

# **Cambrai Preschool**

## **Philosophy Statement**

At Cambrai Preschool, we aim to provide a high quality educational service for children and families. We seek to develop effective partnerships between families, students, community and staff.

The guiding principles of the National Quality Framework are:

- The rights of the child are paramount
- Children are successful, competent and capable learners
- Equity, inclusion and diversity underpin the framework
- Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures are valued
- The roles of parents and families are respected and supported
- Best practice is expected in the provision of education and care services

These guiding principles underpin Cambrai Preschool's philosophy in conjunction with BELONGING, BEING & BECOMING The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia.

The outcomes for the Early Years Learning Framework are:

1. Children have a strong sense of identity
2. Children are connected with and contribute to their world
3. Children have a strong sense of wellbeing
4. Children are confident and involved learners
5. Children are effective communicators

These outcomes direct our daily actions and interactions with the children who are in our care and support the intentional planning of learning opportunities that are provided at this small, rural school based preschool.

## **With Respect to Children**

### ***We believe:***

- ☞ That each child is a unique individual whose social, cognitive, physical and emotional wellbeing develops at his/her own rate
- ☞ That children learn most effectively through play and hands-on experiences
- ☞ That partnerships with families enhance children's wellbeing and learning

### ***We aim to support this by:***

- ☞ Ensuring children feel safe, both physically and emotionally
- ☞ Providing a safe environment where children are encouraged to explore
- ☞ Providing a variety of learning experiences appropriate to their developmental needs which support the holistic development of a child
- ☞ Being respectful of each individual child and the family background from which he/she comes (social, physical, gender blend, religious, racial)
- ☞ Encouraging caring relationships with staff and other children
- ☞ Providing equity of opportunity to support learning

## **With Respect to Parents and Families**

### ***We believe:***

- ☞ That parents /guardians and family members are children's primary caregivers and, as such, have played the vital role of being their first educators. They continue to have a major impact on children's learning, as each child progresses through the various phases of development

### ***We aim to support this by:***

- ☞ Welcoming them into our preschool and providing a friendly, safe and caring environment where parents/guardians feel confident to leave their children
- ☞ Regularly sharing information about their children and making information on Early Childhood Services available to parents/guardians
- ☞ Informing and communicating with families through Communication Books, Newsletters, Floor Book, Development Folders, Parent/Teacher/Child Interviews and Statements of Learning (Annual Report)
- ☞ Supporting family units across a diversity of cultural and social backgrounds
- ☞ Together with valuing the involvement and participation of family members, encouraging open, meaningful communication
- ☞ Respecting their privacy and maintaining confidentiality

## **With Respect to Staff**

### ***We believe***

- 👉 That a positive, supportive environment is necessary for the ongoing wellbeing of staff, which impacts on the wellbeing of the children in their care

### ***We aim to provide this by:***

- 👉 Maintaining a safe working environment in accordance with Occupational Health & Safety requirements
- 👉 Supporting continuous learning by staff to maintain and enhance skills
- 👉 Supporting the participation of preschool representatives in whole-of-site governance (as part of the Cambrai Primary School & Preschool Governing Council Inc.)
- 👉 Actively encouraging quality communication between the preschool and home

### ***To ensure the provision of quality children's services, our staff will work as a team to:***

- 👉 Provide an environment for children which is friendly, caring and safe
- 👉 Ensure that each child is seen as an individual and value his/her uniqueness
- 👉 Develop effective and inclusive communication strategies with all children, parents/caregivers, staff and community members
- 👉 Demonstrate quality knowledge of child development through appropriate interactions with children and professional conversations with adults
- 👉 Provide a positive role model for children
- 👉 Demonstrate a commitment to the stated preschool philosophy and associated goals
- 👉 Always behave in a professional manner
- 👉 Maintain a high level of confidentiality at all times

## **With Respect to Governance**

### ***The Cambrai Primary School & Preschool Governing Council Inc.'s commitment to the Cambrai Preschool shall be demonstrated through:***

- 👉 Preschool families having representation on the Governing Council
- 👉 Meeting its legal obligations as an incorporated body and working within its constitutional framework to ensure quality outcomes for the children in the preschool and students in the primary school
- 👉 Responsible oversight of the funds and resources of both the preschool and primary school
- 👉 Providing opportunities for input and consultation

## **With Respect to the Broader Community**

### ***The Cambrai Preschool will promote quality children's services in the broader community through:***

- ☞ Supporting a mutual support network with other community agencies and service groups, such as Cambrai Playgroup, Cambrai Occasional Care, Barossa Early Childhood Intervention Services, Child & Youth Health Services, Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services
- ☞ The provision of opportunities for children to experience visits, excursions and interactions involving people in the wider community

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Chairperson  
Cambrai Primary School  
& Preschool  
Governing Council Inc.

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Michele Holloway  
Principal  
Cambrai Primary School  
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Charmaine Pietsch  
Preschool Teacher  
Cambrai Preschool

## **References:**

- 📖 BELONGING, BEING& BECOMING The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia 2009
- 📖 Implementation Guidelines for Indicators of Preschool Numeracy & Literacy 2015
- 📖 Cambrai Primary School and Preschool Parent Information Handbook 2018
- 📖 Code of Ethics for the South Australian Public Sector 2009
- 📖 Code of Ethics Overview 2015
- 📖 Code of Ethics for the Teaching Profession in South Australia 2017
- 📖 Early Childhood Australia Code of Ethics 2017
- 📖 CPS&P Staff & CPS&P Gov. Council Inc. discussion 2018