

Vale Park Preschool Educational Philosophy - 2023

The foundation for lifelong learning is established in the early years of a child's life. We value children as curious, independent, capable and competent learners who question and investigate their world while developing their learning identity.

Our learning environment enables children to co-construct their learning through involvement in authentic experiences embracing the cultures, values and interests of our families, local communities and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.

The planning cycle informs the emerging curriculum through regular collaborative reflection and analysis of children's engagement, interests, dispositions and abilities. Family and child input is sought and valued as part of this process.

The curriculum is implemented through intentional teaching moments and play based experiences in conjunction with an Inquiry Approach. The Early Years Learning Framework guides our practice into which we incorporate the Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum, Indicators of Preschool Literacy/Numeracy as well as Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

We seek to facilitate an environment where children:

- Feel a strong sense of self and cultural identity.
- Are valued, confident and feel a sense of belonging.
- Develop positive and respectful relationships with their peers, educators and the environment.
- Take responsibility for their health, physical and emotional wellbeing and the natural world.
- Develop a range of skills and processes necessary for life including inquiry, investigation, critical thinking, persistence and resilience which includes risk taking.
- Communicate in multiple ways for a range of purposes.

As educators at Vale Park Preschool we:

- Respect and respond to children in a caring, positive and thoughtful manner.
- Provide a challenging and inclusive environment.
- Work in partnerships with families, the community and relevant professionals to share knowledge and engage in collaborative decision making.
- Regularly reflect on our practise and participate in ongoing Professional Training and Development.
- Work collaboratively embracing each other's knowledge, skills and strengths.
- Are open to new ideas and challenges.
- Have high expectations for ourselves and the children.

Vision statement

Children are curious, independent, capable and competent learners who investigate their world. Authentic relationships nurture children's sense of belonging and, combined with a high quality learning environment, enables children to deeply engage in play based experiences. This strengthens their dispositions for learning which extend their understanding of themselves and their world.

Mission Statement

Educators at Vale Park Preschool are committed to enhancing children's understanding of the world around them and their sense of self and learning identity, so that they can become fulfilled and reflective individuals, and active compassionate citizens.