Priority of Access Policy

Purpose
Priority of access to the centre is determined in accordance with the Preschool Enrolment Policy of the Department for Education and Child Development (DECD). The Priority of Access Policy will inform parents/guardians of the criteria that will be used to prioritise enrolments in the event that Ashton Kindergarten has reached enrolment capacity.

Scope
Families are entitled to enrol in any DECD preschool service across South Australia; however where the demand for preschool places exceeds the capacity (number of places available) at that site then the priority of access policy will apply to guide equity in allocating preschool places.

Objectives
Parents/guardians who register intent to enrol at the preschool will have their application for enrolment assessed by the preschool Director as outlined in Procedure Details. Where a place cannot be offered because demand exceeds capacity parents/guardians will be provided with the names of alternate local preschools.

Procedure details
Enrolments will be assessed using the following criteria:-

Round 1 offers

Children living within the geographical boundaries for the kindergarten as determined by DECD. The following districts are considered to be our local area:- Ashton, Greenhill, Norton Summit, Cherryville, Summertown, Basket Range, Forest Range, Carey Gully, Uraidla and Piccadilly.

Round 2 offers

1. Children who have a sibling attending our co-located school - Uraidla Primary School.

2 a. A child at risk of serious abuse or neglect

b. Identifies as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander

c. Child under the Guardianship of the Minister

d. Children who have a referral from a recognised professional and will require additional preschool support.

e. Children in families which include a disabled person
f. Children in socially isolated families

g. Children in families with non-English speaking backgrounds

-3. Children who have had a previous sibling enrolled at the kindergarten

-4. Families who live closest to the kindergarten

Orientation will be offered to children if space is available.

This will be in consultation with the DECD regional office to ensure that access to a preschool programme is available for all families.

Roles and Responsibilities

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHO</th>
<th>ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES</th>
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<tr>
<td>Preschool Director</td>
<td>▪ Ensure that all enrolling parents/guardians are made aware of the Preschool Priority of Access Policy.</td>
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<td>▪ Ensure that all members of the preschool team are aware of and understand the preschool policy.</td>
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<td>▪ Notifies the Regional Office and neighbouring centres when the centre is close to enrolment capacity.</td>
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<td>▪ Advises parents/guardians of alternate local preschools if a place cannot be offered at this site.</td>
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Governing Council Ratifies the Preschool Priority of Access Policy

Regional Office Staff Ensure access to preschool for all eligible children.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

This policy which is published on our website has been ratified by the Governing Council and is subject to review bi-annually by the preschool staff and Governing Council.

References

Department for Education and Child Development (DECD) Enrolment Policy.

Guidelines for developing a Priority of Access Policy for Preschools DECD.

This policy was ratified by Governing Council August 2017 and will be reviewed in 2019 or as required if earlier.