

KANGAROO ISLAND CHILDCARE SURVEY RESULTS

Sponsored by:
Kangaroo Island Development Board
Kangaroo Island Children's Services Centre
Family Day Care (DECS)

CONDUCTED IN MAY 2003

“Childcare” refers to children of any age that require care.

1. Do you have children that could use childcare (eg 0-12 years or special needs)?

Received 90 responses

2. Contact Details

Parent(s) name: Details in separate attachment - due to privacy issues this information is confidential

Live closest to:

| | |
|----------------|----|
| Kingscote | 52 |
| American River | 4 |
| Baudin Beach | 4 |
| Penneshaw | 12 |
| Parndana | 9 |
| Stokes Bay | 1 |
| Vivonne Bay | 3 |
| Gosse | 5 |
| Karatta | 0 |

Total Responses: 90

Please provide details of the preferred means of communication: Details in separate attachment – due to privacy issues this information is confidential

3. Do you use childcare?

Unable to Access but required for

| | Yes | No | Unable | Work | Study | Respite | Other |
|--------------------|-----|----|--------|------|-------|---------|-------|
| Kingscote | 34 | 13 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 1 | |
| American River | 2 | | 2 | 2 | | | 1 |
| Baudin Beach | 3 | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | |
| Penneshaw | 7 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| Parndana | 4 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | | |
| Stokes Bay | 1 | | | | | | |
| Vivonne Bay | 2 | 1 | | | | | |
| Gosse | 3 | | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Karratta | | | | | | | |
| Total Respondents: | 56 | 16 | 16 | 16 | 4 | 7 | 3 |

Other – reasons indicated below:

- “If suitable facility would use”

- “I recently had a grandparent that would shop with me, but now I will need to look at childcare when my next baby arrives”

4. Details of children that use childcare.

Summary

| Age | Number | Before School | After School | Full Day | Morning | Afternoon | Vacation Care |
|---------|--------|---------------|--------------|----------|---------|-----------|---------------|
| < 1 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| 1 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 1 |
| 2 | 16 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 7 | 5 | 0 |
| 3 | 18 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 8 | 5 | 1 |
| 4 | 22 | 2 | 4 | 11 | 9 | 8 | 5 |
| 5 | 12 | 2 | 8 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 7 |
| 6 | 13 | 3 | 8 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 9 |
| 7 | 7 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 7 |
| 8 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 4 |
| 9 | 10 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 9 |
| 10 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| 11 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 12 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Totals: | 124 | 13 | 38 | 48 | 31 | 29 | 47 |

broken down into:

Penneshaw

| Age | Number | Before School | After School | Full Day | Morning | Afternoon | Vacation Care |
|---------|--------|---------------|--------------|----------|---------|-----------|---------------|
| < 1 | | | | | | | |
| 1 | | | | | | | |
| 2 | 2 | | | 2 | | 1 | |
| 3 | 2 | | | 2 | | 1 | |
| 4 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 2 | | 3 | 1 |
| 5 | 2 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 |
| 6 | 2 | 2 | 2 | | | | |
| 8 | 1 | | 1 | | | | 1 |
| 9 | 1 | | | | | | 1 |
| 10 | 2 | 1 | 2 | | | | |
| 11 | 1 | | | | | | 1 |
| Totals: | 18 | 5 | 7 | 6 | 0 | 5 | 5 |

American River

| Age | Number | Before School | After School | Full Day | Morning | Afternoon | Vacation Care |
|---------|--------|---------------|--------------|----------|---------|-----------|---------------|
| < 1 | 1 | | | 1 | | | |
| 4 | 1 | | | | | 1 | |
| 8 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | 1 |
| Totals: | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 |

Kingscote

| Age | Number | Before School | After School | Full Day | Morning | Afternoon | Vacation Care |
|---------|--------|---------------|--------------|----------|---------|-----------|---------------|
| < 1 | 4 | | | 4 | | | |
| 1 | 3 | | | 1 | 3 | 3 | 1 |
| 2 | 9 | | | 7 | 5 | 1 | |
| 3 | 11 | | | 7 | 5 | 2 | 1 |
| 4 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 7 | 3 | 3 |
| 5 | 7 | | 5 | 1 | | 1 | 4 |
| 6 | 9 | 1 | 4 | | | | 8 |
| 7 | 5 | 2 | 2 | | | | 4 |
| 8 | 2 | | 2 | 1 | | | 2 |
| 9 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 1 | | | 6 |
| 10 | 1 | | 1 | | | | 1 |
| 12 | 1 | | | | | | 1 |
| Totals: | 70 | 5 | 18 | 27 | 20 | 10 | 31 |

Gosse

| Age | Number | Before School | After School | Full Day | Morning | Afternoon | Vacation Care |
|---------|--------|---------------|--------------|----------|---------|-----------|---------------|
| < 1 | 1 | | | | | 1 | |
| 1 | 1 | | | 1 | | | |
| 2 | 2 | | | | | 2 | |
| 3 | 2 | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| 4 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | | | |
| 6 | 1 | | 1 | | | | |
| Totals: | 8 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 0 |

Parndana

| Age | Number | Before School | After School | Full Day | Morning | Afternoon | Vacation Care |
|---------|--------|---------------|--------------|----------|---------|-----------|---------------|
| < 1 | 1 | | | 1 | | 1 | |
| 1 | 2 | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| 2 | 2 | | | 2 | 1 | | |
| 3 | 2 | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| 4 | 2 | | | 2 | | | |
| 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 |
| 6 | | | 1 | | | | 1 |
| 7 | | | 1 | | | | 1 |
| 9 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 |
| 10 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 |
| Totals: | 12 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 3 | 3 | 5 |

Vivonne Bay

| Age | Number | Before School | After School | Full Day | Morning | Afternoon | Vacation Care |
|---------|--------|---------------|--------------|----------|---------|-----------|---------------|
| 1 | 1 | | | 1 | | | |
| 3 | 1 | | | | 1 | | |
| Totals: | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |

Baudin Beach

| Age | Number | Before School | After School | Full Day | Morning | Afternoon | Vacation Care |
|---------|--------|---------------|--------------|----------|---------|-----------|---------------|
| 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | |
| 2 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | |
| 4 | 2 | | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 5 | 1 | | | | | 1 | |
| 6 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | |
| 7 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 1 |
| Totals: | 7 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 5 | 2 |

Stokes Bay

| Age | Number | Before School | After School | Full Day | Morning | Afternoon | Vacation Care |
|---------|--------|---------------|--------------|----------|---------|-----------|---------------|
| 5 | 1 | | 1 | | | | 1 |
| 7 | 1 | | 1 | | | | 1 |
| 9 | 1 | | 1 | | | | 1 |
| Totals: | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |

5. What are the reasons for using childcare?

| | Work | Study | Respite | Other | Total |
|----------------|------|-------|---------|-------|-------|
| Kingscote | 31 | 4 | 9 | 3 | 47 |
| American River | 2 | | | | 2 |
| Baudin Beach | 1 | | 2 | | 3 |
| Penneshaw | 9 | | 3 | 1 | 13 |
| Parndana | 6 | 2 | 1 | | 9 |
| Stokes Bay | 1 | | | | 1 |
| Vivonne Bay | 1 | 1 | 2 | | 4 |
| Gosse | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 8 |
| Karatta | | | | | 0 |
| Totals: | 53 | 8 | 20 | 6 | 87 |

6. Which service do you use?

| | Family Day Care | Childcare Centre | Private | Combination | Total |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------|---------|-------------|-------|
| American River | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 |
| Kingscote | 9 | 34 | 4 | 9 | 56 |
| Penneshaw | 3 | 2 | 8 | 1 | 14 |
| Stokes Bay | 1 | | | | 1 |
| Baudin Beach | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| Parndana | 5 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 15 |
| Vivonne Bay | | 2 | | | 2 |
| Gosse | 2 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 8 |
| Totals: | 23 | 50 | 16 | 16 | 105 |

7. Please indicate the reasons why you choose the care you do?

8. Please indicate if you would prefer to use different care than you currently do.

| | Family Day Care | Childcare Centre | Private | Combination | Total |
|----------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------|-------------|-------|
| American River | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 |

Family Day Care:

- childcare center not available
- for work if available

Childcare Centre:

- easy to access when in Kingscote

Private:

- childcare center not available

Combination:

- childcare center not available

| | Family Day Care | Childcare Centre | Private | Combination | Total |
|-----------|--------------------|---------------------|---------|-------------|-------|
| Kingscote | 9 | 34 | 4 | 9 | 56 |

Family Day Care:

- I like the atmosphere at the childcare centre, the stimulation they receive, socialization, familiarity with surroundings in preparation for kindy. Unfortunately, there are no places available for my 1 year old for quite some time. Older 2 kids enjoy FDC.
- Family based care and my child knows who s looking after him
- I would prefer to use center all the time but I cannot always get my kids in when I want.
- Private – heard carer was excellent. Daycare – don’t have any family on Island
- Very professional childcare available in the center. After hours care with Family Day Care, also the social opportunities for the children at the center.
- The children enjoy going and I can get in most times I request
- Because it is what is available and is quality care
- Great facility, interaction with lots of kids, (FDC), special times, small group, and no other choice
- Because you know the people looking after your children are trained to do so
- Determined by availability

Childcare Centre:

- I like the atmosphere at the childcare centre, the stimulation they receive, socialization, familiarity with surroundings in preparation for kindy. Unfortunately, there are no places available for my 1 year old for quite some time. Older 2 kids enjoy FDC.
- Family based care and my child knows who s looking after him
- Quality of care. Familiarity of center and its management.
- Only one available.
- For interaction with other children in a fun safe environment
- While my grandson is visiting from WA he has a social and developmental experience while giving my daughter a rest.
- Uses kindy 2 days and knows teachers
- I would prefer to use center all the time but I cannot always get my kids in when I want.
- Mix with other kids her age

- Convenience
- Not a lot of options. But the day care/kindy in the same building make life easier, and all staff are very friendly and helpful.
- No other choice. I like using family day care and the childcare center but not enough workers.
- It is the best available and basically my only choice that is consistent and of a standard I am happy with
- Structured booking times, other child interaction
- I need some time to renovate my house and spend time alone with my teenager son. The quality of care they provide is of high standard (I have been through many carers).
- Because it is the only care available, would use family day care if there were spaces available.
- It's where I work
- Very professional childcare available in the center. After hours care with Family Day Care, also the social opportunities for the children at the center.
- At least I know that my child is being looked after by a qualified person that can cope with kids
- I have only lived on the Island for 4 months and I don't know of other services, and have no family here
- Convenient
- The children enjoy going and I can get in most times I request
- CC Centre provides an environment that I as a parent feel confident and secure to leave my children within. (ie safe, clean, reliable, friendly, well managed). It also provides my children with the opportunity to develop socially, physically and mentally
- Because it is what is available and is quality care
- I require quality childcare for when I work
- Availability, quality of staff offering good activities (excluding tv, video games etc)
- Had a bad experience previously with family day care would only choose this if I knew the person personally
- My children enjoy going to the childcare center. I like them to socialize with lots of different children and adults
- Flexibility and convenience
- Great facility, interaction with lots of kids, (FDC), special times, small group, and no other choice
- It makes it easier, I can drop the kids off at the childcare center go down the street and attend to business and do shopping in peace and pick them up on my way home
- Interaction – familiar faces
- Centre located near work and home in Kingscote, excellent staff, good learning/play environment for children; children able to interact with others of own age
- Most convenient
- There are no other options available
- Because you know the people looking after your children are trained to do so
- Determined by availability

Private:

- No other options are available for school age children
- I would prefer to use center all the time but I cannot always get my kids in when I want.
- Private – heard carer was excellent. Daycare – don't have any family on Island
- School age children refuse to use "kindy" for after school care
- Centre located near work and home in Kingscote, excellent staff, good learning/play environment for children; children able to interact with others of own age

Combination:

- Family based care and my child knows who s looking after him
- I would prefer to use center all the time but I cannot always get my kids in when I want.
- Private – heard carer was excellent. Daycare – don't have any family on Island

- Very professional childcare available in the center. After hours care with Family Day Care, also the social opportunities for the children at the center.
- The children enjoy going and I can get in most times I request
- Because it is what is available and is quality care
- Great facility, interaction with lots of kids, (FDC), special times, small group, and no other choice
- Centre located near work and home in Kingscote, excellent staff, good learning/play environment for children; children able to interact with others of own age
- Because you know the people looking after your children are trained to do so
- Determined by availability

| Prefer | Reason |
|--|--|
| I would like to use the childcare center for my 1 year old | she is comfortable and happy there, it is a familiar setting as she goes there for playgroup, and to drop off her brother and sister |
| Vacation care | Child care facilities do not cater very well for older children |
| Some weekend care also as I work weekends also | |
| No | |
| A combination of family day care and childcare center | I think they do a great job caring for my daughter at the center but I would prefer her to have both environments |
| School based after school care | School age children refuse to use kindy for after school care |
| No – only play by private arrangement in friends homes | A few more peers is nice for our sons and the KICSC does not always attract many older children at OSHC |
| Would love to see a after hours and vacation care facility for school age children | |
| To use childcare center whenever I need care | Travel to and from American River is costly and time consuming and limits number of days I can work |
| Weekend or overnight care or evenings | Work shifts include hours outside 8-6 Mon – Friday |
| Separate and larger school age vacation care program | Easier accessibility and less restrictions for older children |
| I would prefer to use a vacation care program based at the K A School | At present my children attend the day care center during school holidays and they both dislike going there. The center is great for under 5s but doesn't quite have enough space of activities to keep the over 5s busy, at the school – they could play sport – footy etc, use of computers and library and run around the playground |
| Family day care / child care centre | |
| Full time KI Childcare Services Centre | Closeness to places of employment Closeness to other facilities |

| | Family Day Care | Childcare Centre | Private | Combination | Total |
|-----------|------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Penneshaw | 3 | 2 | 8 | 1 | 14 |

Family Day Care:

- Private is only option I have at the moment

- If it were available at Penneshaw ie at kindy, I would seriously think about returning to work, 2 – 3 days per week

Childcare Centre:

- Safety, trained carers, social activities, location
- Gives my child the option to have 2 full days at kindy

Private:

- Only option in Penneshaw
- Safety, trained carers, social activities, location
- Private is only option I have at the moment
- Follows on from Thursday morning kindy and is very convenient
- Only care available in Penneshaw require full day care on Fridays for work reasons
- New to Penneshaw – unfamiliar with services offered

Combination:

- Private is only option I have at the moment

| Prefer | Reason |
|---|---|
| Would prefer childcare center as people trained | |
| Child care center and family day care | Trained staff, safe environment, stability in availability |
| Childcare center or family day care | Standards have to be met and resources available - equipment |
| Organized childcare eg kindy | My son has special needs – he needs interaction with other children. Some organized activities / play. I feel like I am imposing on family at the moment. |
| Ideal is current situation | Aware that current day care in Penneshaw cannot continue in its present form and so hope that a registered day care can be established |
| Day care center | Penneshaw kindy will not be offering any day care next term |
| Child care center | Current babysitter not always available |

| | Family Day Care | Childcare Centre | Private | Combination | Total |
|------------|-----------------|------------------|---------|-------------|-------|
| Stokes Bay | 1 | | | | 1 |

Family Day Care:

- Too hard to find home based carers

| Prefer | Reason |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| Home based carer | Cost and more flexible times |

| | Family Day Care | Childcare Centre | Private | Combination | Total |
|--------------|-----------------|------------------|---------|-------------|-------|
| Baudin Beach | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 |

Family Day Care:

- I have no other means of daycare, although I'm happy to have these people look after my kids, it can be quite hard to find someone all the time. Makes it very hard.

Childcare Centre:

- I have no other means of daycare, although I'm happy to have these people look after my kids, it can be quite hard to find someone all the time. Makes it very hard.

Combination:

- I have no other means of daycare, although I'm happy to have these people look after my kids, it can be quite hard to find someone all the time. Makes it very hard.
- Because my child has been at kindy in the morning and can stay on for afternoon child care session

| | Family Day Care | Childcare Centre | Private | Combination | Total |
|----------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Parndana | 5 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 15 |

Family Day Care:

- Professionalism
- Easier to communicate with carer, less daunting for child
- School child unsuitable for private care – as I have now changed my situation, I can only talk of the distress and trouble I experienced until Feb 2003. Whilst it was available, Family Day Care was the preference as it was home based, warm and friendly
- Excellent service, convenient, close to work

Childcare Centre:

- to have some time to myself to go to appointments, shopping etc and so my son can get used to being with other children and get to play with new toys, have a break from mum
- Professionalism
- Convenient for work
- It is the best available and basically my only choice that is consistent and of a standard I am happy with
- Excellent service, convenient, close to work

Private:

- School child unsuitable for private care – as I have now changed my situation, I can only talk of the distress and trouble I experienced until Feb 2003. Whilst it was available, Family Day Care was the preference as it was home based, warm and friendly

Combination:

- Professionalism
- Excellent service, convenient, close to work

| Prefer | Reason |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Child care in Parndana | Wouldn't need to go to Kingscote to use child care |
| Family day care | I had to rely on a school girl, 16 years old for the past 3 months, she simply sat the girls in front of the tv and one day just wasn't there - unreliable |
| Day care center at Parndana | |

| | Family Day Care | Childcare Centre | Private | Combination | Total |
|-------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------|-------------|-------|
| Vivonne Bay | | 2 | | | 2 |

Childcare Centre:

- So I can shop with one child instead of 2. Encourage interaction with others
- Convenience and is closest to me

| Prefer | Reason |
|---|---------------------|
| When I start working I would use combination of childcare | |
| Yes | Nothing close to me |

| | Family Day Care | Childcare Centre | Private | Combination | Total |
|-------|--------------------|---------------------|---------|-------------|-------|
| Gosse | 2 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 8 |

Family Day Care:

- I like what is available
- Close to home, child care know the place, impartial to take children to Kingscote center (126kms round trip)

Childcare Centre:

- other child interaction, only care available to us
- convenience
- I like what is available
- If I have appointments etc in Kingscote I use the CCC. If I need it for work or going into Parndana to help in my sons's class, I use private care, as the center is in Kingscote and is out of the way

Private:

- If I have appointments etc in Kingscote I use the CCC. If I need it for work or going into Parndana to help in my sons's class, I use private care, as the center is in Kingscote and is out of the way

Combination:

- If I have appointments etc in Kingscote I use the CCC. If I need it for work or going into Parndana to help in my sons's class, I use private care, as the center is in Kingscote and is out of the way

| Prefer | Reason |
|--|---|
| Parndana childcare would be handy – closer than Kingscote | |
| | I rarely use childcare as it is too difficult to access |
| It would be fantastic if there was childcare available at Parndana perhaps at the school | Not as far to go for child care |

9. Are you able to access childcare as often as you need?

| | No | Yes | Excellent | Good | Satisfactory |
|----------------|----|-----|-----------|------|--------------|
| Penneshaw | 10 | | | | |
| American River | 3 | | | | |
| Kingscote | 22 | 17 | 17 | 3 | 1 |
| Stokes Bay | 1 | | | | |
| Baudin Beach | 2 | | | | |
| Parndana | 7 | 1 | 1 | | |
| Vivonne Bay | 2 | | | 1 | |
| Gosse | 3 | 1 | | 1 | |

Kingscote

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Childcare Centre | - | 3 x Good, 14 x Excellent |
| School age | - | Poor |
| Childcare Centre , Student Free Days | - | Good |
| Childcare Centre, After School | - | Excellent |
| Childcare Centre | - | Satisfactory |
| Family Day Care | - | 6 x Excellent |
| Private | - | Excellent |

Vivonne Bay

| | | |
|------------------|---|------|
| Childcare Centre | - | Good |
|------------------|---|------|

Gosse

| | | |
|----------------------------|---|------|
| Childcare Centre / Private | - | Good |
|----------------------------|---|------|

10. Indicate how many children require childcare and the times required.

| | Penneshaw | American River | Kingscote | Stokes Bay | Baudin Beach | Parndana | Vivonne Bay | Gosse |
|---------------|-----------|----------------|-----------|------------|--------------|----------|-------------|-------|
| Before School | 1 | | 5 | | | 4 | | |
| After School | 3 | | 11 | 3 | | 5 | | |
| Morning | 1 | 1 | 15 | | 1 | 2 | | 3 |
| Full Day | 7 | 1 | 21 | | 1 | 7 | 1 | 3 |
| Afternoon | 7 | 1 | 8 | | 1 | 2 | | 6 |
| Vacation Care | 2 | | 16 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 2 | |

11. Is accessing childcare for children with special needs an issue for you?

2 respondents answered yes, of which one indicated availability was good and one indicated it was poor

68 respondents answered no

12. Do you see any of these issues as impeding the growth of childcare on the Island?

- a. Limited qualified staff **36 responses**
- b. Limited spaces available at Kangaroo Island Childcare Services Centre **56 responses**
- c. Lack of home based childcare providers (DECS, Family Day Care) **48 responses**
- d. Cost of transport **12 responses**
- e. Lack of transport **12 responses**
- f. Affordability of childcare **17 responses**
- g. Accessibility of childcare **37 responses**
- h. Other **7 responses**

Other Comments:

- Location of childcare providers across Island – Vivonne Bay, Gosse, American River, Parndana etc
- Children under 2 years are hard to get in as there is very limited space
- Limited appropriate care for school age children eg catering to their needs with more age related progress
- Limited government funding to allow for expansion of existing building
- The numbers allowed at the Centre is only 10 school children per day, so where do the other 200 students go?
- Nothing is available
- Distance to child care facilities for some being a time factor
- Costs for childcare centers are extreme. Those who want to work have little or no rebate from the government so pay high childcare costs and find it hard to get a place whereas unemployed mums/parents have high rebates up to 90% - why is that so – they could look after own children at home. Working parents are penalized for putting their children in care. It is often the case that it is not worth part time work and having children in care as sometimes you might only come home with \$20-\$30 a day after expenses. Doesn't seem to be a good work ethic. Government should help those that want to work.
- Variability in numbers requiring the service – often not a set time every week
- Most of these items greatly affect me as I am not located in the main township and have no choice for work as the only day care is in Kingscote

Would you like to be contacted by the KI Children's Service Centre if you have an interest in being involved in the expansion of childcare services on the island? yes no

Where “yes” has been indicated, contact details have been included in a separate document which is not for available for public information due to privacy issues.

*Prepared by:
Carron Wickens
Project Manager
1 August 2003*