

Our Statement of Philosophy

Our Children's Centre philosophy is grounded in relational pedagogy, viewing learning as a journey that grows through educators building trusting respectful relationships between children, families, other educators, and the community. Our approach emphasises the importance of attachment relationships providing children with a safe base with their primary educator from which they can explore and provide a safe haven and comfort. We view each child as competent, capable, and filled with potential, each bringing unique perspectives and strengths. By honouring their voices and choices, we empower children to shape their learning, fostering confidence, curiosity, and agency.

As an integrated site our approach positively supports continuity of learning, beginning with early parenting groups, health support and playgroups, extending through to our occasional care and preschool programs, providing a supportive environment for families and children at every stage. Through partnerships with our Allied Health team, we offer early intervention support to meet children's developmental needs, ensuring each child has access to support that develops a strong foundation for learning and well-being.

Our emergent curriculum is guided by critical reflection informing our practice, through demonstrating an understanding of children's strengths, interests, development and wellbeing and inclusion. Educators observe and respond, designing learning experiences that build on children's natural curiosity, creating meaningful learning. Play is central to this process, including play that encourages risk taking and sensory exploration. We embrace play in all weather, seeing nature as a powerful teacher that fosters resilience, adaptability, and respect for the environment. Our Bush and Beach Kindy program further extends learning in nature offering diverse opportunities for play and development, positively impacting children's health, wellbeing and learning.

We are committed to honouring and embedding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives, embedding Kurna knowledge, and fostering an appreciation for their cultural and heritage beliefs. In collaboration with families we celebrate and respect the diverse backgrounds of all children. We provide opportunities for all children to see themselves reflected in the environment building strong identities and a culturally safe and secure environment.

Through this holistic approach, we nurture compassionate, resilient learners who feel empowered, valued, and ready to engage with the world around them.

October 2024



Mark Oliphant College B-12
Children's Centre
for Early Childhood
Development and Parenting