The staff for Term 4, 2016 include:

Anne Whittleston (Director / Educator)
Jenny Reid (Assistant Director / Educator)
Laura Francis (Community Development Coordinator)
Tamara Hall (Speech Pathologist)
Daniela Barilla (Occupational Therapist)
Rebecca Shea (Child Wellbeing Practitioner)
Kate Hallam (Educator)
Janet Hazel (Educator)
Roshni Amroliwala (Educator)
Sonya Osborne (Educator)
Carolyn Howson (Educator)
Adrienne Hicks (Educator)
Jasmin Sheehan (Educator)
Erin Wilkinson (Educator)
Magdaline Saredakis (Educator)
Steph Hamdorf (Educator)
Lisa Mildrum (Educator)
Jodie Murray (Educator)
Andrea Randell (Educator)
Julie-Anne Dufly (Educator)
Robbi Meinel (Educator)
Cathy Mazzarolo (Educator / Admin Officer)
Iona Angely (Educator)
Sally Pippen (Educator)
Julia Tilley (Educator)
Carolyn Potter (Admin Officer)
Jo Oliver (Cook)
Nobuko Nakajima (Educator + A/ Cook)
Simon Costello (Groundsperson)

Building Redevelopment

On the 18th June 2015 we were advised that our Children’s Centre has been allocated a significant amount of funds for the renovation and refurbishment of our facilities as part of the State Budget.

Our Children’s Centre for Early Childhood Development and Parenting is an interagency partnership approach that brings together care, education, health, community development activities and services for families with young children.

There will be at least 3 stages of the construction phase, starting with a new veranda with dual entrance gates at the Northern end of our boundary. This will then become the temporary main entrance during the major construction phase.

Decisions regarding future services that we can offer will be made by our local leadership team and key partner agencies. These include government agencies, nongovernment and community-based organisations, parents, community members and staff.

We will keep you informed of the additional services that we hope to be able to offer our community when the building redevelopment is completed in 2017.

Curriculum

Some of our older children are participating in an “Inquiry based project”. They have been looking at our current site plans prior to experiencing the physical changes to our building and relating these changes to the abstract Architect’s plans.

Inquiry based approaches aim to encourage deep learning – learning where children are absorbed and fascinated; learning where children are active and involved; and learning where children make connections and develop significant understandings.

The children have continued with exploring maps and looking at different type of maps. They have drawn their own maps, many choosing to draw their journey to or from Keithcot Farm Children’s Centre, Earth, Australia or South Australia. Please take the time to look at their maps displayed in the middle room.

This complex work supports the Numeracy Indicator: “I measure and compare my world.”
Children engage in daily literacy experiences. This may be by looking at, noticing and reading signs around our Centre environment as well as labels on the recycled packaging we use for craft activities. All children have access to a range of writing implements to make marks which are beginning to represent symbols; writing their name on their work; reading stories; writing their own stories or copying different words. Outcome 5 of the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) states:

- Children are effective communicators.
- They interact verbally and non-verbally with others for a range of purposes.
- They engage with a range of texts and gain meaning from these texts.
- They begin to understand how symbols and pattern systems work.

Alongside EYLF, Educators program with the DECD Curriculum Document “Indicators of Preschool Numeracy and Literacy” - this further informs children’s communication using key elements, indicators and learning processes.

- Indicator: I use language to connect with my world.
- Learning Process: Create and make meaning.
- Key Element: Use increasingly sophisticated language to connect and communicate.

Literacy Packs are available for ALL children to borrow. This is a great opportunity for children to share something from the Children’s Centre with home. Children can share their favourite story or game with their family. This is one way to make further links between home and the centre.

Please see attached the Parenting SA brochure: “More than Reading and Writing.”

All Preschool children regularly visit Keithcot Farm Primary School. They access the library, playground, oval and attend school assemblies on alternate Fridays. The children have been invited to perform a favourite song at a future assembly!

Child Protection Curriculum

Last term we focussed on Area 3 of the Child Protection Curriculum - ‘Recognising and Reporting Abuse’. The children explored the topic of different kinds of touching, using the concept of

- People we can hug
- People we might shake hands with or wave to
- People we say ‘hello’ to.

We have discussed privacy and parts of the body-learning to use the correct names.

We have also discussed the topic of “Secrets”

- Secrets that are safe to keep.
- Secrets that need to be told.

This term we will be implementing Focus Area 4 – “Protective Strategies”. This area will focus on

- Emergencies
- Being assertive and persistent
- Talking to people we trust.

Protective Strategies are reinforced and practised continually and used in day to day interactions.

In August 2015 the State Government announced a new initiative to introduce 60 Child Wellbeing Practitioners into educational sites across South Australia. Basing the child wellbeing program in education settings will encourage

- more engagement with vulnerable families
- early identification with problems
- connection to timely and appropriate services
- fewer families reaching the level of concern requiring a child protection response.

Rebecca Shea – Child Wellbeing Practitioner has been allocated to work with our Centre. Rebecca is from the new Child Wellbeing team within DECD. Each practitioner has approximately 4-6 sites each, ranging from Children’s Centres to Secondary schools.

Rebecca will be based at Madison Park Primary School and will divide her time based on the needs of the sites allocated – including Gulfview Heights Primary and Keithcot Farm Primary.

2017 Enrolments

Preschool Information sessions will be held on

- Tuesday 1 November @ 7pm (For families whose children are currently accessing LDC)
- Tuesday 8 November @ 7pm.

Families requesting a place in our LDC program for 2017 will be contacted when we are certain of the number of vacancies that have been generated by

- families no longer requiring LDC as their child will be transitioning to school
- families reducing the number of LDC sessions as their child will be in their eligible year of preschool and may not require the longer flexible hours.

Children who are currently transitioning to Keithcot Farm Primary School for next year will continue to have another 2 transition visits to a classroom. (This will not necessarily be the class they will go into next year). The children work with a school buddy engaging in various learning experiences.

Those children who will attend other local schools in 2017, will receive letters with regard to the transitions visits to these schools.
2017 Fees

Our Governing Council reviewed our Budget and current fee structure at a meeting on Monday 26 September.

It was agreed that the Long Day Care fee for 2017 be increased to $97/ day.

It was also agreed to increase the Preschool Lunchcare or Between Session Care Fee to $22/ day.

There will be no increase to the Preschool Contribution which will remain @ $120 / 10 week term.

Unfortunately in 2017 we will no longer offer the LDC Holiday Rate.

Daily Communication with Families

*Please ensure that while your child is at the Children’s Centre that you are contactable via your phone.*

*Please make every effort to respond to messages left on your phone as soon as possible!*  
Thank you

Sun Protection

After seeking advice from the Australian Cancer Council all children are required to bring a named hat which is either a Legionnaire or wide brimmed style that protects their face neck and ears, *every day of the year*, from the harmful effects of the sun.  
(Hats with a front peak only “Baseball caps” or “Beanies” are not an acceptable means of protection)

**Legionnaire Hats are available for purchase @ $4.**

Sunscreen is expected to be applied by parents/caregivers to all exposed skin before arrival at the Centre. Extra sunscreen is available by the Sign In sheets if you have forgotten. Sunscreen will be reapplied by Educators during the day.

We use the Cancer Council “Peppa Pig–Kids Sunscreen” – SPF 50+ UVA UVB – Broad Spectrum Fragrance and Paraben free for delicate skin.

*If your child is required to have another sunscreen due to health intolerances – we will need a letter from your child’s doctor and you will need to provide the prescribed sunscreen to be kept on site.*

If you do not want your child to have sunscreen reapplied during the day (as recommended by the SA Cancer Council) – please put your request in writing and we will file along with your child’s personal enrolment details.

Community Development - Laura

We’ve had a busy Term 3 of programs and events for children and families.

As always our PJ Story time was well attended earlier in the term and included a celebration of ‘Book Week’.

A number of families from both within the Children’s Centre and the wider community attended our ‘Gut Health’ information session, the ‘Supporting your child with their more challenging behaviours’ with Jodie Benveniste and ‘Sleep Solutions’ with Brooke Michell.

On 14th September over 210 parents attended an information session at Golden Grove High School to hear Mark Le Messurier, psychologist and best-selling author discuss ‘Supporting Children to Manage their Big Feelings’.

This session was developed and promoted across all 10 DECD Golden Way Partnership sites and also welcomed interested parents from other sites and services.

Our relationship with City of Tea Tree Gully continues to enable a range of collaborative programs to be offered. These include ‘My Baby’, a 6 week course for first time parents. ‘Mucky Ducks’ a 6 week interactive program for parents and their children to engage in art/craft experiences and School holiday programs.

In Term 3, and again this Term we will offer First Aid for parents/carers and Baby Massage at the Children’s Centre (Wednesdays) and Jubilee Community Centre (Tuesdays).

Feel free to contact me anytime if you have any queries about Community programs, would like to borrow from our Parent Resource Library or have any suggestions for future information sessions or events.

Thank you, Laura- Community Development Coordinator

**Upcoming TERM 4 parent session:**

**Building resilience, helping children manage disappointment and failure**

To be presented by:

**JOY ANASTA**

Date to be confirmed- 7pm

Golden Grove High School
Dates to Remember

Monday 17 Oct: Preschool program recommences.
Wednesday 26 October: Baby massage Group
Wednesday 26 October: PJ Story time 6:30pm
Monday 31 October: Health Screening
Wednesday 2 November: Baby Massage
Tuesday 1 November: 2017 Preschool Information
Night @ 7pm– families whose child currently attends LDC
Monday 7 November: Governing Council Meeting @ 6.45pm
Tuesday 8 November: 2017 Preschool Information
Night @ 7pm– families new to KFCC.
Wednesday 9 November: Baby Massage
Wednesday 16 November: Baby Massage
Wednesday 16 November: First Aid evening course
Monday 21 November: AGM – to be confirmed
Wednesday 23 November: Baby Massage
Wednesday 7 December: Family Christmas Night
-more information to be sent home soon

Please Note:
The whole Centre will close at 12.30pm on
Friday 16 December.
There will be no afternoon preschool
or long day care in the afternoon.

Keithcot Farm Children’s Centre reopens for
Long Day Care on

Department for Education and Child Development
(DECD) Preschool program resumes on
Monday 1 February 2016.

Mark Le Messurier- Parent Information session
‘Supporting Children to Manage Their Big Feelings’