

Statement of Philosophy

Aim

The educators and parents of the centre will work together to continually provide high quality care and support for families to achieve better outcomes in our community. Each child that attends our service has the right to positive experiences throughout childhood and the centre will support this by providing a safe and nurturing educational environment to meet the needs of the families to feel more connected within our community. Our belief is that children learn through play with environmental enrichment and intentional teaching by highly qualified educators.

For the Children

We will promote self-esteem and the rights of the children in our society, whilst encouraging individuality. The staff will plan for all areas of development whilst providing a stimulating, safe and non-threatening environment.

The children will experience a caring, positive program that will promote self-worth. Children with special needs as well as those who come from a multicultural background will have their needs planned for, in consultation with families and support agencies, to ensure their families are connected and supported. All children will be encouraged to develop self-reliance skills and to express themselves verbally and artistically via creative activities/experiences such as artwork, music and movement and dramatic play. Excursions and visitors will be planned to extend children's experience in areas of interest.

Staff will be positive role models to the children at all times. The staff will relate to children with empathetic understanding, building relationships with children individually and in groups. Strategies will be planned to promote children's well-being and development. We will focus on the process or experience rather than the final product as children learn through the process of play and this will enhance their brain development. Children's efforts will be recognised and valued and a positive self-esteem will be nurtured.

For Staff

Where possible the Centre will operate with a range of staff both male and female of varied ages and outlooks. Our staff will be nurturing, friendly, caring professionals that are skilled in early childhood development and health, who strive to meet the needs of children as individuals and who work with and support parents. The Centre will aim to provide a good working environment that encourages staff to stay for a reasonable period of time and promote a stable warm relationship with other staff, parents, children and Community networks.

Provide a positive work environment where staff will be respected, valued, supported, consulted and informed. Confidentiality will be respected and maintained. Staff will be encouraged to make use of the opportunities for training, as they become available.

Regular staff meetings, performance appraisals and programming time will be planned to ensure staff are provided with time to communicate, plan and be informed and consulted on matters affecting the Centre. All staff will be encouraged to develop their own ideas and share in-group decisions.

For Parents/Guardians, Families and Community.

All staff will approach parents with a non-judgemental, informative, friendly and professional manner. Parents will be welcomed at the Centre. Parents will have many opportunities to become involved with the Centre and to share their ideas and opinions and skills. Staff will provide occasions for consultation regarding all aspects of care, policies and programming. The Governing Council, sub-committees, newsletters and questionnaires are some of the vehicles that provide opportunities for parents to participate.

Parents and their families are to be assured that educators will support parents/guardians and maintain confidentiality regarding any concerns they may have. The staff values families of the Centre of all cultures and are respected, supported and valued, and will be provided a high quality, flexible environment for their children. All staff will behave in an empathetic manner towards parents. The staff will endeavour to instil confidence in the parents who trust the staff with the care of their children.

The positive effects that result from support and education of the children and their families using care will be promoted. Parents and staff will be encouraged to inform the Community that the Centre is available to anyone and provides a number of flexible session times. Opportunities will be explored to encourage associated organisations to utilise the Centre.