

## Whyalla Special Education Centre – Aboriginal Educational Strategy

The Whyalla Special Education Centre community acknowledge the Department of Education’s Aboriginal Education Strategy 2019 – 2029. We uphold the vision and principles that are considered essential for Aboriginal children to achieve growth and success in our site policies, processes and accountability.

As a Special Education Centre we acknowledge, understand and use the five principles set out in the Aboriginal Strategy 2019 - 2029. Each principle is implemented in an inclusive manner which suits the needs of all of our Aboriginal clientele.



The Goals expressed in the Aboriginal Strategy 2019 – 2029, are supported by all staff in our Whyalla Special Education Centre. We work together with parents to provide Aboriginal children with a strong foundation in their education by providing quality learning experiences.

At Whyalla Special Education Centre each child has a One Plan prepared for them. The process of preparing the Plan requires conversations with the parent/caregiver, students and staff that are involved with the child’s daily care and education as well as service providers that are involved in the student’s life.

The One Plan is a working document where staff note new individual Goals for each student and when and how they have been met. All students at Whyalla Special Education Centred receive an

education that recognises and meets their individual communication skills, social/emotional skills and cultural and familial requirements.

As a public school we support our Aboriginal families in their cultural expectations and norms regarding funerals and family event attendance by providing school work when requested and using 'Exemption' forms to explain student's absences.

The South Australian Department of Education has determined goals, measures and indicators of success for all Aboriginal children. We support those measures and indicators as is fit for our students.

We are informed of the preschool attendance of each of our students before they attend our site, the teachers complete a Transition program which includes staff attending the Preschool centre as well as each child visiting our site for an individually determined number of visits. The skills and likes of each student are documented as well as their disability.

Our site completes assessments for all subjects and communication and social/emotional wellbeing. These results are published and used by staff to determine the next step in each students learning. Staff include Indigenous perspectives in their curricula and the site has a wealth of Indigenous resources for staff to share with students.

Staff at Whyalla Special Education Centre work closely with the local Attendance Officer and Child Wellbeing Practitioner and the Aboriginal Liaison Services Engagement Officer, to complete home visits. The aim of those home visits is always to provide the parent/ caregiver with supports, structure, resources to assist them in their successful parenting of a child with a disability.

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