

Hackham West Children's Centre Philosophy

We value being welcoming, supportive, nurturing, reflective & kind



Our Place:

- Hackham West Children's Centre is a welcoming and inclusive centre offering long day care, kindergarten and allied health services across two sites. We are located amid a hub of other services including the local primary school and community centre.
- Our integrated kindergarten and care environments engage children from birth to five and include a vast natural play space inspiring imaginative play-based learning.
- Our community programs and services support families in their parenting roles and we welcome families' active involvement in decisions about the direction of the centre
- We are committed to providing safe spaces for children and families to connect, belong, learn and thrive. We listen and we care.

We believe:

- that children are individuals and develop best when they feel safe, have an active voice in their learning and feel supported to gain confidence to explore, grow and learn.
- that families are the most important people in children's lives. When we partner with them and listen, we can help them to be the best they can be to support their child's learning and growth.
- that we make sense of the world through relationships, who we are, where we belong and who we belong with. Therefore, honest, trusting, reciprocal relationships are the keystone of our centre and the pivotal part of our commitment to families and children.
- that working collaboratively as an integrated multi-disciplinary team and drawing on the varied skills, backgrounds and experiences of individuals enables us to support ourselves and our community to thrive and grow.
- that the community is our strength and our voice. Our community is made up of children, families, extended families, friends, volunteers, businesses and supportive agencies. Strong communities have strong outcomes for children and families.
- a safe, stimulating, supportive and sustainable environment promotes engagement of our children and families
- the environment in which we all grow and learn provides opportunities for understanding our world and those we share it with.

We will:

- ✚ provide high quality learning environments that are responsive to each child's emotional, physical and educational needs and interests.
- ✚ encourage and support children's explorations and provide a safe base for them to reconnect.
- ✚ provide safe environments that lift up children's voices and support them in becoming confident, caring and kind individuals.
- ✚ welcome and listen to all families and acknowledge their central role in their child's life. We acknowledge that families come in a variety of configurations and that each and every one is valuable and important.
- ✚ strive to meet the changing needs of each individual family and help enhance the self-worth and strength of every person who comes through the door by building and maintaining safe and trustworthy relationships.
- ✚ be committed to developing our personal and professional knowledge and to providing a supportive network to strengthen our practice.
- ✚ provide regular opportunities to reflect on our practice in a variety of team settings acknowledging the diversity and flexibility within the team.
- ✚ as professionals be kind, thoughtful and respectful towards each other ensuring staff feel safe and valued.
- ✚ provide a variety of programs to engage children and families within the centre. These programs will be accessible, adaptable, relevant and designed with our families and community in mind. All staff will have a knowledge of these programs and engage and refer families.
- ✚ invite families to events that promote family and community inclusion which aim to strengthen connections in each child's world.
- ✚ endeavour to provide high quality and responsive community programs that are supported by skilled professionals.
- ✚ be evidence informed when providing opportunities for children and families to engage with programs.
- ✚ help children understand the importance of their role in their environment by encouraging and modelling care and appreciation of our space and those within it.
- ✚ provide environments for our children and families that promote a culture of wonder and curiosity in their world.
- ✚ commit to learning together about the small and achievable steps we can take towards embedding more sustainable practices.