

# Mount Gambier Children's Centre

## Our place

Mount Gambier Children's Centre is a welcoming and inclusive centre offering integrated service provision for children and families including preschool, occasional care, playgroup, speech pathology, parenting programs and community development. We are co-located with Mulga Street Primary School and our support services extend out to the wider community, including the Melaleuca Hub.

We provide a nurturing space for children and families to learn, connect and thrive. Our nature inspired and flexible learning spaces stimulate curiosity, a sense of wonder, exploration, growth, creativity and critical thinking.

We value each child and family and work to compliment families in the care and education of their children as together we nurture the next generation of respectful, caring and capable leaders and community members. We are dedicated to listening to families and welcome families' active involvement in decision making and future directions of the Centre.

We acknowledge the strong connection that our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have with the land and our local community and we strive to reflect and actively support this.

## Our Values

We value being

- Nurturing
- Empathic
- Supportive
- Respectful
- Inclusive.

## Our Beliefs

We believe

- children are capable and competent individuals who are rich in potential. Every child is unique with their own feelings and perspectives and has the right to be seen and heard
- children thrive when they have opportunities to co-construct their learning, challenge themselves and develop dispositions for lifelong learning
- every family is unique and brings their own values, culture and experiences. Working together with families supports children's growth, wellbeing and learning. Families thrive when they have a sense of belonging in a community
- a calm, welcoming and inclusive environment creates a sense of belonging which encourages engagement and connection. Nature inspired and flexible learning spaces stimulate curiosity, a sense of wonder, exploration, growth, creativity and critical thinking.
- an inclusive community fosters a sense of belonging, authentic connection and shared purpose. A community thrives when there are reflective respectful partnerships which promote a sense of agency, engagement, and capacity building.

## Our Commitments

We will have high expectations for every child by respecting, listening, responding and providing individualized learning opportunities.

We will intentionally extend children's thinking and theories and build their sense of agency. We will foster children's learning dispositions including being collaborative, resourceful, purposeful and persistent.

We will strive to develop relationships with families that enable them to feel valued, included and supported so they can contribute and participate in the community.

We will actively collaborate with families to share insights, knowledge and perspectives to achieve best outcomes for their child.

We will ensure that all children and their families see themselves reflected in our environment.

We will provide environments that promote wonder and curiosity and celebrate nature in both indoor and outdoor spaces.

We will provide programs and opportunities that support families and build the capacity of the community.