

## Lake Wangary Associated Program Policy

### THE DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION STATES:

#### Guideline overview

The Department for Education (the department) is responsible for providing preschool education programs in a range of government funded centres including preschools, kindergartens, school-based preschools (previously known as child parent centres), integrated centres, children's centres for early childhood development and parenting. These centres provide sessional preschool for eligible children, and where resources permit, additional programs or activities to support young children and families.

#### SUPPORTED PROGRAMS IN PRESCHOOLS

Within existing staffing allocation and physical resources, preschools may deliver additional programs or activities that support the development, learning, health and wellbeing of the child and family. When developing supported programs consultation should occur with the governing council, education director and partnership to ensure the program meets the needs of the community.

The principal or director must ensure the supported program complies with any requirements under the Education and Care National Law, and Education and Care National Regulations. Programs offered that are within scope of the national law and regulations will be included as part of the preschools assessment and rating process.

Supported programs are to be reviewed and a risk assessment completed on an annual basis to ensure the program remains relevant and do not impact on the provision of the preschool program.

A minimal parent/guardian contribution to cover the cost of any additional resources (excluding staffing) may be charged. The parent/guardian contribution should not exclude participation of a child or family.

### **Supported programs include:**

- parenting support - these may be delivered in partnership with other agencies
- transition programs
- playgroups that are delivered by preschool staff
- early learning programs for vulnerable and disadvantaged children.

### **LAKE WANGARY PRESCHOOL TRANSITIONAL PROGRAM**

Lake Wangary, is a small semi-remote school that is supported by Coffins Bay, Coultla and Port Lincoln. To support children's child's identity and sense of belonging within the preschool setting we are offering a transition to preschool program.

This program is only offered when resources permit, within our allocated staffing resources and assessed physical capacity of the preschool. The site at all times will maintain a child/adult ratio of 1:10 as per the Education and Care Services National Regulations.

### **Eligibility**

Children who turn 4 before 1 May are eligible to start preschool at the beginning of the year, the year before they start school.

At Lake Wangary School we offer a 'transition' program for children for 1 full day a week or 2 half days per 2 terms prior to their eligible preschool year.

Children involved in the transition process will:

- Develop an awareness of the preschool environment, routines and educators
- Develop socialisation skills through interactions with preschool children
- Experience a successful integration into preschool in their eligible year

Our decision to offer this program is based on the best interests of children as our priority, equity and inclusion, the role of parents and families is respected and supported and children are given the opportunity to be successful, competent and capable learners.

Endorsed by Governing Council: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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