

Eudunda Community Preschool Centre Philosophy Statement

Play

Share

Learn

Grow

At Eudunda Community Preschool Centre we aim to provide a high quality equitable education service, which is welcoming, caring, safe, stimulating and interactive. We aim to be responsive to the needs of the children by providing an inviting learning environment, purposeful and thoughtful intentional teaching and opportunities for learning through play. 'Play fosters all aspects of young children's development...emotional, social, intellectual, linguistic and physical. Play is essential for optimal development and learning in young children.' (Van Hoorn, Nourot, Scales, Alward, 2011. 'Play at the Centre of the Curriculum') We see children as capable, competent and active learners from birth. Our Centre provides a physical environment that is inclusive, promotes competence, independent exploration, curiosity, discovery and learning through collaborative, social play. We believe quality relationships are the key to developing social and emotional wellbeing in young children. We aim to ensure that every child is supported to build and maintain sensitive and responsive relationships with other children and adults, relationships that promote a sense of security and belonging. We recognise families as children's first and most influential teachers and value each family's knowledge of their child. We believe that families are central to a child's early learning, so we aim to strengthen our partnerships with families and within the community.

Our teaching and learning programs and assessment practices are aligned to the Early Years Learning Framework. The framework forms the foundation for ensuring children experience quality teaching and learning that enhances each child's learning and development. We promote each child's health and their emotional and physical wellbeing through the educational programs provided. A cycle of continuous quality improvement and ongoing critical reflection ensures that our practices meet the rights and best interests of each child. We ensure staffing arrangements enhance children's learning and development and ensure their safety and well-being, by providing high quality, informed professional practice. Effective leadership is provided to promote a positive organisational culture and build a professional learning community.

Our philosophy was developed in 2013 and is reviewed annually in consultation with staff, Governing Council and families through discussions and surveys/questionnaires about families and staff values and beliefs. Our 'Mantra'- Play, Share, Learn, Grow - was created by the Governing Council as a summary of our Philosophy. The principles of our philosophy are embedded in our practice and incorporated in our interactions with families and children. Practice, policies and procedures are reviewed with these principles in mind. Our Philosophy was reviewed against the new NQS Regs in 2019, and was reviewed early in 2020 due to new staff and Governing Council.