



Belair Jean Bonython Kindergarten Annual Report 2011



Context

Preschool Name:	Belair Jean Bonython Kgn	Preschool Number:	4665
Preschool Director:	Lynette Jones	Region:	Southern Adelaide

Belair Jean Bonython Kindergarten is a full time Centre approximately 20 kms from Adelaide's CBD

We have three full time staff consisting of Director , Teacher and Early Childhood Worker.

We have one part time staff member who is employed as an Early Childhood Worker with Lunch Care Responsibilities.

Belair Jean Bonython Kindergarten is in close proximity Belair Primary School and is the school's main feeder kindergarten. We currently operate Sessional PreSchool, accommodating 64 children. We also offer Pre Entry and Playgroup. We offer flexible sessions to our families and thus children come half days, full days or a combination of both at present.

We have an active and committed Governing Council who work tirelessly to maintain the culture and standards of our Centre. We are strongly committed to a culture of continuous improvement based on self review practices, evidenced and supported by this report.

Quality Improvement Plan

Priority 1.

Improved Communication Levels with Staff-Parents-Children-School-Community

After a comprehensive self review of 2010's achievements towards the wellbeing of our pre school community the Governing Council determined that in order to maintain those wellbeing standards we must be able to improve our communication levels with different groups. The domino effect of better communication then translates directly to better outcomes for children's wellbeing, and learning as families feel more included

The Key Actions of the Governing Council were

- To Develop a 'New Parents Welcome Package' In addition to their Enrolment Package.*
- To develop better Connections with families via newsletters and whiteboard*
- The Provision of opportunities for Parent interaction and communication eg. Morning Teas - Open Day - Family Picnic - Feedback and survey opportunities*

- To maintain strengthen and improve our website
- To develop a new Trifold Information pamphlet available to Playgroup and to prospective parents
- Possible increased space in school newsletter

Reviewed and improved information Booklet FAQ's page

Progress toward these targets for 2011

- *The Governing Council and Staff have ensured the provision of a welcome package to all new families which offers information and opportunities for two way comments and communications.*

Evaluation:

The feed back received so far has indicated that this is both welcoming and useful however some more assessment of feedback about it needs to be undertaken in term 1 2012. With specific attention to the term 4 package which is often by then about to become out of date.

- *Improved numbers at morning teas, open days, picnic days etc has been successfully achieved through early communication and good organization and support from all Governing Council Members and staff and is evidenced mostly by photographs and head counts..*

Evaluation:

The increased numbers of families attending would suggest that to maintain the culture and wellbeing of families in our community it would be of benefit to continue to offer these opportunities.

- *To ensure Higher % surveys received*

Evaluation:

It has been interesting to note that our DECS Parent opinion survey only had a 33% response rate.

With all other local feedback or surveys conducted throughout the year yielding a much higher response rate providing the Governing Council with some valuable data to begin the new years review,

Eg a recent survey relating to Universal Access yielded an 80% response rate providing some very sound data for decision making for 2012.

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Priority 2.

Improved Levels of Involvement and Engagement in Learning for children.

(With a focus on Literacy and Numeracy)

Key Action of the Staff Team throughout 2011 have been:

- *To become familiar with and begin to implement the Respect Reflect Relate document. This document provides examples and strategies for assessment of children reflecting Early Years Learning Framework outcomes using RRR methodologies*

Progress towards our targets::

Staff are currently reporting to parents using Outcomes from the Early Years Learning Framework as the basis for these reports.

Evaluation:

We are awaiting written feedback about the quality of these reports from both Parents and Schools.

We are still working on some shared perceptions around use of the RRR document and will continue this in 2012 with the new full time teacher.

Key Issues Impacting on Pre Schools in 2011 with continuing impact for 2012

Pre Schools have faced numerous new government initiatives this year which have made great demands on staff especially Leadership.

- **National Quality Standards Framework**

This is an initiative by the Government to streamline Pre School Services across the country'

The means of doing this is to apply a set of Standards which all sites must comply with if they are to get a favourable rating.

Our current method of Validation has been based on self assessment and continuous improvement in addition to this we are now required to ensure that many new standards are in place by 2012.

- **Universal Access**

This is also a Government initiative requiring that all pre school children are offered 15 hours or 5 sessions of pre school per week.

This has required many hours of discussion, consultation and data collection in order to ensure families and children get the best possible outcomes when accessing the 5th session.

Our site should be ready for the implementation stage by term 2 when the appropriate support funding is in place.

- **Early Years System**

This is new enrolment process which provides every child with an identity number which is with them throughout their school life. It requires much training by at least two of the staff team and is extremely complex in nature.

- **SingleEntrySchool Start**

From 2014 all children in South Australia will begin school at the beginning of the school year if they turn 5 before May 1st. Children whose birthdays fall after that date will start school at the beginning of the following school year.

Addressing the training, the requirements of these issues will be key priorities for 2012 with the prominent questions being....

How can we ensure continuous improvement and maintain quality learning programs for children at the same time?

How can the much valued culture of the site be protected within the implementation of these projects?

The initial impact of this initiative will be quite extreme and assessment and reporting will become an issue for discussion as written reports for 50 plus children all going to the same school would provide a challenge to even the best team.

Report from Governing Council

It has been a successful year this year for the governing council and I think I can speak on behalf of all the members on the council by saying it has been a privilege to be part of this wonderful kindy community. The staff at the kindy give so much to the children and parents that you can't help but want to give a little back.

This year the governing council has concentrated on parent partnerships.

As part of this we put together a "parent's welcome pack" for new pre entry parents. Some of the items in the pack include a photo of the GC members, ten things to remember and a future calendar of events.

We have also had a number of very successful social evenings this year.

In June the teachers put together yet another successful 'Bedtime Story Evening'. The children came in their pyjamas and brought their teddy bears and cuddled up for some lovely bedtime stories. They then got a yummy drink and some biscuits followed by a final story read by Lynette. An enjoyable night for all parents and children who attended.

In August we had a drinks night at the Belair Hotel. We had a great turn out and it was a great chance to sit down and have a grown up conversation with other adults and not our 4 year olds. I personally got the chance to chat with some other parents that I hadn't had the chance to meet. The numbers were great and we nearly ran out of seating room. This is definitely something that we will look at continuing.

At one point during the evening the manager came out and thanked Lynette for choosing their venue. A good night had by all.

In September we were lucky enough to have Carly Dabinet come along again for a fun filled jewellery evening. Unfortunately I was unable to attend as I was lounging around on Kangaroo Island not doing much at all but I did hear that it was very successful. Once again it was a great chance for a glass of wine and some fun jewellery making. Carly had all the beads ready to go and it was a matter of getting creative and making some fun necklaces.

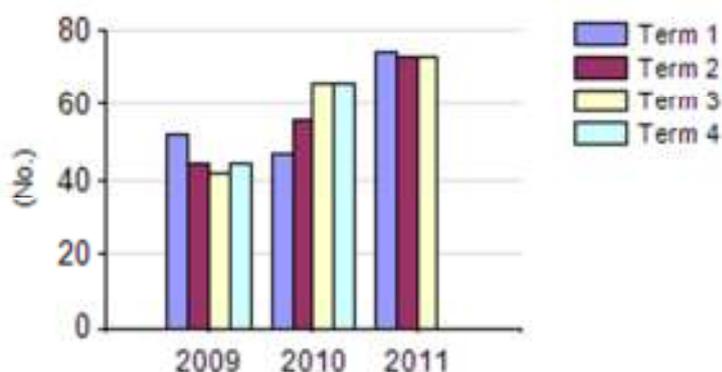
On the weekend we once again had our end of year picnic. The sun was shining and there was plenty of fun and laughter. Some kids brought their scooters, some their bikes and some bats and balls. There was also some successful kite flying. We must thank Sue for bringing along the parachute and balls which the kids adored. The face painting was a big hit with some beautiful butterflies to scary tigers. The ice cream was also a huge hit with children choosing either pink or dinosaur sprinkles. I think the left over ice cream on their faces showed how much they enjoyed them. It was another great chance for not only the children to have some fun for the parents to enjoy a relaxing social catch up.

Every 3rd week of the term we have had 2 morning teas giving the parents a chance to have a tea or coffee and some raisin toast before heading off to work or whatever the day lies ahead. It is a nice way to start the day and also a good chance for the new parents to meet some of the other new parents and even some of us oldies. It also gives us as parents a few minutes to stop and look around the kindy and take in all the beautiful work our children have produced. Sometimes drop off can be a bit of a rush and we forget to stop and really appreciate what our children's day involves.

So in summing up I would like to thank Lynette, Sue, Mary, Heather and Deb for giving all our children the wonderful experience of kindy life and making it such a joyful place to bring our children. And also a big thanks to the governing council members for making it an enjoyable year.

Student Data

Enrolments



It can be observed from the adjacent graph that enrolments at BJBK spiked sharply during 2011. This led to us having larger groups and at some stages being well above capacity.

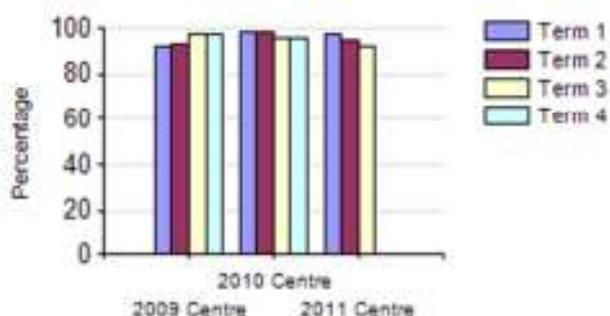
Enrolment	by Term			
Year	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2009	52	44	42	44
2010	47	56	66	66
2011	74	73	73	64

The Governing Council and Staff have responded to this by developing a priority of access process which will ensure that families living in our immediate catchment area and attending Belair Primary School will be supported.

Consultation with all of our neighbouring kindergartens was undertaken.

Data was collected and presented in relation to where families came from and which schools they would go on to.

Attendance



It can be observed from the adjacent graph that we are lucky to have an extremely high attendance rate. This has been consistent for many years at this kindergarten.

Attendance	Percentages			
Year	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2009 Centre	92.3	93.2	97.6	97.7
2010 Centre	97.9	98.2	95.5	95.5

2011 Centre	97.3	94.5	91.8	
2009 State	87.2	87.8	86.1	86.8
2010 State	88.8	90.3	88	88.2
2011 State	89.9	89.1	88.4	

Our attendance levels are higher than the state averages which makes capacity an ongoing issue, thus the need for a priority of access process as stated above.

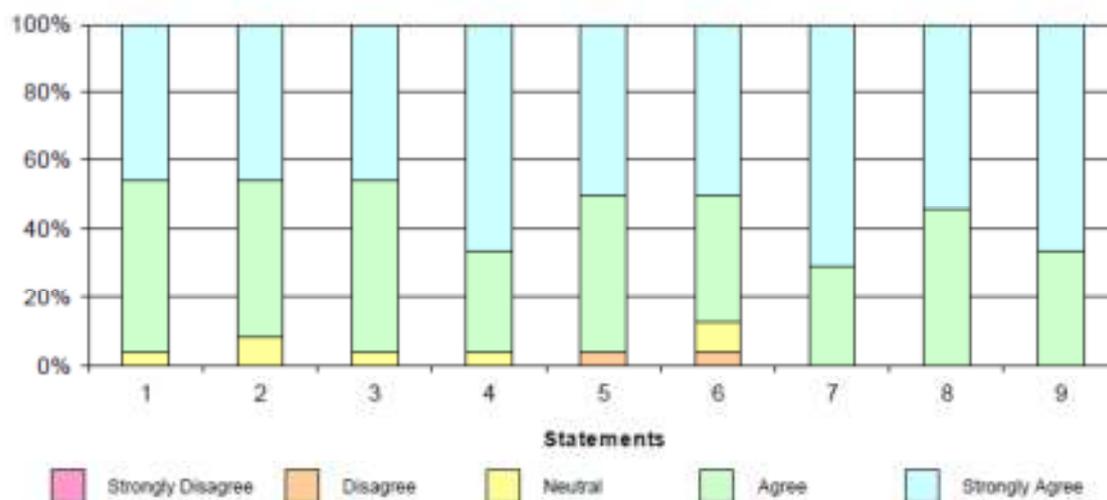
Feeder Schools

Feeder Schools				
Site number - Name	Type	2009	2010	2011
0104 - Coromandel Valley Primary School	Govt.			1
1290 - Belair Junior Primary School	Govt.	99	99	91
8036 - St Peters Lutheran School	Non-Govt.	1	1	4
9001 - St John's Grammar School	Non-Govt.			2
9037 - St Joseph's School - Kingswood	Non-Govt.			2
Total		100	100	100

It is self evident from this data that we are the main feeder kindergarten for Belair JP School thus making attending that school figure highly in our Priority of access process.

Client Opinion

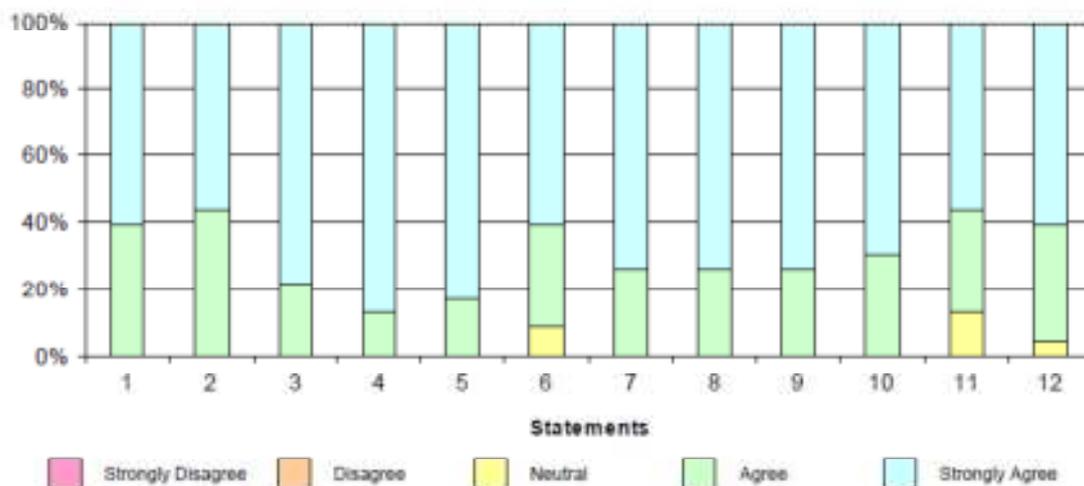
DECS Parent Opinion Survey 2011
4665 Belair Jean Bonython Kindergarten
 Aggregation of Preschool Survey Responses
 Parent Opinion - Quality of Teaching and Learning



No.	Statement	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Responses
1	I think my child receives high quality teaching at this preschool.	0%	0%	4%	50%	46%	24
2	My child's teachers know what my child can do and what he/she needs to learn.	0%	0%	8%	46%	46%	24
3	This preschool has the expectation that children will learn.	0%	0%	4%	50%	46%	24
4	Teachers are enthusiastic in their teaching.	0%	0%	4%	29%	67%	24
5	I am satisfied with the learning programs offered at my child's preschool.	0%	4%	0%	46%	50%	24
6	My child's teachers clearly inform me about the learning program.	0%	4%	8%	38%	50%	24
7	My child's teachers make learning interesting and enjoyable.	0%	0%	0%	29%	71%	24
8	Teachers at this preschool really want to help my child learn.	0%	0%	0%	46%	54%	24
9	The preschool has an excellent learning environment.	0%	0%	0%	33%	67%	24

Whilst most responses range from agree to strongly agree it must be noted that there are a number of neutral responses with both major ones relating to communication about children's learning. We currently provide full termly curriculum information in week 2. We also in terms 1-3 provide regular Curriculum updates plus newsletters and fliers. We also try to keep regular daily or weekly updates on the Verandah whiteboard as well as speaking to parents informally on a daily basis.

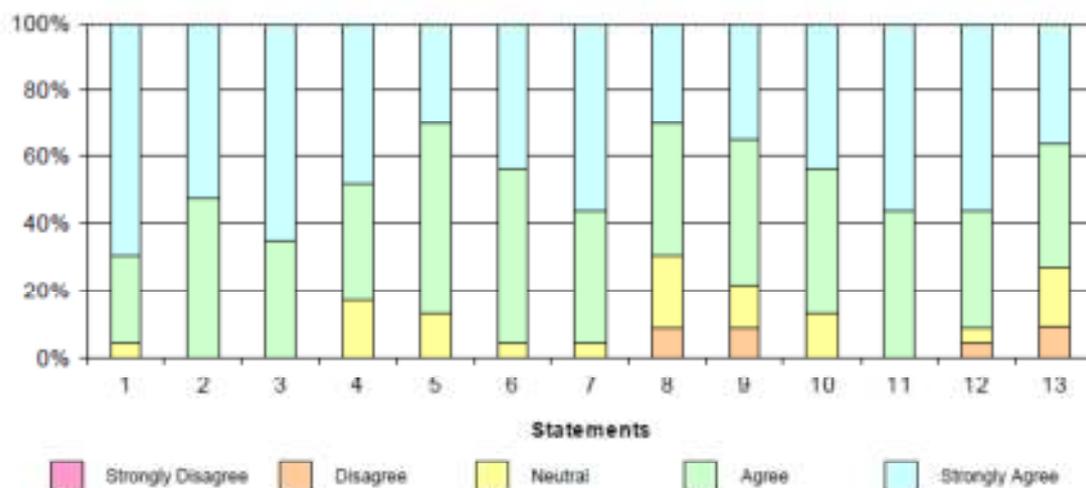
Parent Opinion - Support of Learning



No.	Statement	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Responses
1	My child is motivated to learn at this preschool.	0%	0%	0%	39%	61%	23
2	My child's teachers provide help and support when it is needed.	0%	0%	0%	43%	57%	23
3	My child has access to quality materials and resources that help him/her to learn.	0%	0%	0%	22%	78%	23
4	My child is happy at this preschool this year.	0%	0%	0%	13%	87%	23
5	My child would receive support for any special needs he/she had.	0%	0%	0%	17%	83%	23
6	The preschool changes its programs and activities to improve student achievement.	0%	0%	9%	30%	61%	23
7	Children know how they are expected to behave at preschool.	0%	0%	0%	26%	74%	23
8	Teachers at this preschool treat my child fairly.	0%	0%	0%	26%	74%	23
9	This preschool provides a safe and secure environment.	0%	0%	0%	26%	74%	23
10	Children have enough materials and resources for their learning.	0%	0%	0%	30%	70%	23
11	This preschool has information available about other support agencies within the community.	0%	0%	13%	30%	57%	23
12	This preschool encourages children to have a sense of pride in their achievement.	0%	0%	4%	35%	61%	23

We are pleased with the results for this section though recognize that improvements can be made especially in relation to the number of surveys which are returned as well as to the levels of the results.

Parent Opinion - Relationships and Communication



No.	Statement	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Responses
1	I feel welcome at this preschool.	0%	0%	4%	26%	70%	23
2	This preschool assists the development of my child's personal and social skills.	0%	0%	0%	49%	52%	23
3	I am comfortable about approaching my child's teachers to talk about his/her progress.	0%	0%	0%	35%	65%	23
4	I am given opportunities to have a say in matters about this preschool.	0%	0%	17%	35%	48%	23
5	There is a broad variety of communications that inform me about this preschool.	0%	0%	13%	57%	30%	23
6	Children from all backgrounds and cultures are treated fairly at this preschool.	0%	0%	4%	52%	43%	23
7	The staff always listen to what I have to say about my child's development and needs.	0%	0%	4%	39%	57%	23
8	I receive helpful information about my child's progress and achievement.	0%	0%	22%	39%	30%	23
9	This preschool provides opportunities to discuss my child's progress.	0%	0%	13%	43%	35%	23
10	I am well informed about preschool activities.	0%	0%	13%	43%	43%	23
11	I believe that if I have concerns or suggestions, the preschool would respond appropriately.	0%	0%	0%	43%	57%	23
12	I am encouraged to be involved in the preschool in all kinds of ways.	0%	4%	4%	35%	57%	23
13	Teachers let me know how well my child is doing.	0%	0%	18%	36%	36%	22

It is from less respectable results from the parent survey that more opportunity is provided for making improvement. It is recommended that we review communication about children's learning in 2012 with a view to improving these results.

Financial Statement

See attached

