



Paralowie Kindergarten

## Philosophy

### Learning:

- We value a play-based curriculum that supports each child to develop and build independence, confidence, curiosity, persistence, cooperation, creativity, resilience, and respect. Each child's uniqueness and prior knowledge is recognised, and opportunities are provided for scaffolding learning.
- Our intention is to be playful and for play to be open ended, child led, child initiated, educator initiated, engaging and fun!
- We believe that foundations for literacy and numeracy are strongly established through the play-based curriculum. Intentional teaching groups in literacy and numeracy are completed daily as is regular assessments.
- We believe in providing an environment that supports all children to be successful and to acknowledge achievement. Children are supported at their level of development and regularly assessed.
- We value our outdoor space as an essential feature of our learning environment. This space invites open-ended interactions, spontaneity, risk taking, exploration, discovery, and connections with nature.
- We acknowledge that the kindergarten is built on the traditional lands of the Kurna people and aim to develop awareness of Australia's Aboriginal heritage as a part of our learning program, including the children developing a group Kurna acknowledgement.

### Teaching:

- We encourage ongoing professional development and collaborative practice for all staff; to ensure that planning for learning supports the program, the needs of individual children and the kindergarten community. Staff will engage in reflection and analysis of themselves and the program. We believe that this will ensure that we offer a high-quality education with high expectations of the program, educators, and children.
- We aim to intentionally teach children about sustainable practices. This promotes children's understanding about their responsibility to care for the environment, this includes growing our own vegetables and the children participating in our sites recycling program.

### Community:

- Our intention is to provide a welcoming environment that is supportive and positive; that promotes belonging and community and that encourages the involvement of families in the program. A setting where families are valued and recognised as their child's first educators and where children, families, staff, and community work together as co-constructors of children's learning.
- We believe in the importance of having open lines of communication with families and positive interactions with children and when necessary to act as advocates for children and their families within the wider community. We use a range of communication platforms to ensure information is delivered promptly.
- We believe in building strong, long lasting relationships with children, families, and the community.

- We value and respect the diverse cultures of families belonging to our community. We encourage the sharing of cultural traditions and practices.
- We value a sustainable community that develops respect for each other and our environment and that is aesthetically pleasing.

*At Paralowie Kindergarten we believe that a philosophy is a working, living document that evolves with the community as new insights are gained and practice is evaluated. Therefore, our philosophy will be reviewed on an annual basis.*

**To be reviewed January 2024**