

Statement of Intent



We believe that each child's rights are of paramount importance.

Therefore we:

- > Foster in each child a strong sense of belonging to our community of learners and an understanding of their responsibility.
- > Recognise that participation looks different for everyone.
- > Promote a strong image of childhood, seeing the child for all that he/she can do.
- > Listen to children and their many languages to inform our practice.
- > Value and promote a strong sense of agency.
- > Place the child's voice at the centre of all that we do.
- > Provide a safe and secure environment.
- > Value each child's originality, their point of difference and how we all work together.
- > Value the cultural diversity of each child and acknowledge and celebrate this.
- > Involve children in decision making and critical thinking.
- > Understand that each child brings their own story.
- > Believe each child has the right to develop an understanding of our Indigenous culture.
- > Respect each child.

We believe that collaborative, respectful and equitable relationships should be fostered for the benefit of all community members.

Therefore we:

- > Build a strong sense of belonging by welcoming and connecting families into our community.
- > Foster and value connections and relationships across our centre between children, families and educators.
- > Assist in creating a supportive transition between home, ELC and school.
- > Use reciprocal communication for the benefit of all.
- > Value families as partners in their child's learning journey and welcome their active participation.
- > Provide a range of opportunities for our community to connect.
- > Work in partnership with families and agencies to inform, plan and practice to ensure we are meeting each child's needs and fostering their well-being.
- > Recognise that the co-construction of knowledge facilitates and enhances everybody's learning.
- > Recognise that the child's learning does not stand alone but is enriched through the reciprocal sharing of skills and perspectives.

- > Seek opportunities to increase respect and strengthen relationships between the wider Australian community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
- > Value the wider school as an integral aspect of our community.

We believe the environment plays a pivotal role in our children's learning.

Therefore we:

- > Encourage children to respect, care for and take responsibility for the natural and man-made environment.
- > Provide and promote an inclusive environment that fosters quality interactions and engagement.
- > Surround children with an engaging and beautiful environment which enables them to explore their world through play and inquiry.
- > Provide an environment that reflects our strong image of the child as capable, resourceful and rich in possibilities.
- > Acknowledge a continuing relationship with the Kurna people, the traditional custodians of the land upon which our school stands.
- > Extend our children's relationship to the land through our connections with Ferguson Park.

Statement of Intent continued

We believe it is our responsibility to provide the best Early Childhood practice.

Therefore we:

- > Establish clear routines to support children's learning.
- > Build children's capacity for self-regulation.
- > Empower confidence and risk taking in all that we do.
- > Encourage and support the development of children's resilience.
- > Recognise that our world is not always predictable and support children to manage change.
- > Value the child 'being' in the here and now.

We believe that it is our responsibility to CARE for the whole child.

Therefore we:

- > Have an understanding of current neuroscience and child development to support optimal development.
- > Promote a balanced lifestyle by encouraging healthy eating, physical learning experiences and rest.
- > Empower children to recognise and assess the risks and benefits in their active explorations.
- > Facilitate the growth and stimulation of an active mind and positive dispositions for learning.
- > Foster a strong sense of well-being.
- > Provide a safe and nurturing environment.

We believe that children learn best through a rich play and inquiry based pedagogy.

Therefore we:

- > Underpin our practice by embedding the principles of the Reggio Emilia approach, the Early Years Learning Framework and the Primary Years Programme.
- > Develop international mindedness and a sense of responsibility for the shared guardianship of our world.
- > Foster children's capacity as researchers.
- > Nurture and enhance children's creativity.
- > Promote educators to be co-researchers with the children, constructing knowledge together.
- > Work in partnership with the child as an active researcher.
- > Actively embed the practice of co-constructing knowledge through our inquiry pedagogy.

We have a strong image of the educator.

Therefore we:

- > Promote a culture of lifelong learning.
- > Approach our profession with a research lens.
- > Facilitate a professional learning community.
- > Ensure maximum and effective communication between educators.
- > Are advocates for childhood.

