1. General information

- Centre name: Roxby Downs Kindergarten
- Centre number: 6646
- Preschool Director: Adam Christie
- Postal address: P.O Box 162, Roxby Downs, SA, 5725
- Location address: Richardson Place, Roxby Downs, SA, 5725
- Telephone number: 08 8671 0455
- Fax number: 08 8671 1021
- e-mail address: dl.6646.roxykgn@schools.sa.edu.au
- Partnership: Far North Partnership
- Geographical location – i.e. road distance from GPO (km): 560 km (Olympic Dam – Adelaide)
- Enrolment/Attendance: Term 1, 2016, 80 eligible enrolments
- Co-located/stand-alone: stand-alone
- Programs operating:
  - Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children
    : Operates Monday – Friday. We have 2 kindergarten groups – Red group and Blue Group. Blue group attends Mondays and Tuesdays 8.30am – 3.00pm. Red group attends on Wednesdays and Thursdays
8.30am – 3.00pm. Blue and Red group attend on alternative Fridays.
8.30am-12.30pm. Overall children attend 30 hours of kindergarten during a fortnight.

- **Bilingual Support**
  : Support is available for children from Language Backgrounds Other Than English through the Preschool Bilingual Support programme.

- **Preschool Support**
  : Preschool Support / Early Intervention hours are provided on a needs basis, funded through the Preschool Support program and our Site Global budget. Negotiated Education Plans, where required, are established in collaboration with parents, centre staff, the DECD Special Educator & other relevant agencies.

### 2. Key Centre Policies

- **Implementing our Quality improvement plan.**
  - The centre is currently exceeding the national quality standard in all seven areas.
  - Improving accessibility of information to families
  - Improving planning processes & documentation
  - Implementation of a sustainability strategy
  - Supporting staff to further their qualifications
  - Supporting children’s learning dispositions
  - Increasing the number of children receiving their 4 year old health check

- **Improving children’s literacy through a focus on oral language:** specifically children’s narrative skills.

### 3. Curriculum

- **Framework used - Belonging, Being & Becoming: the Early Years Learning Framework for Australia**

Belonging, Being and Becoming is the national early learning framework for children from birth to five years. The framework outlines principles and practices that underpin the kindergarten’s philosophy and educational pedagogy. Through the framework’s themes of belonging, being and becoming and the five learning goals, our educators work alongside children in developing: a strong sense of their identity and wellbeing, connections with and contributions to their world, confidence and involvement in their learning; and effective communication skills.

At Roxby Downs Kindergarten we honour the importance of each child’s belonging, being and becoming. We honour the importance of:

**Belonging** within a family, community and culture
**Being** 3, 4 or 5 years old

**Becoming** a confident learner and contributor to Australian society.

We report on the children’s individual learning through an end of year ‘Summative Report’ that highlights individual achievement towards meeting the EYLF learning outcomes as well as Site Plan targets.

- **Core Values**
  - At Roxby Downs Kindergarten, we proudly support Froebel’s vision of a ‘children’s garden’ – a safe place for children to learn about themselves, others and the world, and where learning can be fun, meaningful, exciting and engaging.

- **Specific curriculum approaches**
  - Play based pedagogy is used where children learn through meaningful opportunities to play and engage with high quality materials, skilled educators, and other children.
  - Curriculum is based upon individual children’s strengths, abilities, interests and challenges.
  - Learning Stories are used to document children’s learning, dispositions, and to contribute to the planning and assessment of curriculum.
  - Key curriculum questions to be explored with the children are also used as a source of curriculum and provocations for learning are designed for both individuals and groups of children.
- **Joint programmes/special curriculum projects**
  - We support *transition visits* with 2 feeder schools, namely the Roxby Downs Area School and St Barbara’s Catholic School in the last part of each term.
  - Continuity of Learning Project with ‘Mining Minds, Building our community’ local education partnership. We are working collaboratively with local childcare centres and schools to improve continuity of learning for all children in our community.
  - Leadership – three staff are involved in leadership development programs.
  - In conjunction with the **community library**, we offer fortnightly library visits for all children.
  - **iPADs** are used by all staff members to document children’s learning and **learning dispositions** through **learning stories**. Children are also able to access the iPADs during each session. This is a site-funded curriculum project where we work closely with the Andamooka School.
  - Implementing our **Sustainability Strategy**, including recycling and gardening.

4. **Centre Based Staff**

- **Educator Profile**
  - : PSD1 Director, permanent 1.0
  - : Teacher, permanent 1.0, contract 0.5
  - : ECW 1, 1.5 (shared between permanent workers)
  - : 3 Preschool Support workers
  - : 1 Finance Officer (5hrs/week)
  - (In total we have 10 educators working at our site)

- **Performance and Development Programme**
  - : Performance and development meetings occur with each educator twice annually. A strengths-based approach is used where key learning/improvement areas are negotiated, support provided, and progress reviewed at the end of the year. Wherever possible all educators attend professional development together.

- **Access to special support educators**
  - : We have access to a range of special support educators e.g. DECD Support Services Team, Occupational Therapists – (Pt Augusta Health Team outreach service), as well as other agencies i.e. Roxby Downs Health Service, Disabilities S.A, Autism assoc. to name a few.
5. Centre Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
  : Our main building (established in 1988) is constructed of double brick and is called the Gran Salon. It is situated in the main street of Roxby Downs, in close physical proximity to other educational facilities. El Estudio, which faces directly onto our yard, is a much newer facility. The grounds also include a grassed area, sandpit, 2 main storage shed & shaded areas for our hot climate. We have a highly successful vegetable garden, and a large play platform made to specification.

- Capacity (per session)
  : The current capacity stands as: 45 children in the Gran Salon; 15 children in El Estudio.

- Centre Ownership
  : The Gran Salon is owned by the Minister of Works. El Estudio is owned by the Municipal Council of Roxby Downs.

- Access for children and staff with disabilities
  : Our buildings are readily accessible via wide gates, flat surfaces, ramps & double entrance doors.

6. Local Community (intended for country preschools)

- General characteristics: (eg. types of work available, languages usually spoken at home, local developments)
  : Roxby Downs is a remote mining community. The community is predominantly employed by BHPB & other contract firms and local government/retail. The population is a transient one with a proportion of the community from interstate. Over 40 different cultures are represented in the town and an increasing number of families, speak English as a second language, or have an Indigenous background. Local developments include a Cultural/Leisure Precinct incorporating a Visitors Information Centre, Dunes Café, Theatrette, Gymnasium, 2 Swimming Pools, Library, etc.

- Parent and community involvement in the preschool
  : We have an enthusiastic Governing Council who meet regularly with educators and plan events for family and community to engage with the kindergarten.
  : In 2012 a community grant from BHP Billiton enabled the purchase of a new colour printer/photocopier for the kindergarten.
• Schools to which children generally transfer from this preschool
  : Our 2 feeder schools include, Roxby Downs Area School and
  St Barbara’s Parish School.

• Other local care and educational facilities, e.g. child care, schools, OSHC
  : 2 Childcare Centres (Roxby Downs Child Care Centre, & Roxby Early
    Learning Community Group)
  : 3 Schools (Roxby Downs Area School, St. Barabara’s Parish School, and
    Andamooka School)
  : OHSC
  : Playgroup
  : Kindergym/Nippergym

• Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
  : For a relatively small community, there is an extensive range of services,
    both Government and local retail. The majority of the local retail is situated
    along the main street & within “Roxby Central” – our local shopping mall.
    There are also shopping and office facilities on Tutop Street.

• Other local facilities, e.g. medical, sporting, social, cultural, recreational
  : We have a Medical Centre/Community Health Centre, a private health
    practice & a Leisure Centre with a range of sporting activities and cultural
    events.

• Availability of staff housing
  : DTEI manages housing for employees; enquiries can be directed to the
    Port Augusta Regional District Office.

• Accessibility to Adelaide and relevant major centres, including public transport
  and its availability, frequency and cost (especially by air), road quality
  : Roxby Downs has a regular plane service to & from Adelaide.
  : By road it is 560 kilometres to Adelaide (roughly a 6 hour trip).

• Local Government body (name, phone number), availability of publications
  describing the local area (with source, cost), characteristics, level of
  involvement
  : Roxby Downs has a local Municipality and a town Administrator. A town
    board has been established to provide community links.
  Phone:- (08) 8671 0010
We have 1 regular & free local newspaper that is distributed within our community. They are very informative, and include a Community Events calendar. There is also a community radio station (RoxFM) and a community website.

7. Further Comments