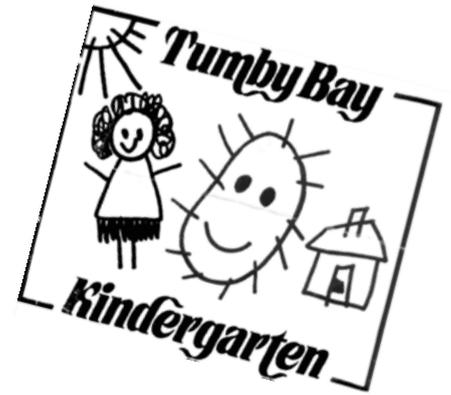


# Philosophy Statement

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**We believe all children should be treated as individuals. We will respect their uniqueness, value their beliefs treat them equitably and nurture their individual personalities. We believe that every child has the right to be listened to, cared for and loved. We believe that positive experiences and interventions in the early years can influence a child's well-being now and in the future.**

We believe children are successful, competent and capable learners, that play is “children’s work “and is the way children learn and make sense of their world. We believe that the curriculum provided at the centre, should be a dynamic program that scaffolds children’s learning in all developmental areas, and that follow the interests, strengths and needs of all children. We encourage children to explore expressive arts through music, dance and drama to foster individual creativity. Ensure our outdoor environment actively engages children and provides a balance of spontaneous and intentional opportunities for children to assess, take risks and build resilience. As a centre we provide resources to explore, respect and reflect diversity.

**We believe that learning takes place in many different forms, and that by taking advantage of spontaneous experiences alongside that written programme, an holistic curriculum is delivered.**

## **In respect to children we will:**

- Act in the best interests of all children.
- Respect the special relationship between children and their families and incorporate this perspective into all our interactions with children.
- Treat all children as equals, without bias towards gender, race, abilities, culture & religion.
- Ensure they are safe and protected at all times.
- Treat each child with respect, understanding and tolerance.
- Enhance each child’s strengths, competence and self-esteem.
- Honour each child’s right to play and the value of play in early childhood development.

***In respect to families we will:***

Develop partnerships and engage in open, communicative relationships that allows for the exchange of information and shared decision making.

Assist each family to develop a sense of belonging and inclusion.

Maintain confidentiality and respect the right of the family to privacy.

Acknowledge and respect the uniqueness of each family and strive to learn about their beliefs, culture or religion including Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islander families.

Encourage family participation within the program.

Assist them to access appropriate community services when needed.

***In respect to relationships we will:***

Give priority to nurturing secure relationships with children to support the development of a strong sense of well being.

Ensure that all relationships within the Centre environment are respectful, communicative and professional.

Ensure that we respect the uniqueness of our fellow staff members, families and visitors and work as a team to enhance the outcomes for our children.

***In respect to our environment we will:***

Ensure it provides a diverse range of experiences to promote children's learning and development.

Create and maintain happy, welcoming, safe and healthy settings to maximise engagement and positive relationships.

Design or adapt facilities to ensure access and participation by all children including inclusion of children with special needs.

Ensure that it reflects the diversity of all children and is welcoming to children and families from a range of cultural backgrounds.

Ensure it allows children to make choices, giving them ownership over their decisions.

Ensure it is opened-ended, well resourced, stimulating and enjoyable.

***In respect to communities we will:***

Connect with people, services and agencies that support children and families.

Acknowledge all stakeholders, and reflect their beliefs, cultures and traditions within our community including Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islander families.

Utilise appropriate services within our community, to add to the fullness and richness of our programs.

***In respect to curriculum we will:***

In partnership with families work within the Early Years Learning Framework to provide interesting, meaningful and dynamic programs that foster all areas of development and stimulate learning in children.

Develop shared planning, monitoring and assessment practices for children's learning.

Act upon spontaneous opportunities and use these hand in hand with written programme to provide a rich and full learning environment.

Use observations, photographs and staff/parent/child conversations to plan and implement programs to achieve learning outcomes.