

Hendon Preschool Philosophy Statement

Our philosophy reflects what we value and believe about Early Childhood Education. It outlines the beliefs we adhere to in our interactions with children. It includes the perspectives of the staff, families and children at Hendon Preschool.

We respectfully acknowledge the Kurna people of the Adelaide Plains as the custodians of the land on which we play and learn at Hendon Preschool. We seek to embed an authentic Indigenous perspective to all our learning.

Educators believe that wellbeing is at the centre of everything we do. That every child has the right to feel physically and emotionally safe at preschool. Educators embed inclusive learning opportunities and trauma informed practices. Our families value the kindness and warmth shown towards the children. They value that the children are happy to be here. The children value the relationships with the educators and feel connected, safe and secure, "The teachers look after us and help us to feel safe".

Our educators believe that children are lifelong learners who have the right to a high-quality education in a safe, nurturing, and stimulating environment. Our families and children value our inviting play spaces, both indoors and outdoors, "I like to play on the climbing frame and the swings".

Educators believe children have the right to be heard and contribute their ideas, fostering their sense of agency. They have choices within the day and uninterrupted play opportunities to explore, learn, and collaborate with others. We support children to thrive in a play-based curriculum that is responsive to their individual needs. Families value the inclusion of real-life experiences into the curriculum. The children value "playing with my friends", "going outside" and "lots of toys".

Educators value a positive site culture, ensuring a welcoming, fun environment for all children, families and educators. We respectfully work in partnership with families and the wider community to ensure high quality practice and outcomes for all children. Through our integration with Hendon Primary school and our year-long transition program, our community playgroup and our cultural connections we value our community. Our families value our communication and making learning visible to them. The children say, "I have fun at Kindy."

Educators respect, support and celebrate children's individuality and cultural backgrounds. Families value their children learning Kurna words, and the embedding of culture through stories and experiences. Educators empower children to develop independence and responsibility for them to become active, sustainable and competent citizens in their world. Educators believe that children are competent and capable learners. Families value that we support their children to be confident and independent learners and that we are welcoming and inclusive. Children value the variety of experiences and feel safe and valued, for example, "I like cooking" and "The teachers are kind".