Attendance by Term

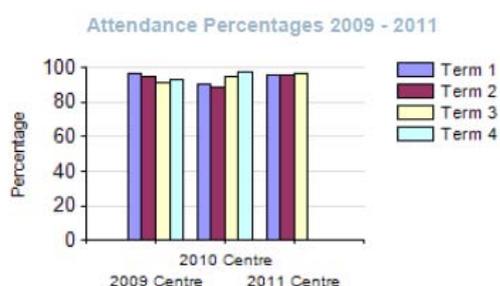


Table 2: Attendance Percentages 2009 - 2011

Attendance Percentages				
Year	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2009 Centre	96.7	94.7	91.5	92.8
2010 Centre	90.4	88.9	94.9	97.2
2011 Centre	95.9	95.3	96	
2009 State	87.2	87.8	86.1	86.8
2010 State	88.8	90.3	88	88.2
2011 State	89.9	89.1	88.4	

Attendance has remained high. We would like to offer the suggestion that we have a low case of illness and spread of infection within our Centre due to a highly diligent cleaner who has maintained very high standards all year. We would also like to think that the inclusive and varied curriculum offered at the Centre has had a positive impact in this area as well.

## Feeder Schools

### Feeder School Percentage Data

Table 3: Feeder School Percentage Data 2009 - 2011

Feeder Schools				
Site number - Name	Type	2009	2010	2011
0196 - Kadina Primary School	Govt.	67.8	67.8	73
0459 - Wallaroo Primary School	Govt.	1.7		
0460 - Wallaroo Mines Primary School	Govt.	12.2	11.1	13.5
8200 - Harvest Christian School	Non-Govt.	11.1	13.3	13.5
9084 - St Mary MacKillop School	Non-Govt.	5.6	6.7	
9103 - Maitland Lutheran School	Non-Govt.	1.7	1.1	
<b>Total</b>		<b>100.1</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

Kadina Primary the largest feeder school continues to have the largest percentage of intake from our Centre, with a slight increase from the previous two years. This may also be in sync with the higher enrolments we experienced in 2010 from previous years and those children being eligible school age in 2011 as this is also the case for our other two main feeder schools.

## Client Opinion

### Parent Opinion - Quality of Teaching and Learning

No.	Statement	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Responses
1	I think my child receives high quality teaching at this preschool.	0%	0%	0%	24%	76%	25
2	My child's teachers know what my child can do and what he/she needs to learn.	0%	0%	0%	52%	48%	25
3	This preschool has the expectation that children will learn.	0%	0%	0%	40%	60%	25
4	Teachers are enthusiastic in their teaching.	0%	0%	0%	20%	80%	25
5	I am satisfied with the learning programs offered at my child's preschool.	0%	0%	0%	40%	60%	25
6	My child's teachers clearly inform me about the learning program.	0%	0%	4%	28%	68%	25
7	My child's teachers make learning interesting and enjoyable.	0%	0%	0%	12%	88%	25
8	Teachers at this preschool really want to help my child learn.	0%	0%	0%	20%	80%	25
9	The preschool has an excellent learning environment.	0%	0%	0%	32%	68%	25

### Parent Comments - Quality of Teaching and Learning

Staff do a marvellous job with the resources they have would be a bonus to receive extra funding to enhance the outdoor learning environment, but as we know this is an uphill battle!!

Keep up the great work :)

My child has enjoyed learning at preschool, especially in topics she is interested in. The teachers have been quick to recognise her interests.

Excellent very impressed.

As a parent I am extremely satisfied with the quality of the teaching.

Small building compared to volume of children. Noise levels must impact on learning.

They did a great job teaching my son.

I have nothing but praise for the kindy and all involved. The quality of the teaching was outstanding, fun and overall fantastic.

More funding to this preschool would greatly benefit the children attending. Staff do a wonderful job but are often stretched between a large number of children with varied needs. More time for teaching and less administration time for teachers and Director would be a good start. Outdoor play area could be improved with more funding.

James needed extra help and the one on one help has really helped him learn.

## Parent Opinion - Support of Learning

No.	Statement	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Responses
1	My child is motivated to learn at this preschool.	0%	0%	0%	44%	56%	25
2	My child's teachers provide help and support when it is needed.	0%	0%	4%	36%	60%	25
3	My child has access to quality materials and resources that help him/her to learn.	0%	0%	0%	48%	52%	25
4	My child is happy at this preschool this year.	0%	0%	4%	24%	72%	25
5	My child would receive support for any special needs he/she had.	0%	0%	0%	52%	48%	25
6	The preschool changes its programs and activities to improve student achievement.	0%	0%	0%	52%	48%	25
7	Children know how they are expected to behave at preschool.	0%	0%	0%	40%	60%	25
8	Teachers at this preschool treat my child fairly.	0%	0%	0%	25%	75%	24
9	This preschool provides a safe and secure environment.	0%	0%	0%	28%	72%	25
10	Children have enough materials and resources for their learning.	0%	0%	4%	48%	48%	25
11	This preschool has information available about other support agencies within the community.	0%	0%	4%	60%	36%	25
12	This preschool encourages children to have a sense of pride in their achievement.	0%	0%	0%	32%	68%	25

## Parent Comments - Support of Learning

Teachers are very inventive at this preschool and make use of any material that they find to enhance learning. More \$ available for new material and resources would be helpful. My child had access to a variety of resources in the past 12 months.

My child was encouraged to learn and participate in all activities

## Parent Opinion - Relationships and Communication

No.	Statement	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Responses
1	I feel welcome at this preschool.	0%	0%	0%	40%	60%	25
2	This preschool assists the development of my child's personal and social skills.	0%	0%	0%	36%	64%	25
3	I am comfortable about approaching my child's teachers to talk about his/her progress.	0%	0%	0%	44%	56%	25
4	I am given opportunities to have a say in matters about this preschool.	0%	0%	4%	48%	48%	25
5	There is a broad variety of communications that inform me about this preschool.	0%	0%	0%	56%	44%	25
6	Children from all backgrounds and cultures are treated fairly at this preschool.	0%	0%	0%	44%	56%	25
7	The staff always listen to what I have to say about my child's development and needs.	0%	0%	0%	40%	60%	25
8	I receive helpful information about my child's progress and achievement.	0%	0%	0%	52%	48%	25
9	This preschool provides opportunities to discuss my child's progress.	0%	0%	0%	52%	48%	25
10	I am well informed about preschool activities.	0%	0%	0%	40%	60%	25
11	I believe that if I have concerns or suggestions, the preschool would respond appropriately.	0%	0%	0%	36%	64%	25
12	I am encouraged to be involved in the preschool in all kinds of ways.	0%	0%	0%	36%	64%	25
13	Teachers let me know how well my child is doing.	0%	0%	4%	36%	60%	25

## Parent Comments - Relationships and Communication

The Director welcomes interaction with me as a parent and keeps us informed with newsletters, reflective planning and future programming.

I relied heavily on good communication and it was delivered very well and I was encouraged to reciprocate and confidentiality was always maintained

Very happy with service Izak has enjoyed his time here cheers

Preschool staff have always been very friendly and helpful and have done a great job of welcoming us as part of the kindy community. The Director (Jacky) is always enthusiastic and excited to share information about my child's latest new learning experiences.

## Parent Opinion - Leadership and Decision Making

No.	Statement	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Responses
1	This preschool is well organised this year.	0%	0%	0%	32%	68%	25
2	I have confidence in how the preschool is managed.	0%	0%	0%	36%	64%	25
3	I believe there is effective educational leadership within the preschool.	0%	0%	0%	36%	64%	25
4	The preschool seeks parents' opinions about educational programs.	0%	0%	0%	60%	40%	25
5	I am given the opportunity to be involved in the preschool's educational activities.	0%	0%	0%	40%	60%	25
6	The preschool is always looking for ways to improve what it does.	0%	0%	0%	40%	60%	25
7	Parents are invited to participate in decisions about their child's education.	0%	0%	0%	52%	48%	25
8	Parents have the opportunity to be involved in the development of school plans through the Governing Council.	0%	0%	4%	36%	60%	25
9	The preschool includes parents and community in decision making.	0%	0%	4%	56%	40%	25
10	Overall, I am satisfied with the preschool's planning.	0%	0%	0%	32%	68%	25

## Parent Comments - Leadership and Decision Making

I am actually quite impressed with the team work and how efficiently the kindy is run.

I have been very impressed with the preschool leadership this year.

The leadership shown at this preschool over the last 12 months has been inclusive, informative and outstanding.

## Parent Comments - Other comments

First thing in the morning I often hear parents say they need to go and maybe 9:10 routine on mat would be helpful to the working parents

Always organised efficiently.

We have been very happy with our child's preschool experience this year. Preschool staff have taken a personal interest in our child and her learning and have been very friendly, supportive and helpful. This preschool has the desire to provide a quality service and excellent education for young children. Funding increased to this preschool would be money well spent in helping our already great kindy to become even better.

I like Kadina Preschool, my younger 2 are definitely coming here.

## Accountability

### National Partnerships

We are due to begin the UA in 2012. There have been many discussions within the Governing Council and also surveys to families to assist in the equitable deployment of this concept.

## Financial Statement

Income for the Preschool has been met through our Global budget allowance from the Department of Education and Children's Services. We have also supplemented the income of the Centre through the profits gained from our Kindy Shop as well as minor community grants we have applied for; I hasten to add here that some of the grants we applied for we were unsuccessful due to the area of education.