

## Service details

Service name	Service approval number
LOCK EARLY LEARNING CENTRE	SE-00010577
Primary contact at service	
Jenny Whittle	
Physical location of service	Physical location contact details
Street: WEST TCE Suburb: LOCK State/territory: SA Postcode: 5633	Telephone: 08 86891025 Fax: 08 86891071 Email: <a href="mailto:jenny.whittle295@schools.sa.edu.au">jenny.whittle295@schools.sa.edu.au</a>
Approved Provider	Nominated Supervisor
Primary contact: DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT Telephone: 08 82263644 Mobile: 0401123377 Fax: 08 82263644 Email: trish.strachen@sa.gov.au	Name: Jenny Whittle Telephone: 08 86804060 Mobile: 0448117718 Fax: 08 86891071 Email: <a href="mailto:jenny.whittle295@schools.sa.edu.au">jenny.whittle295@schools.sa.edu.au</a>
Postal address (if different to physical location of service)	
Street: PO Box 1304 Suburb: LOCK State/territory: SA Postcode: 5633	

February 2015

## Operating hours

*For each day of the week this service is open, indicate the times of the day when education and care is provided.*

*For centre-based services, this does not include non-contact hours for staff. Please nominate the scheduled opening and closing times using 24 hour clock (e.g. 07:30 to 18:00) rather than the actual opening and closing times (e.g. 06:55 to 18:10) if different. Round times to the nearest quarter of an hour.*

*If the service is open for two sessions per day, please indicate the opening and closing times for both sessions.*

*For family day care services or multi-site services, please provide the operating hours of the service office.*

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday Weeks 2 & 8	Saturday	Sunday
Opening time		08:30		8.30	8.30		
Closing time		15:15		15.15	15.15		

## Additional information about your service

The following information will assist the Regulatory Authority to plan the assessment visit.

### About us

Lock Early Learning Centre (LELC) is a member of the Central Eyre Partnership. LELC is a part time, category 1 site with a capacity of 30. It is a stand-alone, preschool, situated within the grounds of the Lock Area School. Parking is available at the centre which can be found at the South Tce. entrance of the Lock Area School. The service is not open during South Australian Government school holiday dates.

LELC is staffed with a Director/teacher who was new to the site in 2014 and an ECW who is a longstanding employee. Relief staff comes from a local pool of well-known people.

Playgroup meets every Tuesday morning 9.30 to 11am

Invenue family day care operates at the centre from 8.30am to 5.30pm on Monday and Wednesday and on Friday of weeks 1,3,5,7, and 9.

The LELC building was originally two classrooms, no longer required by the Lock Area School, which were joined together to create a preschool centre 14 years ago. The facilities are roomy and well laid out encouraging a variety of play and learning. The outdoor play area is large and maintained to a high standard and also offers a stimulating learning environment.

5 children are attending in 2015 and this is slightly less than the previous year. 4 of the 5 children attend via the school bus service. Attendance is above the State average and absences tend to be for genuine reasons caused by our isolation eg medical, birth of sibling, education or other family reasons.

Children generally transfer from this preschool to Lock Area School which is the only school in the vicinity.

Visits between the preschool and R/1 class happen regularly with the R/1 class visiting each Thursday Afternoon. The Preschool is also open to the R.1 class during school lunch play time. Children have the opportunity to become very familiar with the school environment, children and teacher. The preschool visits the school for special performances and visiting artists. Visiting the library is an integral part of our program. Formal orientation visits to the R/1 classroom are timetabled jointly between the school and Preschool in term 4 each year. Transition to Preschool happens at this time also.

Families and community are involved in the preschool through the play group, sharing their expertise, fundraising, Governing Council and volunteering to help maintain both the inside and out.

### ***About Lock***

Lock is 613km from the Adelaide GPO, 1 hour and 40 minutes approximately from the nearest large town, Pt. Lincoln and has a population of 432. It is part of the Elliston District Council and situated in the middle of the Eyre Peninsular SA. It is predominantly a broad acre cereal farming community.

Within the town there is a supermarket and deli, Post Office, and agricultural services providing for the local farming community. There is a hotel providing meals and accommodation and one motel also providing meals and accommodation.

Other local facilities include a medical centre, sporting, social, cultural, recreational facilities and there are several churches within the town.

The medical centre is staffed by a full time registered nurse, part time enrolled nurses and a visiting doctor from Wudinna visiting on Tuesdays and Thursdays. A CAFHS nurse is also based at the medical centre. Several visiting professions such as a physiotherapist, bone aligner, speech therapist visit.

Sport is very popular in the town with senior teams in football, netball, cricket and bowls and junior teams in the same as well as tennis and softball. There is a 20m. community run, swimming pool which is open from November through to April.

*How are the children grouped at your service?*

There are currently five students at the centre, therefore they are all grouped together

*Write the name and position of person(s) responsible for submitting this Quality Improvement Plan (e.g. 'Nominated Supervisor, Cheryl Smith')*

Nominated Supervisor: Jenny Whittle

## **Service statement of philosophy**

We believe that children are capable of developing complex and abstract ideas and that they co-construct knowledge with peers and adults. We believe that children learn best through play, play that they are actively involved in, and are intrinsically motivated by.

We see learning as a lifelong journey and we have the important role of fostering the development of positive learning dispositions and attitudes. We do this through providing children with learning opportunities that engage them in the world around them that develops their fine and gross motor skills, develops their thinking and reasoning and fosters a positive sense of identity, wellbeing and belonging. We believe it is important to provide children opportunities to make their own decisions and to learn from them, to act independently, to think for themselves and to share their learning with other children.

We believe that it is important that the Lock Early Learning Centre fosters connections to the wider community so that it offers families a place to come for information and to build relationships with other families and organisations. A place where children can come to develop their autonomy and independence, interact with others, develop their sense of belonging through engaging in routines and structures, experiencing rules and consequences in a supportive environment that sets them up for successful transition to school.

We believe in a commitment to continuous improvement.

*Lock Early Learning Centre Staff and Governing Council*

*Developed March 2014*

*Reviewed March 2015*