

Our Website

Lobethal Kindergarten's website can be viewed at

www.lobethalkgn.sa.edu.au

Our Blog can also be found on the website. We regularly post about many of the amazing experiences we have as part of our kindy program. It's a great way to keep informed about the wonderful things your children are part of whilst at kindy.

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2021	27 January to 9 April	27 April to 2 July	19 July to 24 September	11 October to 10 December
2022	31 January to 14 April	2 May to 8 July	25 July to 30 September	17 October to 16 December
2023	30 January to 14 April	1 May to 7 July	24 July to 29 September	16 October to 15 December
2024	29 January to 12 April	29 April to 5 July	22 July to 27 September	14 October to 13 December
2025	28 January to 11 April	28 April to 4 July	21 July to 26 September	13 October to 12 December

Lobethal Community Playgroup

Our Community Playgroup is in a transition stage at the moment and is also on hold due to COVID-19 restrictions. You can keep up to date with the current situation via the playgroup Facebook group https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=250699825125146&ref=br_rs or watch our Facebook page for any news. <https://www.facebook.com/LobethalCommunityKindergarten/>



Lobethal
COMMUNITY KINDERGARTEN

**Welcome to
Lobethal Kindy**

We acknowledge that we are on the traditional lands of the Peramangk people and we recognise their connection with the land.
We will help care for and respect this land together.

Our Core Business

Growing and learning together.....

A copy of our centre's current philosophy statement is in the middle of this booklet or on our website www.lobethalkgn.sa.edu.au, for you to read. This statement essentially outlines what we believe about how children learn and why, and the ways in which we will foster this learning. Our philosophy statement also mentions the value of strong relationships across all stakeholders at our kindy - Parent; child; staff and the strong link that we have in partnership with families and our community.

Management

The kindergarten is managed by a Governing Council - comprised of parents, the director, the kindergarten's finance officer and a staff representative.

An annual General Meeting is called in February to elect the Governing council. This group manages the centre's finances; makes sure the grounds, buildings and equipment are maintained; sets priorities for improvements; sets policy for change and future directions; represents the interests of all users of the kindergarten, and includes a sub committee which organise fundraising during the year.

The State Government fund the majority of our staffing costs. . The Governing Council receives an amount of Government money each year, to run and maintain the kindy, this has to be supplemented by term fees paid for by kindergarten families accessing our services, and/or fundraising, in order to cover running costs (cleaning, water, electricity etc), consumables (paint, paper etc) and maintenance or improvements to building and equipment. The Governing council relies on support for its fundraising efforts from all kindergarten parents and the wider community.



Other Services

Through partnership with other early childhood services, the centre is able to offer the following additional services:-

- Dental Care - children attending kindergarten are eligible for free dental treatment through the school dental service. www.sadental.sa.gov.au
- Healthy and Development checks through Child and Youth Health Services. We support this service by making the appointment dates and times once a term. Staff will advise you when it is your child's turn (based on age) for an appointment.
- DECD support services. Access to a team of specialists - speech pathologists, special educators, psychologist, social worker - free of charge to families. Speak to staff if you have any concerns about your child's development and together we can decide on the appropriate service.

Adelaide Hills Community Health Service (AHCHS)

87 Wellington Road Mount Barker, SA 5251

Phone 08 8393 1833

Fax 08 8393 1800

Email mtbarker.access@gmail.com

Website www.health.sa.gov.au

Hours: Mon - Fri 8.30am - 5pm

Services Provided include:

Community courses and programs

Community mental health care

Counselling

Early childhood intervention

Family and parenting support

Health promotion and education

Nutrition and dietetics services

Occupational therapy

Speech pathology

Social work services

Support groups - for various issues

Women's health programs

Visiting Services

Gambling counselling (Gambling Help Services SA)

Drug & Alcohol Services SA

Psychology

Immunisation

Immunisation is an important process for the prevention of disease across our community. DECD policy and procedures now states that staff need to sight immunisation records to show that immunisations are up to date. If a child is not immunised and there is an outbreak in the centre of a vaccine preventable disease, a child recorded as not immunised will be excluded for the exclusion period of the disease.

The Adelaide Hills Council conducts public immunisation clinics at both Stirling and Woodside. Appointments are not available, the clinics are run in a drop-in style. For information regarding catchup vaccinations for school aged children, toddlers or babies please contact:
Pop Up Medics | Phone 0434 628 990 or admin@popupmedics.com.au

Lobethal Kindy Clothing

We have a good range of children's clothing available for you to purchase, with the Kindy Logo.

- Sunsmart Hats \$15
- T-shirts \$15
- Hoodies \$25

All in a range of bright colours.

We will also place an order with Mudlarks for water proof clothing in term 1 each year.

- Water proof pants \$28



Health & Safety

If your child is unwell please consider if it is okay to send them to kindy. If your child vomits or has diahorrea before kindergarten or during the previous night, please keep him or her at home. Even if children seem okay they can still be contagious to other children or staff. Please keep us informed of any medical conditions, allergies, head lice or infectious diseases that your child develops. Let us know if your emergency contacts details change in case we need to contact you during the day.

Curriculum

Our Kindy has a strong emphasis on providing a nature based outdoor learning environment which is utilised through all seasons of the year and in all weather. Children have the opportunity to access outdoor play spaces in all but the most extreme weather so need to be prepared with suitable clothing etc to allow participation. You will be kept informed of curriculum interests and topics via newsletters and the notice board. If your family can contribute to these in any way, please let us know. Families are a valuable resource in so many ways.

When planning for children's learning, assessing progress and reporting to families, the kindergarten uses the National Early Years Learning Framework, "Belonging, Being and Becoming". We use the learning outcomes stated in the framework to assess children's development for learning. Parent sharing meetings are offered in week 0 and term 3 to support staff to effectively plan for every child

The outcomes are:

Children have a strong sense of identity

Children are connected with and contribute to their world

Children have a strong sense of wellbeing

Children are confident and involved learners

Children are effective communicators

Feedback about your child's kindy experiences are provided to families via learning journey books, individual learning plans and informal discussions with staff.

Session Information

In 2021 sessions will run over 2 groups, Echidna Group - Monday, Tuesday and Gecko Group - Wednesday, Thursday. These sessions run from 8.15am to 3.45pm,.

Fees

The Department of Education and Child Development provides minimal funding for the centre, which contributes towards, but does not cover the costs of operating the kindergarten. Fees are necessary because there is a shortfall between the level of government funding and the costs of operating a viable and quality service.

Fees will be set by Governing Council on an annual basis. Governing Council may review and change fees during the year if the financial viability of either the programs or the kindergarten is at risk.

The kindergarten term fee is \$175.00, which also contributes to staffing, lunchtime care costs and covers general materials and resources. There is also an additional once off materials payment of \$15 in term 1, this covers Learning Journey books and usb's that will be used to record you child's Learning at kindergarten.

You will receive a fees invoice at the beginning of the year. Payments can be made for the full year or term by term. EFTPOS/EFT/cash payments are all accepted. No child is ever excluded from kindergarten for financial reasons. If payment of fees is proving a problem, please speak to the Director to discuss payment options or adjustments. Fee payments are due in Week 4 of each term.

Policies and Procedures

You can find a copy of all our policies and procedures located in a folder in the parent information area. You will receive a copy of the following policies as part of the enrolment process - Enrolment, Orientation and settling in policy, skin protection policy, healthy food policy Allergy aware policy, Social media policy and our site behaviour code.



Parent corner and Borrowing Library

Our Parent corner is updated regularly to help parents find pamphlets and information regarding local community services, current events and other important information. A folder with all our policies is also available here for parents to read.

We also have a parent library with resources that may be of help to families during the year. These are available to borrow on a regular basis. Please see staff if you need assistance.

Fundraising

Fundraising is an important aspect of our Kindergarten's annual budget. We generally hold one major fundraiser during the year along with smaller ones including raffles, Bunnings BBQ's etc. We use these funds to purchase resources and improve our learning environment. We ask that all families support our fundraising in some way throughout the year.

Child Protection

Lobethal Kindergarten is committed to child protection and child safe environments. A child is any persons aged from birth to eighteen years (UNICEF).

Lobethal Kindergarten promotes and advocates safe protective behaviour for all persons who access the service's premises, facilities and/or programs. At Lobethal Kindergarten everyone has the right to feel and be safe.

In meeting our duty of care, and legislative requirements, outlined in the Children's Protection Act 1993, Staff implement and adhere to the centre's Child Protection Policy (refer to policy folder in parent information area or see staff for a copy) and ensure a level of safety and protection to all children who access the centres facilities and /or programmes.

Lobethal Kindergarten's child protection awareness programs and plans illustrates the kindergarten's commitment to implementing best practice plans and learning strategies for children through individual and group experiences. For example, empowering children to speak out or disclose information through awareness programs that encourage children and adults to discuss what is "safe" and who may be a "safe" person to talk to.

Staff plan and program using the Child Safe curriculum and offer RAN training for volunteers each year.

Birthdays At Kindy

We love to celebrate Birthdays at Lobethal kindy and we will do this with a pretend cake with candles and sing happy birthday as a group.

There is no need to send along additional treats for the children to share as we adhere to our Healthy Eating Policy and may have children with allergies who cannot share this food.

We are respectful of everyone's individual cultures and traditions and will respectfully incorporate individual families needs when celebrating birthdays.

Carpark Safety

Parking at our kindy is limited and we recommend using Copeland Avenue as an alternative parking spot. Please adhere to the 25 km zone and be ever vigilant of other children crossing or near the road.

Social Media

We believe that social media is an important resource for us to share our learning and a valuable avenue of communication with our parents. Our paramount concern is to provide a safe, supportive and respectful forum for us and our families to share information.

Each year we create a closed/secret group that is administered by current staff. Only those invited and accepted by administrators will be members of the group. This is not a public group therefore all information and photos are only seen by members.

We also have a public Facebook Page that can be accessed by anyone, this however will not contain photographs or names of children without permission from parents/guardians. (refer to our social media policy)



Our Staff Team



Lee Munn
Director



Kerry
Harten
Teacher



Ailsa Zadow
Teacher



Janice
Jenkin ECW



Nic Wood
ECW



Mel Randall
ECW



Ness Curry
Finance
Officer

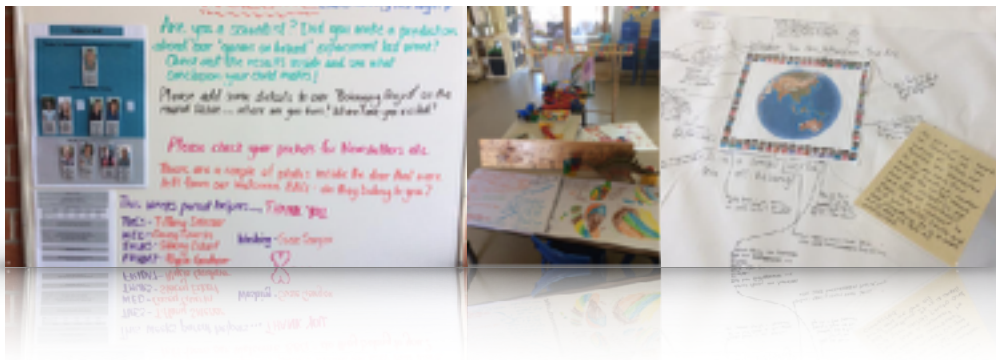
Communication

We will communicate with families in numerous ways:

- Please read the white board on the verandah each morning for important news about the day
- Communication bags are sent home daily and are to be brought to every session your child attends. There will be a communication book in the bag to help communicate any concerns etc.
- Newsletters will be sent home regularly to keep you updated with all the happenings at kindy and the community
- Our closed Facebook group will have plenty of daily learning photos and activities the children have been a part of and this is updated throughout the day. We will also post reminders on the group, for those not on Facebook we can organise for reminders and information to be sent via email
- SMS is a very important communication tool for us. We will use this in an emergency, to advise of Bushfire information and also for some reminders. Please be aware that responding via sms to this number (unless requested to) may not provide a response as the system is run via a computer and not a phone.

You can contact us:

- By phone 8389 6321 Fax 8389 5153
- Email: leeanne.munn791@schools.sa.edu.au or kerry.lobethalkindy@gmail.com or janice.lobethalkindy@gmail.com or nicole.lobethalkindy@gmail.com or lobethalkindy2@hotmail.com
- Facebook Page (public) <https://www.facebook.com/LobethalCommunityKindergarten/>
- Facebook messaging or group



What to Bring to Kindy?

When children come to kindergarten they will need to bring:

- a filling and nutritious lunch in a **named** lunch box. Staff will encourage the children to eat savoury/healthy choices before sweet, and also to eat a reasonable amount before leaving the lunch tables. For health and safety reasons lunches are stored in the fridge throughout the day. Food will not be heated up for children to help eliminate the risks of burns and scalds.
- One healthy morning snack and one healthy afternoon snack. (ie. fruit/vegetable/cheese & crackers). Please send these cut up and ready to eat and named.
- A named drink bottle filled with water only. We also have water available at kindy.
- A named library bag...children are encouraged to borrow a book each day that they attend kindy. You will find the library borrowing shelf next to the office. Please only borrow one book at a time.
- A sunsmart hat and clothing (compulsory for play terms 1,3 & 4)
- Waterproof clothing for winter terms including gumboots, waterproof pants and jackets. Kindy stock a range of these. See staff for more information.
- At least one full change of clothes should be sent with your child to every session.

Please ensure that everything that your child brings to kindy is clearly marked with their name.

(See Healthy eating policy for more information)

On Arrival to kindy

Children may be dropped at kindy from 8.15am, via the side entrance, please do not arrive prior to this as staff are not 'on the floor' until this time.

During terms 1,3 & 4 please ensure you apply sunscreen each morning (there is sunscreen available at kindy if you forget at home).

Place lunch boxes, morning snack, afternoon snack in the baskets located on the verandah.

Place water bottle on the shelf above the lockers

Find your child's locker and assist your child to place their belongings in it.

Sign your child in on the sign in and place the communication bag in the basket

Settle your child into an activity if required and then say goodbye.



Sunsmart Centre

Lobethal Kindergarten is a Sunsmart Centre. Therefore we promote positive attitudes towards skin protection among children, staff and parents. We educate our kindergarten community for lifelong learning about Sunsmart lifestyle practices and promote an awareness of the need to reduce the level of exposure to the sun's harmful rays. We will provide an environment which supports Sunsmart practices through our education programme and through the modelling of good practices.

We will display the daily UV rating on the entrance door and when UV is 3 and above Sun protection must be adhered to. This means Sunscreen applied and wearing sunsmart clothing including a sun smart hat.

Our staff will plan, program and implement activities that will minimise the risk of sun exposure during peak sun protection times.

During terms 1, 3 & 4 and when the UV is 3 and above at other times, sunscreen must be applied on arrival/or at home and it will be reapplied at lunchtime. All children, visitors and staff will be expected to wear a sunsmart hat (no caps) when participating in all outdoor activities/excursions. Children not wearing a sunsmart hat will be asked to play in the shaded areas.

Sunsmart bucket hats are available for purchase at kindy.

A copy of our Skin protection policy will be in your enrolment pack or see staff for a copy if required.

We have sunscreen onsite however if your child requires a particular brand, you can leave one at the centre and staff will ensure your child uses their own sunscreen.

Recommended Sunsmart hats

Please ensure hats provide adequate cover of the face, ears and neck and that there are no chin straps or cords.



Bush Kindy - Nature Connect Program

Nature Connect is Lobethal Community Kindergartens off site bush Kindy Program. The pilot program was launched with outdoor kindy week being held at Bushland Park in Term 2, 2015, and continues with fortnightly full day sessions being held in the park in terms 2 and 3. Our bush kindy program helps to build children's independence and self-esteem through meaningful and authentic experiences in nature. We recognise this can only be achieved by providing the opportunity to revisit these experiences on an ongoing basis. Bush kindy will:-

- Develop children's skills to take and manage risk and perform their own dynamic self-motivated risk assessments
- Build resilience in all involved
- Promote the skills required to learn, practice and transfer a variety of questioning and exploration methods to any time, place or situation
- Support children to be independent lifelong learners
- Foster the relationships our children and parents have with the natural environment. Creating a relationship of respect and nurturing, the culture of sustainability and development of an innate desire to help conserve and protect our natural environment.
- Encourage staff, children, families and our local community to extend their knowledge about and relationship with our local bush land.
- Increase the awareness about the use of the outdoors for learning, discovering, exploring and connection to the natural world.
- Increase opportunities for staff to develop pedagogical skills and implement pedagogical change to suit the program and encourage depth, breadth and progression in learning outcomes for staff and children.
- Explore and increase understanding of the positive impacts of learning outdoors on health, wellbeing and learning outcomes across all curriculum areas.
- A Bush kindy handbook will be supplied to all families prior to term 2 of each year.



Lobethal Community Kindergarten



2020 Philosophy Statement

Lobethal Community Kindergarten is a unique and caring learning environment with a strong focus on Nature Play, both within our "traditional" Kindergarten site and as part of our "Nature Connect" Bush Kindy program. We acknowledge that our learning spaces are located on the lands of the Peramangk and Kaurna people and we recognise their connection with the land. We will help care for and respect the land together.

Our image of the child is that they are capable, competent, creative, curious learners who have endless potential. We believe children learn best when they are engaged in a stimulating, challenging, high quality, play based learning program. We believe children thrive in an environment where they have a strong sense of belonging, and their ideas, interests and questions are explored, valued and responded to.

We value building strong, inclusive, reciprocal relationships with children and their families, respecting the diversity and uniqueness each and every family bring to us. We want children to feel a sense of ownership and belonging, where their "voice", their culture, identity and life experiences are represented and reflected throughout their Kindergarten experience.

We strongly value "Children's Voice" as an integral part of our ongoing planning and reflective practices, actively encouraging their ideas, theories, wonderings, dynamic risk assessments and risk taking, reflection and initiative within our child led emergent curriculum.

Staff have a strong belief in themselves as life-long learners, keeping up to date with current research and engaging in professional development, reflection and dialogue, to extend and increase current skills, knowledge and interests. Our staff team have a passion to provide a high quality learning environment in which children are given time and space to engage in critical inquiry, participate as reflective problem solvers, test theories and entertain possibilities in an environment where intellectual risk taking is valued and encouraged. We want staff and children to feel empowered and confident to experiment, explore, hypothesise, take risks, create, imagine and wonder.

Lobethal Community Kindergarten has a strong commitment to our "Nature Connect" Bush Kindy Program. We value the rich and authentic learning that can be achieved by spending full days in nature, and also acknowledge the depth of learning that can occur by revisiting these experiences over the kindy year. We believe our Nature Connect Program promotes the development of learning dispositions crucial to children being powerful learners. We will continue to collect data to support our learning about around Nature Play and will be strong advocates around the benefits it provides.

We embrace the use of technology as a tool within our program and practice, and acknowledge its value in supporting and enhancing our learning environments at kindy.

We provide opportunities for all children to grow and learn at their own pace, to initiate and resource their own learning journeys. We encourage learning dispositions of resilience, confidence, persistence, communication, curiosity, enthusiasm, cooperation, problem solving, imagination, risk taking, resourcefulness, and creativity. We promote the development of Executive Functions - cognitive flexibility, working memory and impulse control. We encourage children to be reflective in their learning, to validate current learning and we seek to empower them as 21st Century Learners. We strongly value and model kindness, compassion and caring for each other.

Our Curriculum is guided by the Early Years Learning Framework, the Literacy and Numeracy Indicators and guidebooks, observations of each child (both as an individual and within a group), and children's interests, theories and ideas. We use current research and site inquiry findings to support the implementation of our curriculum. Staff are involved in reviewing our curriculum daily, and actively engage in an "Every Child, Every Day" approach to reflecting and recording. We aim to stimulate children's thinking and build upon their existing knowledge and skills to enrich learning.

The Voice of our Families

Our families contributed the following words describing family values and desired learning dispositions to guide the development of our 2020 philosophy statement:

Acceptance, Adventure, Be kind, Belonging, Blossoming, Choose Happiness, Cognitive and physical stimulation, Competent learners, Confidence, Connect, Creativity, Curiosity, Discover, Educators really know our child, Empathy, Explore, Feeling Safe, Friendship, Fun, Getting along, Grow, Happiness, Happy, Inclusion, Kindness, Laughter, Lifelong learning, Love, Me, Memories, Nature, Nurture, Play, Resilience, Sunshine, Thrive, Togetherness

Sustainable practices are embedded in the kindergarten operations and consistently promoted in the everyday program.

We aim to share information respectfully with families about their child's learning journey and collaboratively set goals during their kindergarten year. We will make each child's learning visible by collecting work samples, photos, observations and learning stories in their Learning Journey Book.

We value the importance of effective transitions for children and their families and have developed a range of partnerships with local schools and childcare facilities. We aim to enable seamless and effective transition for our families.

Lobethal Kindergarten plays a strong and important role within our Community as does the community within our Kindergarten. We are strongly interwoven. Our Kindergarten provides a place where young children and their families come together regardless of social, cultural or economic status. It is a place of connecting, learning, and belonging for all. We aim to be sensitive to the changing needs of our community, and to provide a service where staff are trained in trauma based practice, Circle of Security Parenting pedagogy and are responsive to the unique and ever changing needs of our community. We aim to network and participate in a range of community groups, to share resources and develop a range of support networks for families. We endeavor to make direct links with local businesses and community groups by visiting them with the children a part of our program. Our community links enable us to share information, reach goals, and promote the value of quality public education within our community.

Our Statement of Philosophy underpins all aspects of our decision making and practice at our centre. We believe it should be embedded and reflected in all that we do. We believe that a Statement of Philosophy evolves as new insights are gained and practice evaluated. We will review our Philosophy statement regularly, including input from children, families and educators.