

ALDINGA BEACH B-7 SCHOOL – CHILDREN’S CENTRE

Year Completed:	2014
Building Area:	750 sqm
Site Area:	4.1 Ha
Budget:	\$3.1m

The Aldinga Children’s Centre is a 65 place, indoor and outdoor learning environment for pre-school children from 3 to 5 years incorporating an Integrated Preschool Programme (IPP) for children with disabilities as well as occasional care. The Centre also provides a range of community, health and welfare services.

A seaside theme suffuses the outdoor activity area which provides opportunity for natural play with a series of landscaped ‘rooms’ each with their own character, textures, scents and sounds. The beach theme flows indoors with the timber ‘jetty’ ceiling suspended above the watery carpet. A sandy beach which meets the water’s edge to form a sinuous line weaving through the different activity areas.

The heart of the Centre is the Piazza, a welcoming central gathering space where children arrive and are collected, where community groups meet, where parents can get together with visiting education and medical specialists. The smell of coffee and baking from the kitchen, the airy and spacious feel of the high ceilings and clerestory windows and seating nooks invite visitors to stay a while or parents to come early, have a chat and await the children.

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