

“It takes a village to raise a child”

At Mitcham Village Kindergarten, we strive to create a community where children, families and educators work together to provide the best foundation for each child’s individual development and growth. We believe that all children are competent and capable learners.

Relationships: We support children’s sense of belonging, being and becoming. Thus we develop relationships with children, families and the wider community to support your child’s growing, unique identity. With a teaching team unified through commitment, philosophy and practice we acknowledge, respond and plan for each child’s strengths, abilities and interests to ensure motivation and engagement in holistic learning activities. We want to achieve the best possible outcome for every child. We respect diversity and are committed to developing cultural competence to promote understanding, communication and equity.

Environment: Young children learn through play, manipulation of materials and ideas as their learning schemes grow. Hence our inside and outside environments are designed to encourage multiple levels of experience, challenge, independence, team work and revisitation. This supports intentional teaching and child led inquiry based learning, both of which require a scaffolded learning environment to enable further exploration and the hundreds of ways children can express their learning. Our beautiful natural outdoor environment is an amazing place for learning; it is flexibly arranged to provide for children’s interests and development. Together we will learn how to care for and preserve our local environment and actively develop understanding and action about ecologically sustainable practices.

Curriculum: Our curriculum reflects high expectations for learning and a cycle of rigorous planning, documenting and evaluation. Our program encapsulates children’s strengths and interests while ensuring a comprehensive Early Years Learning curriculum that concurrently supports dispositions for learning (like curiosity, cooperation, confidence, creativity, commitment, enthusiasm, persistence.) and children’s physical, social and emotional development. The principles of Reggio Emilia underpin our practice and aspects of literacy and numeracy are woven through learning experiences that inspire play, exploration and self-discovery. We provide opportunities for intellectual stretch and promote the development of growth mindsets, by inspiring children to take risks and persevere in a safe and encouraging environment.

We respect our families as the first teachers of their children, and look forward to working together to help your child to develop into their shining, confident and unique self.