

2023 annual report to the Community

# Carol Murray Children's Centre

Carol Murray Children's Centre number: 6507

Partnership: Tatiara



Preschool director:

Suzie Cottle /Jennifer Collignon

Signature

Date of endorsement:

21/02/2024



# Context Statement

Information about Carol Murray Children's Centre is available on the centres website, as well as the Australian Childrens Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA) website.

Carol Murray Children's Centre located in Bordertown, within the District Council of Tatiara.

We are a rural Integrated site offering a Department for Education kindergarten programme and a community-based Child Care Centre. The Centre capacity is 72.

Kindergarten is offered for 40 weeks of the year, spread over 4 terms. Child Care is available for 49 weeks of the year.

Carol Murray Children's Centre is an essential part of the community, centrally located in the heart of the education precinct in Bordertown. We offer integrated care and education for children aged birth to five through a range of programs. Our large outdoor environment gives children the chance to explore, play and learn as they connect with nature and care for our animals.

Our multicultural Centre has connections with local schools, the hospital and retirement village. One local told us that 'our neighbours live to 100 because they wake to the sound of children'. We welcome families from Bordertown and surrounding districts.

The Centre is a collaboration between community and the Department for Education and has a Governing Council that all families are welcome to join.

We offer an engaging play-based curriculum for children from birth to five years. The Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF), dispositions for learning, Preschool Indicators and Literacy and Numeracy Guide books are the guiding curriculum documents.

Preschool support and bilingual support are available for eligible kindergarten children. Support for eligible children attending child care is available through Inclusion Services.

The Centre is committed to creating a rich authentic learning environment and curriculum that supports success for all children.

The Centre has an ongoing commitment to and focus on well-being, sustainability, and connection to the environment in culturally responsive ways. Together with connecting to community we support children to find their place in the community and understand the rich history .

We are committed to building connections with our local Aboriginal history, community an ongoing process of discovering and learning.

## Preschool Attendance

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2020 centre	94.2%	89.9%	89.5%	80.9%
2021 centre	89.3%	91.2%	95.1%	89.7%
2022 centre	86.3%	83%	84.4%	82.2%
2023 centre	91.2%	89.2%	87.1%	71.5%
2020 state	89.1%	81.8%	84.6%	85.8%
2021 state	87.3%	85.3%	87.1%	84.5%
2022 state	83.6%	77.6%	77.9%	77.8%
2023 state	85.4%	82.9%	83.4%	81.4%

Based on attendances recorded in the two-week reference period each term. Data for eligible enrolments as described in the department's Enrolment policy. Attendance rates may differ to previous reporting with the transfer from calculations based on deemed attendance to actual attendance using booked hours divided by attended hours. Data Source: Department for Education Attendance Data, Semester 1 Report 2023. A blank cell indicates there we no students enrolled.

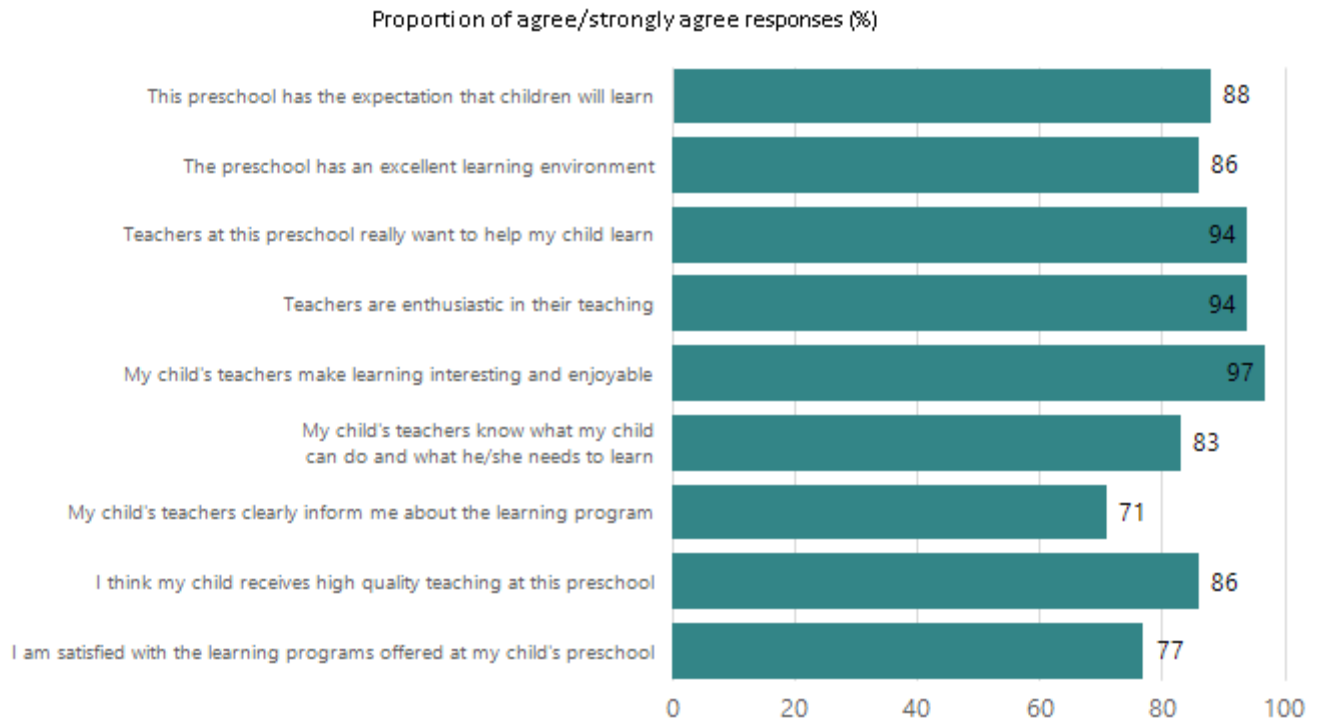
Note: Term 2 2020 data may not be available for all preschools.

## Attendance Comment

In South Australia, preschool attendance is not compulsory, but it is strongly encouraged. Preschool gives children the best opportunity to develop skills, which prepare them for school. These benefits include establishing positive routines and habits, friendships and connections as well as developing communication, problem-solving and creative skills. All children are entitled to access a preschool program over 4 terms the year before they start school.

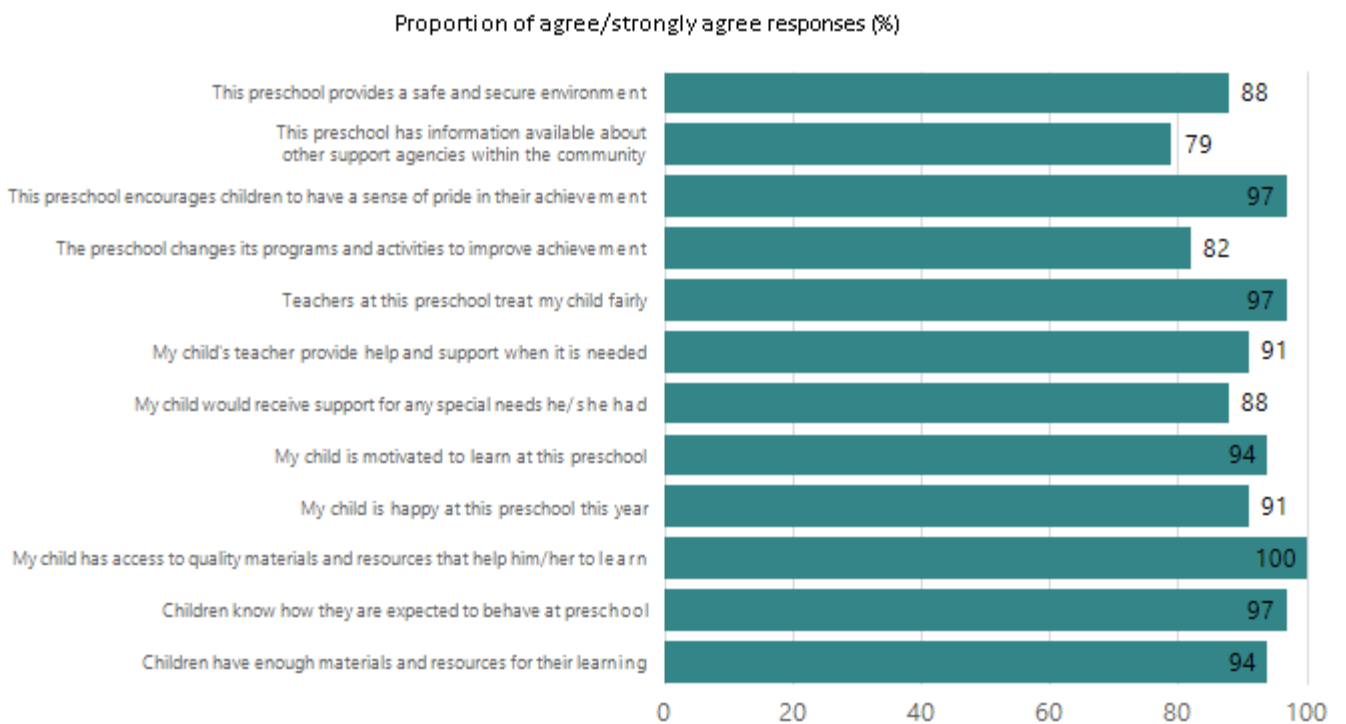
# Preschool Family Opinion Survey

## Quality of Teaching and Learning



Data Source: 2023 Department for Education Preschool Family Opinions Survey, Term 3 2023.

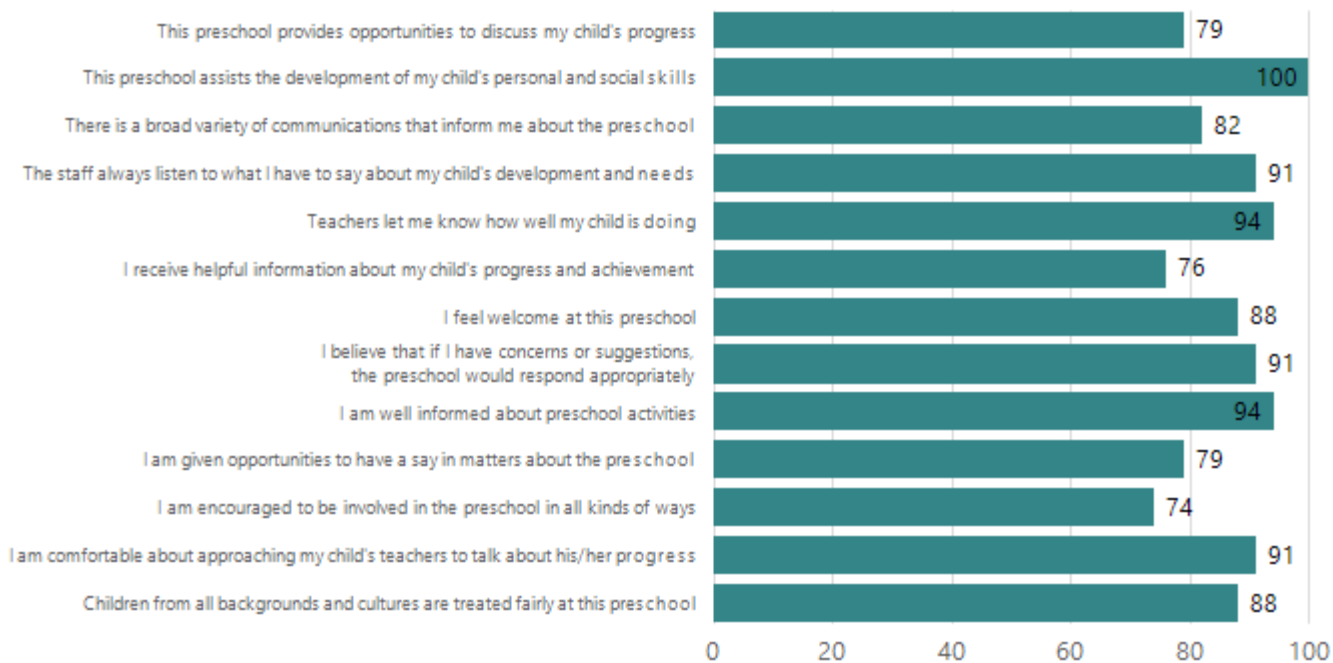
## Support of Learning



Data Source: 2023 Department for Education Preschool Family Opinions Survey, Term 3 2023.

# Relationships and Communication

Proportion of agree/strongly agree responses (%)



Data Source: 2023 Department for Education Preschool Family Opinions Survey, Term 3 2023.

# Leadership and Decision Making

Proportion of agree/strongly agree responses (%)



Data Source: 2023 Department for Education Preschool Family Opinions Survey, Term 3 2023.

# Destination Schools

Feeder Schools (Site number - Name)	2021	2022	2023
0297 - Mundulla Primary School	13.6%	10.5%	5.4%
0733 - Bordertown Primary School	62.7%	49.1%	41.1%
9999 - Unknown	23.7%	40.4%	53.6%

Note: The data is collected in term 3. It does not reflect actual schools enrolled in by existing preschool children. A blank cell indicates there was no data for students enrolled.

Data Source: Department for Education Destination Data Report, 2023.

## Governing council Report

Beth Cuthbertson

Governing Council Report

AGM 2023

The Governing Council would like to thank all staff members of Carol Murray Children's Centre for the care they have provided to the children attending the centre during 2023. As a community we are very fortunate to have such a centre which values the needs of our young people.

During 2023 there were some staffing changes and Zoe, Kristen, Dayna, and Nicki joined the team. Thankfully, last year saw a greater consistency in staffing allowing for the consolidation of teams and roles within the centre.

In 2022 there was a review of the fee structure in comparison to other local non-profit childcare centres, which revealed that the centre was not operating at a break-even budget. A continuation of the fee increase plan has allowed for a sustainable budget and more professional development opportunities for staff members. Furthermore, the centre was able to offer leaders and the assistant director an increase, as job descriptions changed to better suit the responsibilities of the roles.

Engaging families continued to be a priority at Carol Murray. This saw the continuation of the Multicultural Playgroup which allows for isolated families to build connections with the centre. In addition, staff and governing council members attended Circle of Security training which proved to be a valuable experience and one which will continue into 2024. The inaugural Carol Murray art show was a huge success as it opened the centre to numerous families and truly showcased the level of care educators put into their curriculums and workspaces as well as highlighting the fabulous work of young people.

One of the biggest challenges in 2023 has been enrolment pressure and an increasing waitlist. In a bid to combat this, Clare has continued to work hard to fill casual bookings which helped maintain a connection with families on the waitlist. Overall, a lack of support services for young people and their families is an ongoing issue and CMCC is endeavouring to work more closely with the local council and other agencies (such as the Migrant Resource Centre) to provide support and find sustainable solutions to childcare shortages and families in need. Building links for community engagement will continue to be a focus for the centre.

Changes and updates to the facilities was (and is) an ongoing process. It has been slow; and 2023 saw many setbacks regarding the veranda and back fence. This is an ongoing issue which only further highlights the difficulties centres such as this can face. However, a new sign was installed along the parent entry fence which has provided a much nicer back drop for photographs (which was a need highlighted by parents at the beginning of 2023).

Once again, Governing Council would like to thank the staff at CMCC for their continued work and support of the children attending the centre.

Thank you.



# Highest Qualifications held by the teaching workforce and workforce composition

All teachers at this school are qualified and registered with the SA Teachers Registration Board.

Qualification Level	Number of Qualifications
Bachelor's degrees or Diplomas	4

Data Source: Data extracted from Mandatory Workforce Information Collections as on the last pay date of June 2023. As self-reported by staff in the system.

Please note: Data includes staff who are Actively employed and on extended paid leave. Please note only the highest qualification of the Teaching staff is reported. Excludes any number of other certifications earned.

## Workforce composition including indigenous staff

	Teaching Staff		Non-Teaching Staff	
	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous
Full-Time Equivalents	0.0	3.6	0.0	1.5
Persons	0.0	4.0	0.0	2.0

Data Source: Data extracted from Mandatory Workforce Information Collection as on the last pay date of June 2023.

Please note: Data includes staff who are actively employed and on extended paid leave. "Indigenous category" is self-reported by staff in the system.

## Financial Statement

Funding Source	Amount
Grants: State	564,770.55
Grants: Commonwealth	0
Parent Contributions	15,020
Fund Raising	
Other	1000

Data Source: School supplied data.