



MICHELLE DeGARIS MEMORIAL KINDERGARTEN

10 Price Avenue, Naracoorte S.A. 5271
Telephone (08) 8762 1086, Fax (08) 8762 0862

Play, Learn, and Grow Together

We are committed to providing a welcoming, safe, friendly environment that caters for the needs, interests and differences of children, their families and our staff. We are committed to ensuring optimal holistic development of each child. We aim to develop meaningful experiences which enable children to play, learn and grow together as they explore their own interests, ideas and environments. We are committed to ongoing, continuous reflection and improvement in all aspects of our service.

We believe all children are:

- Active, self motivated learners who construct their own learning
- Curious learners who actively explore their environment
- Unique and naturally capable and competent
- Natural researchers who hypothesise, experiment, investigate, inquire and problem solve

We endeavour to ensure our centre:

- Is child safe
- Is enticing, fun, stimulating and engaging
- Values the importance of play
- Promotes physical, social, emotional and creative growth
- Is welcoming to a diverse range of cultures
- Has high expectations for individual success
- Provides challenging experiences to extend children's learning

We believe in:

- Actively listening to, valuing and extending on children's ideas, opinions and input
- Developing warm, secure, responsive and reciprocal relationships with all participants within the centre
- Educating children about sustainability and promoting positive ecological outcomes for our world
- Intentional teaching to extend children's learning
- Open communication with families
- Helping children to care for, appreciate and respect other's rights
- Providing a safe, hygienic environment, by encouraging healthy practices
- Positive interactions between staff, parents and children

We offer a supportive learning environment:

- For children by selecting appropriate staff who love children and are motivated, sensitive and responsive to the needs of children and families
- By providing training for staff so they are capable of delivering the highest standard of care and education
- By facilitating a culture of reflective practice and striving for ongoing improvement in practices

We follow the Early Years Learning Framework – Belonging, Being, Becoming:

- **Belonging:** Encouraging the child to feel secure and comfortable within their surroundings, to build confidence and self esteem and forge relationships
- **Being:** Recognising the importance of children's right to be a child and experience the joy of childhood. This involves children developing an awareness of their social and cultural heritage, gender and their significance in the world
- **Becoming:** Acknowledging the growth and development that happens in the first five years of life and the importance of nurturing each child's wellbeing whilst learning, building and shaping their identity, through evolving experiences and relationships which include change and transitions

