

Andrews Farm



Community Preschool

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Context statement

Andrews Farm is a relatively new suburb situated to the North of Adelaide between the city of Elizabeth and the town of Gawler. The suburb has grown and is still growing at a very fast rate on land reclaimed from agricultural use. The farming land continues to be released for housing development and as a result we have had many families with young children moving in to newly built houses. The preschool, built in 1994 is located next to St. Columba College, a private R- 12 school, where most of the children exiting from our preschool attend. The preschool, school and several shops make up the suburb of Andrews Farm. The preschool is therefore very much a part of the community as it is often the first point of call for the young families when wanting to meet others. In 2011, the site was zoned for the first time due to the high number of families requiring preschool services. Andrews Farm Community Preschool is a busy DECD site in this northern most metropolitan suburb of Adelaide.

The preschool: (in 2011)

- is a category 2 site
- has an enrolment of approximately 80 preschool children
- enrolments have continued to rise due to the new developments with many families placed on the preschool waiting list

To cater for the needs of families in the community, we offer sessional preschool, a full day programme and a combination of full and half days.

The preschool staff of 8 consists of 3 teachers and 5 ECW's including support and intervention staff. We are an established team with most of the staff having worked together for 5 + years and the teachers having taught at the preschool for 10 years. The preschool pays for extra ECW support hours to assist children with learning difficulties. We also set aside funds for a speech therapist to work at the preschool.

The majority of the families have at least one parent in paid employment and in many cases, both parents are working either full time or in a part-time capacity.