

## **Our philosophy statement**

At Barbara Kiker Memorial Kindergarten we are committed to providing a quality educational program that is inclusive for all children. We believe that children learn best through play and that a kindergarten curriculum needs to acknowledge that all children come to kindergarten with prior knowledge. It is our role to build on this knowledge and facilitate learning by providing experiences that foster problem solving skills, resourcefulness, risk taking, social and emotional wellbeing and physical skills.

As Early Childhood professionals we have an obligation to every child to maximise their learning potential while they attend our kindergarten program. At Barbara Kiker we are driven by the children's curiosity and passion for learning. We acknowledge the cultural and individual dispositions and interests of children and incorporate these into our teaching plans.

Our core teaching staff are highly qualified, and have extensive experience in providing high quality experiences for young children where children are consulted and encouraged to be active and autonomous in their own learning. We promote a culture of inquiry and take a holistic approach to literacy, numeracy, science and wellbeing, where the environment provides for integrated and multifaceted learning. Our environment supports children to utilise nature as a tool for their learning providing children the opportunities to investigate, create, inquire and imagine through play based engagement with nature. We aim to build resilience by encouraging children to take risks, problem solve and learn from mistakes.

We believe in providing a strong community culture where families are active participants in their child's learning, and we encourage feedback from families to continually ensure that the directions of the kindergarten are respectful of the current needs of the community.

Our improvement culture promotes change in a way that ensures we are always responsive to the needs of the community, utilise current research, identify and share best practice in order to maximise the learning opportunities for staff, parents and children to learn together.