

THE KINDER GARDEN

We the Early Childhood Educators of The Kinder Garden, will be recognised for our professionalism, our dedication and commitment to provide our 0-5 year old children with an environment that is:

Happy, Warm and Friendly
Challenging and Stimulating
Hygienic and Healthy

Creative, Fun and Exciting
Supervised, Safe and Secure
Loving, Caring and Respectful

We believe that quality childcare is a vital element in giving Australian children the best possible start in life. The first five years is therefore a time of great vulnerability and special significance.

Our Children

Our Philosophy:

For our children we believe:

- All of our children should be treated equally, respected and celebrated with regard of age, gender, creed, ethnic background and personality

Our Aims:

Through our practises we will:

- Regularly observe and monitor children's interests and development through learning stories, communicating with them and their families and playing with each child.
 - We ensure that all children's interests and needs are reflected upon to develop and celebrate
 - Ask parents to provide information about each child and their home life to create a sense of belonging in the centre for each child
 - We celebrate and encourage children to share and learn about their differences to build tolerance and awareness of others in our community
 - We program activities and learning to develop each child's individual needs (becoming and being)
 - Be flexible in routines to cater for each child's needs (sleeping, food and programming) ensuring the well being of each child
 - Respectfully communicate and interact with each child giving them time and opportunity to reflect and share their ideas, knowledge and needs to guide us as Educators to move their learning forward
 - Through the interaction create a situation where the children feel safe, valued and listened to
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- Offer a range of experiences, that are: structured, child initiated, whole group choices, extension from families and spontaneous input throughout the various age
 - Provide a variety of resources to encourage and promote exploration
 - Help children to learn appropriate play skills in order for them to develop
 - Play with children

- The value of play provides opportunities for children to make choices, develop new skills, solve problems, take risks, make mistakes, work with others and make sense of the world they live in

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children grow and develop at their own individual pace 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each program is based on the learning stories of individual and groups of children, parent input and children's own ideas and knowledge, community input and intentional teaching • Ask parents to provide information on family traditions, and events to celebrate at the centre and create a sense of belonging to each child • We offer a range of activities in all learning areas across each age group to allow children to play at their own level • Monitor children and provide transition time and activities to ensure they are ready for the moving to older age groups. • Provide positive toileting and nappy changing experiences for all children • Work with other professional bodies to assist in children in all areas of development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In helping children build a positive self image in order to become successful learners, to love and respect themselves and others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilise external agencies for guidance in teaching children social skills and self esteem i.e. PALS program • Celebrate children's achievements that happen within or outside the centre • Record children's daily happenings in learning stories and ask children their ideas /reflections and input into decision making • Display children's artwork, photos, projects and achievements in rooms and around the centre • Food and nutrition awareness and healthy lifestyle practices • Promoting respect for self image to help respect for others and long term aims in anti bullying behaviours • Ensure through respectful communications and interactions the emotional wellbeing of each child is preserved and built on
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In helping children develop a foundation for building food handling skills, an early knowledge of nutrition, an appreciation of food and an awareness of food allergies in others and themselves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer a variety of meals which makes use of seasonal ingredients. The menu is planned three weeks in advance • Menu is consistent with the Nutrition Checklist for LDC menu planning • Ensure children's meal time experiences are positive by sitting with the children • Discuss with children the importance of nutrition and healthy eating including food allergy issues • Plan cooking activities • Celebrate multicultural foods and help children be aware of different foods from around the world • Help children be aware of and understand different religious/cultural needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In promoting healthy lifestyle by helping children make healthy lifestyle choices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer a range of physical activities to help develop all areas of physical development • Help children to understand how their bodies move through activities such as gymnastics, dance and simple exercise activities • Provide rest time with relaxing music

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take children on walks • Encourage hygiene skills and practices
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In nurturing children's relationships with peers, adults and family members within the centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer small group interactions • Teach and encourage positive social skills. • Play and interact positively with all children • Comfort and nurture children • Offer a secure and welcoming atmosphere. • Role model good relationships between staff and other adults • The environment is conducive for play and interaction of siblings and other family members throughout the day, which promotes the family bonds and therefore shared experiences to discuss at home • Ask families to share photos and information on family events for children to share and show to peers and staff • Invite families to social functions at the centre
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In helping children understanding the role technology plays in our world 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Giving young children opportunities to explore different mediums to promote an awareness of use in everyday lives and to build the basic foundations of exposure and boundaries