

# Mitcham Preschool Centre

## Priority of Access Policy

In the interest of effective management of the Mitcham Preschool Centre and the well-being of the children and parents of the Preschool community, it has been necessary to introduce a Priority of Access Policy. This policy sets out clear and well-defined criteria as a guide for enrolments.

### **Statement of Intent:**

The policy intentions are that:

- the administration of enrolments is fair and equitable;
- the safety of children and quality of education is maintained during periods of high enrolment demand;
- members of the local community have priority access to their local preschool;
- Follows Department for Education policy in line with first and second round offers, defined by the area in which the family resides
- The Preschool operates within its stated capacity.

### **CRITERIA**

Admission to the Preschool will be in order of the following priorities:

#### ***Applications from local families***

First round offers will be made in August of each year to families who have a residential address in the local catchment area.

Boundaries are

- Cross Rd (Southern Side from corner Belair Rd)
- Good wood Rd, (Eastern side)
- Piccadilly Circus, The Strand (Colonel Light Gardens)
- Prince George Rd, Murray St (Lower Mitcham)
- Belair Rd (Western side to corner of Cross Rd)

If more registration of interest for Mitcham Preschool are received from families living in the catchment area than places available, places will be offered based on whether one or more of the following criteria applies

- The child has siblings currently enrolled in the school or service
- The child has previously been in care under the Guardianship of the Minister (GOM)
- The child identifies as Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander
- Special consideration placement
- The length of time the child has lived in the preschool catchment area
- Distance of the child's residence from the preschool (Kms by road)

#### ***Applications from non-local families***

Second round offers will be made in September of each year, to families who reside outside the local catchment area.

If the preschool has places available after enrolling local children, children in care (GOM) and families referred by the partnership, places may be offered to children living outside of the preschool catchment area.

When more registrations of interest for preschool are received from families living outside of the local area, than places available, places will be offered based on whether one or more of the following criteria applies

- The child identifies as Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander
- The child has siblings enrolled in a local partnership school
- The distance of the child's residence from the preschool
- The family currently attends programs at the centre
- Transportation needs – (eg attends Hawthorn Child Care Centre / care of family members)
- Special consideration placement

Approved: Governing Council Chairperson

Approved: Mitcham Preschool Director