

Mini Gems Children's Centre



SMALL BUSINESS
CHAMPION
AWARDS
STATE WINNER 2007

Parent Handbook Educational Based Long Day Care

Lot 19 Paxton Road
Coober Pedy
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Welcome

The District Council of Coober Pedy, Management and Staff at Mini Gems Children's Centre extend to you a warm welcome.

We hope that you and your child will feel happy and secure in the Mini Gems environment.

We feel that **ALL** parents have a right to quality child care that is sensitive to the needs of the child and is provided within a safe, caring and healthy environment.

We are proud of the Centre, its staff, its facilities, its cleanliness and its reputation. If at any time you feel that the objectives stated in our Philosophy and Goals are not being met, we want to know and so we want you to contact our Director at the centre during business hours on the number shown below.

(08) 8672 4623

If, after having read through this booklet, you have any questions, queries or concerns please feel free to contact the Director.

We do hope that you and your child/ren enjoy the time that you are part of our centre's family.

Please keep this booklet in a handy spot for ready reference during your child's stay with us.

You may also find this and other useful information on the District Council of Coober Pedy website:

www.cooberpedy.sa.gov.au

**Mini Gems Children's Centre
provides a safe, caring, happy and stimulating environment
for children of all nationalities.**

Mini Gems djeyi centar nudi sigurno, briz srečno I stimulatívno
okruzerye za djecu svih nacionalnosti.
(Bosnian/ Croatian)

Mini Gems Children's Centre provvede un ambiente sano,
contento e interessante per bambini di tutti I nazionalita.
(Italian)

Ang Mini Gem's Centre ay nag-uubava ng ligtas na pangangalaga
masava at kagiliw-gilix na kapaligiran para sa mga batang gafing
sa iba't ibang bansa.
(Tagalog)

Kinder aus allen Nationen fuehlen sich wohl in der "Mini Gems"
kindertagesstaette. Sie lernen und spielen in einer freundlichen,
kindgerechten und entwicklungs foerdernden umgebung.

(German)

Mini Gems Children's Centre zapewnia bezpieczne, troskliwe,
radosne I vaktywniajace srodowisko dla dzieci wszystkich
narodowosci.

(Polish)

About the Centre

We cater for children from 6 weeks of age to school age (5 years old). We take up to 8 children aged under 2, from 2yrs – 3yrs is a 1:5 ratio and 3yrs – 5yrs is a 1:10 ratio.

The Centre is subsidised by the Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services with a Sustainability Assistance.

Operation times

The Centre is open Monday to Friday, 8.30am - 5.30 pm approximately 48 weeks in the year. The Centre is closed on Public Holidays and for approximately four weeks over the Christmas break.

Session Times

Monday to Friday.	8.30am – 3:00pm
	8.30am - 5.30pm
	3:00pm - 5.30pm

Fees

Day (8.30am – 5.30pm)	\$77.00
8.30am – 3pm	\$53.00
3pm – 5.30pm	\$28.00

Staff rosters are generated every Thursday morning, if you need to cancel your child/ren for the following week, please notify staff at Mini Gems before 10am on Thursday morning. If it is later than 10am you will be charged a absent notified fee.

The Child Care Subsidy will be paid directly to your approved child care provider(s) to reduce the fees that you pay. Families will receive a regular weekly or fortnightly statement of child care usage from their service, which includes the payment of the subsidy and out of pocket costs.

If it is a child's first day booked in at the centre and the child doesn't attend or no staff are notified the session is charged as a full fee and written as a non attendance. The same rule applies for a child's very last day.

Enrolling your child

Enrolment Process

We encourage you to stay with your child at the centre, then gradually reduce the time until the child has settled. The first session will be an orientation session at no charge.

We also encourage your child to bring a comfort toy from home, to assist in the settling process. Please feel free to ring the centre during the day to find out how your child is settling in.

If the child does not understand English, please let us know key words in your language so that we can communicate with your child. If your family needs a translator we will ensure that we will find someone who can help with enrolling, settling your child and your child's stay at our centre.

We encourage the children at the centre to interact with your child, and will find a special friend to help them settle in

When a child is offered a position at the centre, the director and parents need to make a mutually convenient time to have an enrolment interview. During your first visit you will be given an overview of the Centre and the services available.

The parents will need to fill out the child's enrolment form and should understand, and sign, a copy of the terms and conditions under which the centre operates. These forms may need to be translated into community languages and having an interpreter attend the interview with the parents may also be helpful.

Waiting List

If there are no positions available parents/caregivers may place their child/rens names on a waiting list at the centre by filling out the required waiting list form, including details necessary to establish Priority of Access. Parents will be contacted by the Director when a position becomes available and a suitable interview time arranged.

Signing in and out

When you bring your child to the Centre you are required to sign your child in, and sign out when leaving. This is a government funding requirement and a safety issue as these records tell us accurately who is in the Centre. Centrelink may disallow your Child Care Subsidy for those days that you did not sign your child in and out.

Sickness

If your child is sick at the Centre we will notify you and you may be required to collect your child. If your child is going to be absent due to illness we ask that you notify the Centre. We will charge you 75% of your total fee for this session. Please see the parent fee agreement for more information.

Fees

You will be issued with an account weekly and you are requested to pay your account promptly. Please see the separate fee policy and form which outlines conditions.

Collecting Children

Children will be released only to the parents/guardians. If another person is to collect your child that person must be identified on the enrolment form as an authorised person to collect your child. If you need to make an alternative arrangement for another person to collect your child, you must advise the Centre. When leaving the Centre please ensure that you speak with a staff member so that they can farewell your child and pass on any relevant information. Please make sure that gates are securely closed when you leave.

Custody Arrangements

The Centre must be notified of any custody orders and need to be sighted and recorded by the Director. A copy will be kept in the child's confidential file. A copy of any restriction order must also be given to the Director. Where a court order exists, preventing a parent from having access to their child except in a supervised situation, the Centre will not allow that visit to occur in its buildings or on its grounds.

Lateness

You are requested to collect your child before the Centre's closing time or the session time ends. We need to ensure that staff are able to finish work on time. In the event of lateness you will receive a late fee charge .

Priority of Access

Vacancies are filled according to Commonwealth guidelines.

First Priority: A child at risk of serious abuse or neglect

Second Priority: A child of a single parent who satisfies, or of parent's who both satisfy the work/training/study test under section 14 of the A New Tax System (Family Assistance) Act

Third Priority: Any other child

Within each above category the following children are to be given priority:

- Children in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families
- Children in families which include a disabled person
- Children in families which include an individual whose adjusted taxable income does not exceed the lower income threshold or who or whose partner are on income support. Children in families with a non-English speaking background
- Children in socially isolated families
- Children of single parents

Parents may be asked from time to time to change their children's attendance times. Whilst we understand that this can be inconvenient, it is sometimes necessary.

Family Involvement



Parents are encouraged to discuss children's needs, interests and skills with staff on a daily basis. Appointments can be made with the Qualified Child Care Professional in your child's room or the Director, to discuss any concerns you have about your child's program. After hours interview will be offered to parents to discuss children's development at home and at the Centre, which hopefully will be of assistance to all concerned and parents are able to request to see child

development records at a mutually agreeable time.

Parents are encouraged to participate in the activities of the Centre, attend open days and join in celebrations. If anyone has a little time to volunteer an hour or so to assist us with activities for the children such as multicultural activities, reading, playing an instrument or repairing toys and equipment you

are most welcome to come and discuss your skills and availability with the staff.

Special religious, medical or cultural requirements (eg. diet, celebrations) must be notified by parents at the time of enrolment of the child into the Centre so that these requirements can be considered in the program.

Parents are invited to participate in the formulation of curriculum guidelines for the Centre by passing on ideas to staff verbally and in writing.

In order to keep fees at a reasonable level, we encourage parents to participate in centre working bees, saving the need to pay trades people to do certain jobs at the Centre. Prior to a working bee, the Director will compile a list of tasks and equipment required, which will then be distributed to the parents.

Due to our culturally diverse program we include many multicultural celebrations. If parents object to these celebrations in any way please notify the Director.

Daily Requirements

Please remember to label **ALL** items that are brought to childcare.

Under 2's (Gecko's)

- Comforters (dummy, security blanket etc)
- Nappies (nappy rash cream if needed)
- Wide brimmed hat
- Change of clothes
- One or more plastic shopping bags for soiled clothes or nappies
- Medication only if prescribed by a doctor.
- Any food he/she requires
- Water bottle
- One piece of fruit
- Lunch

Our staff members try to ensure that all your child's possessions are back in their bags but we would be grateful if you could check for important items before you leave.

Over 2's (Goanna's)

- Labelled hat (broad brimmed or legionnaires)
- 2 Change of clothes (labelled)
- Nappies if needed
- For children who are toilet training we suggest 4-6 pairs of clean underpants and at least 3 pairs of trousers or shorts.
- 1 piece of fruit per child
- Bottles or security toy (only if necessary)
- Medication only if prescribed by a doctor
- Lunch

Clothing

Parents are requested to mark any and all clothing including bags with the child's name using an indelible laundry marker or name tapes.

As part of the centre program children are encouraged to play and manipulate sand, water, clay, dough and paint. We also encourage independent skills such as children feeding themselves, pouring drinks, washing hands etc. Most of this means mess! Your child should be dressed in clothes which are easy for them to manage themselves, are easy to change and will not matter when they get dirty. We cannot guarantee that stains will not happen.

Children will also be involved in a great deal of running and climbing so it is important that clothing allows for this. Children are active learners and we believe that it is in the interest of the child not to feel constrained or worried about their clothes. We recommend that you keep special clothes for family occasions.

Toys

It is preferred that children's own toys not be brought into the centre other than those used for security/comfort at sleep time. This will avoid possible damage and loss, for which the Centre cannot take responsibility.

Shoes

The centre encourages parents to provide their children with shoes when they attend, for safety reasons eg. when they play outside. Our enrolment form allows parents to give permission for their children to play outside without shoes if they should choose to.

Dummies

Children must never share dummies. When not in use, dummies should be stored in individual plastic containers provided by the parents/caregivers. Each container and dummy should have the child's name on it. Dummies are not stored where they can come into contact with other dummies or toys.

Daily Routines

Each room has a routine and program which has been designed to meet the needs of the children. You are encouraged to look at the notice board in your child's room to see how staff plan for routines and transitions. These notice boards will also give you useful information on the program and learning experiences which staff have planned for children. Wherever possible routines are integrated into the program.

Children will be encouraged to be involved in packing up play materials and in setting up and clearing away for meals and snacks. During these times, children are learning self-help skills as well as a variety of language, social and physical skills.

Staff plan the programs so that children have time and space to actively explore and allow enough time to develop games and projects which are initiated by the children themselves.

Sometimes you may be concerned about daily routines, particularly sleeping and eating. If you have any concerns at any time please speak to the Team Leader or Director.

Toileting and Sleeping in the Under 2's (Gecko's)

We keep a record of each child's daily toilet habits and sleeping times. This is displayed in chart form in the room. Please refer to it at any time and ask staff if you have any questions.

We cater for each child's individual sleep needs and will follow up on any information or needs that you have for your child that day. If you feel that there is anything special from home that will make your child feel secure, please feel welcome to include it in their bag.

Safe sleep and rest practices from October 2017

Do not place anything (e.g. amber teething necklaces) around the neck of a sleeping child. The use of teething bracelets (e.g. amber teething bracelets) is also not recommended while a child sleeps.

No soft Surfaces, pillows, cot bumper, lambs wool, soft toys eg teddies or doonas in babies cot.

Toilet Training

Toilet training is in conjunction with parent requests and the child's individual stage of development. Please discuss this with the Team leader in your child's room and she will advise you.

Under no circumstance is a child scolded or shamed. Children are treated with gentle respect.

After disposing of any solid matter into the toilet soiled clothes are placed in a sealed plastic bag for parents to take home and wash. Washing soiled clothes at the Centre can spread germs, particularly gastroenteritis. Parents should supply at least two clean changes of clothes and 4-6 pairs of underpants.

After using the toilet children are watched to make sure that they wash their hands correctly or asked when they return from the toilet if they have washed their hands correctly. It is explained to the child that not washing his/her hands will leave germs on them that may make them sick.

The Program

Please speak with the Team leader in your child's room about the developmental program for your child. This is displayed on the notice board in each room. Written observations of your child are kept and used for planning and implementing developmentally appropriate and challenging activities. We welcome any input from parents regarding the Centre.



We will ensure that staff encourage the following:

- Build knowledge of each child through interaction, attachment and observation of the child's interests, strengths and needs.
- Promote learning by implementing programs based on the latest learning curriculum frameworks for early childhood
- Guide and foster children's skills and knowledge of positive interactions through play
- Maintain and make available developmental records for each child
- Encourage children to acknowledge diversity by promoting acceptance and tolerance
- Create a climate which meets children's needs for friendship and learning alongside others
- Respect the attributes and varied resources of parents in their roles within the family and wider community
- Access and establish links between the Centre and the broader community
- Use other staff and the community to enrich the learning environment
- Use acquired skills to encourage children to master appropriate new technology
- Respect children's rights through listening and acknowledging their opinions
- Access support people to facilitate learning for children with additional needs
- Prepare and foster life skills of children to accommodate change.

Program in the Over 2's (Goanna's / Thorny Devils)

The Key Learning Outcomes of the National Early Years Learning Framework (Becoming, Belonging and Being) are: Children have a strong sense of identity, Children are connected with and contribute to their world, Children have a strong sense of wellbeing, Children are confident and involved learners and Children are effective communicators.

Family Input forms are handed out quarterly information from these forms help us to provide individual programs for each child.

The Principles are:

Secure, respectful and reciprocal relationships

Partnerships with families

High expectations and equity

Respect for diversity

Ongoing learning and reflective practice

A programme is developed monthly with a wide variety of experiences relating to the Early Years Learning Framework Key Learning Outcomes and individual programs. This program is displayed on the notice board on the over 2's storeroom wall. If you have any input to offer please see the staff in the Goannas/Thorny Devils.

Program in the Under 2's (Geckos)



The Geckos program is very flexible and is based on each individual child's needs as well as those of the group. As we observe your child in play we will see how to enhance and extend their skills.

Our philosophy includes the concept that children are individuals and we as staff are here to support their emergence into confident and independent human beings.

During your child's day with us we provide the opportunities for your child to develop large and small movements. We use songs, books, pictures and talk to children about all experiences to encourage their language. We provide an environment that is stimulating and challenging to promote children's thinking and curiosity and balance this with their need for rest and peace with the activities that we provide. We support the children in gaining social skills by providing an atmosphere of acceptance, security and respect where your children can feel good about themselves and can begin to learn appropriate behaviours and respect for others.

Health

The Centre has in place rigorous procedures for hygiene practices to minimize the risks of cross infection. These apply to nappy changing procedures, toileting children, laundry, use of bedding and hand washing.

Children are encouraged from a very young age to wash hands after using the toilet and before eating. Staff encourage and assist children to be as independent as possible in relation to toileting and attending to their own personal hygiene.

The Centre observes the Public Health Department's recommendations on exclusion of children with active infectious diseases and maintains and updates immunization records.

It is essential that the staff at the centre are made aware of any allergy or medical condition (short or long term) that a child may have eg. Nuts, bee stings, epilepsy.

Safety

Staff members are always in attendance with the children either inside or outside. There will be one staff member on duty at all times with a current Senior First Aid certificate.

All possible precautions are taken to make sure that the areas used by the children are physically safe.

First Aid and Injuries

In case of injury the following procedure will be used:

- First aid will be administered as appropriate
- If necessary, an ambulance will be called to attend to the child.
- Depending on the severity of the injury the staff will contact parents as soon as possible, so please make sure you have given us recent contact details.
- An accident report will be filled in. This must be read and signed by the parent/caregiver.

National Quality Framework

The National Quality Standard Assessment process is an ongoing process which involves a self study process to examine key areas of quality in child care. Our centre is accredited with an extremely high level in all quality areas.

These are:

1. Educational Program and Practice
2. Children's health and Safety
3. Physical Environment
4. Staffing Arrangements
5. Relationships with Children
6. Collaborative partnerships with families and communities
7. Leadership and service management.

Families are involved in this process by filling out family Input forms, Parent Suggestion Box, Parent Committee Meeting and our monthly Newsletters.

Management Committee

The Centre is run by the District Council of Coober Pedy and managed by a volunteer committee of parents, staff, council representatives and community members. For the Centre to provide the quality care that parents expect, this committee should be comprised of parents who are using the Centre – your membership is encouraged.

Nutrition



All snacks are provided for your child at the Centre, lunch is to be provided by yourself.

We do ask that you send one piece of fresh fruit with your child each day.

Healthy eating habits are formed in early childhood and children's nutrition is important to their health and life long development. The nutritional program is a central part of the Centre's care and education program. Our menus are based on the nutritional guidelines for Child Care Centres produced by the Government of South Australia and has been reviewed by the visiting dietician. The Centre's nutrition Policy also ensures that our emphasis is on fresh unprocessed foods.

Children with food allergies or special dietary needs are catered for. Please make sure you notify us of any allergies or special needs your child has. Cultural and religious considerations will also be respected. Please ensure you keep this information up to date.

The advice from the Dental Hospital is that if children eat healthy food and drink water during the day and teeth are cleaned morning and night under adult supervision this will be sufficient enough to maintain healthy teeth.

The following foods are reduced or avoided altogether:

- Fat
- Added salt
- Added sugar
- No cordials are served
- Foods which could cause choking are not provided.

For safety and to promote positive social behaviours and healthy eating children are required to sit while eating or drinking. We try to make meal times relaxed, social occasions for children. We encourage them to taste all foods but they are never forced to eat food they dislike.

Corn chips, celery sticks, pop corn, chicken bones, olives with seeds and nuts, tiny teddies and foods labelled with warnings for 0-3 yrs are banned from the Centre for choking and allergy reasons. Raw apple and raw carrot will be grated if sent to the centre.

ALLERGIES & ANAPHYLAXIS

The health, wellbeing and safety of our children are paramount. Unfortunately many food products contain small amounts or traces of food products that may cause an allergic reaction (eg some types of biscuits). Allergic reactions are common with about 1 in 15 children who may have an allergic reaction to some food.

If there is a history of allergies in the family, introduction of allergenic foods should be delayed, otherwise introduce solids as usual. This includes avoiding highly allergenic foods eg nuts and shellfish until your child is 3 years old.

As children in the under 2's section may only recently have been introduced to solid foods we advise that parents allow their children to try food at home before they are introduced to the food at Mini Gems. Please ensure that you let the staff in the Under 2's section know what food your child has not yet tried at home so that we can do our best to prevent an allergic reaction at Mini Gems. The chances of your child developing an allergy to certain foods is very small, however it is imperative that these chances be isolated.

A child who is suspected of having a severe allergic reaction to food or another trigger should see an allergy specialist for diagnosis and advice about prevention and emergency treatment. An 'Anaphylaxis Action Plan' should be filled in and because exposure could still happen, children and their caregivers need to be able to recognize symptoms of anaphylaxis and be prepared to administer adrenaline according to the plan.

If providing food for all children in the Centre (eg birthday cake) please let staff know the ingredients as we may have children that are allergic to certain foods.

Drinks

Under 2's (Gecko's)

We would appreciate your support in helping us to meet these guidelines by supplying your child with **water or milk** only in their bottles or cups.

Over 2's (Goanna's and Thorny Devils)

Staff members encourage lots of water drinks throughout the day. Your child's drink is easily accessible. Drink bottles are supplied by the Centre. They are clearly labelled with the children's names and are cleaned in Milton daily. **Please do not bring cordial's, fruit juice or pop tops to Mini Gems**

Sun Safety

Our centre promotes sun protection and is a “Sun Smart Centre”. Coober Pedy is a town that is exposed to very extreme temperatures and Ultra Violet Rays and therefore skin protection is a very important issue all year around.

All members of Mini Gems will be strongly encouraged to use the following skin protection strategies:

Children, staff and parents will be expected to wear a broad brimmed/ legionnaires hat whenever they are involved in outside activities. Spare hats are available from the centre. Please label your child’s hat. These are laundered regularly to minimise the spread of head lice. Children who refuse to wear a hat will have to remain in the shaded areas.

Children will also be encouraged to wear clothes that cover their shoulders.

Outdoor Activities

Mini Gems acknowledges the importance of Vitamin D to children’s optimal growth and development; all children, staff and parents will avoid being in the direct sun between the hours of 10am and 2pm (normal time) and 11am and 3pm (daylight savings) when UV exposure is at a high risk level.

Outdoor activities are usually held in shady areas. We have numerous shade sails, trees and sheltered areas in our yard and children are encouraged to play under these.

During Summer (1st September – 30th April), outdoor activities will take place before 10am and after 4pm in shady areas depending on weather conditions.

Children under 12 months of age should be kept out of the direct sun as much as possible. Special care will be taken to avoid exposure to indirect UVR if babies are in shaded outdoor areas.

Reinforcing the Sun Smart message

Reinforcing the Sun Smart message in all service activities and in general service procedures is an important strategy in the adoption of skin protection behaviours.

Sunscreen

Parents are asked to provide sunscreen if they do not wish to use the Centre's sunscreen or if their child is allergic to the Centre's sunscreen. Permission from parents to apply sunscreen is given via consent on the enrolment form. Labels on sunscreens must be read carefully. Most are not recommended for use on children under the age of 12 months.

When taking the children outside Centre staff apply sunscreen a minimum of 15 minutes prior to going outside, and re-apply before going outside again.

www.cancersa.org.au

Sickness/ Infectious Conditions

For the safety of other children, as well as your own, please do not bring children who are unwell to the Centre. The centre does not have the facilities to care for sick children. If your child becomes ill while at the Centre you will be contacted and asked to collect your child. We will call an ambulance for children who are assessed as in need of urgent medical care and parents are advised as soon as possible.

Please notify the Director if your child has any contagious illness, and beware of the speed with which such illnesses can spread (eg conjunctivitis). Those children with highly contagious illnesses must present a medical clearance before returning to care. Exclusion period as outlined in the "Staying Healthy in Child Care Handbook" will be adhered to for all infectious conditions.

Head Lice

Staff may diagnose whether a child has head lice if the child is seen to be constantly scratching his/her head. Parents will be notified and the child's hair must be treated before returning to the centre. In the case of a recurring problem.

Parent/caregivers are asked to keep their children at home if any of the following are evident:

- Diarrhoea and/or vomiting
- Discharge from eyes or ears
- Thrush
- Infectious skin disorders
- Temperature
- Flu-like symptoms ie: runny nose, cough, watery eyes etc.
- Tonsillitis
- Generally unwell requiring additional care

Medication

Staff can administer medication on written request provided that a doctor prescribes the medicine, it is in the original container and is labeled with the child's name and dosage instructions for administration. Please hand medication to staff as it is dangerous to leave medication in your child's bag.

Children with asthma and other medical conditions may have ongoing health management plans. Parents are asked to discuss these with the Team leader or Director.

The centre staff will not give the first dose of any medication to any child. It is advisable that your child remains away from the centre 24 hours following commencement of medication.

Antibiotics

When your child is sick and prescribed antibiotics it is advisable for them to be kept home for a day or two until they are able to cope with the busy child care centre. Please phone the Director to discuss your child's individual care if you are unsure whether they should return to the Centre.

Administering Medication

It is a legal requirement under The Centre Based and Mobile Child Care Service Regulation (No.2) 1996 that parents record instructions for staff in relation to administering medication to a child in care.

There is a folder located in each room for parents to record instructions for their child's medication (please ask staff if you cannot locate it). Each time a child requires medication parents **MUST** record the following information:

- The **name** of the medication
- The **date, time and dosage** to be administered
- The **purpose** of the medication
- The parent's signature giving permission to staff to administer the medication

Immunisation/Non-Immunisation

We strongly encourage parents to keep children up to date with their immunisation. We feel it is important for all children attending the centre to be immunised to protect other children, including the very young who have not yet completed their immunisation course. Current medical research suggests that the risk of immunisation is minimal and outweighs the risk to your child of contracting serious disease. The centre is required to keep copies of information regarding your child's immunisation record prior to commencing child care. The centre will regularly request updates of immunisation records.

Immunisation is not compulsory; however, in the event of an outbreak of a vaccine-preventable disease at the centre immune-compromised children must be excluded from the Centre. This is for the protection of the child. The Commonwealth Government, however, will only pay Child Care Benefit to families of children who **are immunised**, unless the child is on a catch-up schedule or has an exemption from their doctor that has been sighted by Centrelink.

Behaviour Guidance

The Centre has a comprehensive Positive Guidance Policy. This emphasizes positive guidance and supporting children to develop self control. Children are redirected to appropriate behaviour/activities and appropriate behaviour is positively acknowledged. Rules are kept to a minimum and are simple, clear and consistent.

Behaviour guidance is an integral part of the learning process. If we are experiencing difficulties or have concerns we will let you know immediately. It is important that any concerns are discussed with families and strategies developed promptly to address difficulties.

Services for Families at Mini Gems

Children and Parent Support Services

A wonderful opportunity for parents careers to engage with their child or children and other families and discuss topics related to their children's development.

- Little Musicians
- Mums and Bubs group

Contact:

Sophie Reynolds
(08) 86724 600 mobile: 0427 264 969
Email: sreynolds@cpcouncil.sa.gov.au

Child Health Team

Flinders & Far North Community Health Service

The Child Health Team works with children (birth to 18 years), their families and the community to support child development and achieve better health outcomes. (Dietician, Physiotherapy, Speech Pathology, Occupational Therapy, Podiatrist). The Child Health Team visits Coober Pedy once a month.

Referrals may be made by family members, friends, health professionals, doctors and other agencies or services with the families consent. (*Pamphlets and referral forms are available from Mini Gems*)

Child and Family Health Nurse (0 – 5 years old)

Our Child and Family Health Nurse visits Coober Pedy. The visiting Child Youth Health Nurse is available for routine & general checkups and any concerns that you may have with your child's health and development. If you would like to check dates on visits to Coober Pedy or would like to make an appointment please call the number below.

Contact:

Child and Family Health Nurse
1300 733 606

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)

Aim is to promote positive mental health in children, young people and their families.

It is a confidential counselling service for children and young people up to 18 years of age and their families.

Referrals may be directly from parents, caregivers and young people over 16 years old.

(Pamphlets available from Mini Gems)

Referrals

Contact: 1800 819 089

Gowrie South Australia Inclusion Support Program

Gowrie SA is pleased to have been selected as the Inclusion Support Programme for South Australia from 1 July 2016. The Inclusion Support Programme is funded by the Australian government to build the capacity of eligible services to include children with special rights within mainstream services. The new Programme supports inclusion for children with diverse needs and backgrounds.

Gowrie's Inclusion Professionals with work directly with the services to:

- Provide practical advice on quality inclusive practices to support educators to overcome barriers to a child's inclusion.
- Reflect on understandings of inclusion and identify inclusion barriers.
- Develop a tailored Strategic Inclusion Plan (SIP) that documents the identified inclusion barriers as well as inclusive practices and strategies to be implemented.
- Support Educators to reflect, acknowledge and identify their strengths.
- Assist educators and teams to critically reflect on their practices and identify possibilities for inclusion.
- Facilitate access to all inclusion Support Programme resources including specialist equipment and funding.
- Support services to become 'Inclusion ready'.
- Link with relevant community groups, services and organisations.
- Support educators to work in partnership with families and other support networks.

For more information visit: www.gowriesa.org.au

Human Services Finder

17/08/2018

An internet service to find services that match your specific needs eg doctors, dentists, pharmacists etc.

www.hsfinder.sa.gov.au