

GOOLWA CHILDREN'S CENTRE
42 Brooking Street
GOOLWA
SA 5214

Goolwa Children's Centre Context Statement

Goolwa Children's Centre is situated 80kms from Adelaide in the FLEURIEU DISTRICT. This centre is an integrated service, which incorporates Child Care, DECD Kindergarten, Community Development, Family Services and Child and Family Health at the same site and has 87 licensed places. The children's ages range from 6 weeks to 6 years old and they can access all programs offered across the centre. This engenders caring and supportive relationships. Developing and maintaining relationships between children, staff and parents is a centre priority and part of the centre philosophy. The centre operates with 2 main groups of children - 0-3 years and 3-5 years. The children with additional needs are supported through the Southern Fleurieu Health Service and the DFE Pre-school Support Program. Goolwa is situated on the Murray River close to the Coorong and the coast. Small business, tourism and farming are the communities main economic drivers. Socio economic backgrounds vary comprising of self-employed, full to part-time working families that necessitate traveling or working away from home. Transport is a problem for some families. The Goolwa Children's Centre is situated close to the Goolwa Primary School and to the new high school opening in 2022. The majority of children come from the Goolwa township and surrounding areas including Middleton, Port Elliot, Hindmarsh Island and Currency Creek. Our centre is an Integrated service offering DFE preschool which operates along South Australian school term times and long day care which operates 50 weeks of the year. The centre has a Community Development Coordinator who facilitates programs with partner agencies including Goolwa Primary school and other local Fleurieu schools, Department of Child Protection, Southern Fleurieu Health service, Relationships Australia, Aboriginal Health, Whalers Housing, Housing SA. The centre has a full-time family Practitioner who supports at risk families. Speech Pathologist and Occupational Therapist 1/2 days per week. CAFHS services operate at the centre 5 days per week. Clerical assistant works 4 days per week. The centre has 1 full day closure at the beginning of each year. The DFE preschool is closed for 4 student free days per year. The full day closure is one of the preschool closure days. A Goolwa Children's centre has a car park alongside the centre and on street parking available, there is also a school staff car park in front of the centre.