



Children's Services Division

Out of School Hours Care

Philosophy

"Children learn to know, to do, to be, to live together and to transform oneself and society"
(United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, UNESCO).

- We believe in acknowledging the traditional custodians of this land, the Gumbaynggirr people and their Elders, past and present, on which we learn and work together, and commit to building relationships, respect and opportunities for all Aboriginal people in our region.*
- We believe that our philosophy reflects the school age educational framework, My Time, Our Place, National Quality Standards, Australia Code of Ethics and United Nations Rights of the Child.*
- We believe to provide school age care learning environment, where educators are able to collaborate with children to provide play and leisure opportunities that are meaningful to children and support their wellbeing, learning and development.*
- We believe children should be encouraged and supported to make their own decisions and choices to enhance their problem solving skills and to extend their life skills and develop dispositions towards citizenship.*
- We believe that each child and their family's values, culture, abilities and language should be acknowledged and accepted and be reflected in the educational environment.*
- We believe in open communication, inclusive practices and diversity through programs and attitudes will contribute to the development of the whole child*
- We believe that school age children encounter learning in a wide range of settings. Their family, school and the community environments provide diverse opportunities for children to explore relationships and concepts, and to foster competence and skills.*

- *We believe that children need appropriate adult role models who will have a positive influence on their self esteem, promote the rights and responsibilities of children, and exemplify fairness and honesty*
- *We believe that we create a welcoming environment where all children and families are respected and actively encouraged to collaborate with educators about program decisions in order to ensure that experiences are meaningful. We believe that Families and Community members are more likely to be engaged in and cooperate with service providers when they have a sense of belonging and respect for one another*
- *We believe that our program uses reflective practices as it is a form of ongoing learning that involves engaging with questions of philosophy, ethics and practice. Its intention is to gather information and gain insights that support, inform and enrich decision making about children's wellbeing and development.*
- *We believe that children's developmental experiences are enhanced by the provision of opportunities for fun, freedom, choice, individuality, new experiences, challenges and happy memories*
- *We believe in the value of friendships, the child, individuals, the importance of play the family unit, and community based educational services.*
- *Community involvement is supported and encouraged through networking with other community organisations and utilising community resources in programs for children, families and staff.*
- *We believe that we have a responsibility to implement sustainable practices in every aspect of our organisation and to teach children about sustainable practices. Children have a right to have a sustainable future. Children will be the policy makers and leaders of the future, so what we teach them today about the environment will directly influence the long term health of the planet.*