

Swan Reach & District Preschool

Philosophy Statement

The Swan Reach & District Preschool's philosophy is a written statement about our kindergartens values and beliefs. It provides an important framework upon which program decisions are made and highlights how educators work with children, families and the wider community. We encourage everyone who is involved in our kindergarten to be familiar with the centre philosophy and discuss the implementation of this with our educators on a regular basis. This is an evolving document that reflects the current philosophy of those who are involved in our preschool and is designed to be changed or amended when circumstances require.

Our Children

We value and believe in:

INDIVIDUALITY: We respect and value children's individuality and equip them with the tools required to feel empowered within their kindergarten environment.

EXTENDING CHILDREN: We believe in high expectations and new experiences to extend learning and offer the opportunity for risk taking based on developmental needs and levels.

SOCIAL SKILLS: We believe that social skills are the "building blocks" for learning. Learning through quality social interactions in the early years instils lifelong skills and builds on children's sense of wellbeing.

CHOICES: We believe in offering choices to children as a way to develop autonomy, build confidence and self-esteem in the learning environment.



We value and believe in: (Our Environment)

PLAY BASED LEARNING: We believe in play-based learning tailored to children's interests and abilities.

STIMULATION: We believe in offering a stimulating environment that challenges children's developmental levels. Of equal importance is that the children feel safe and unhurried in their accomplishments.

SUSTAINABILITY: We believe in promoting sustainability within our environment by modelling sustainable practices. By doing so we hope children will develop awareness that resources are not a commodity but a necessity for future generations.

INCLUSION: We believe in providing an inclusive environment, one that celebrates diverse cultural backgrounds, including our local Koori community, as well as special needs children. We endeavour to work in partnership with families, the community and other professionals to work against bias and prejudice at all times and to achieve high quality outcomes for all children.



SUPPORTING EDUCATORS: We value, trust, respect and support our fellow educators. Our educators are committed to applying their knowledge to the best of their ability, as well as bringing the fundamental personal qualities to the role of empathy, respect, warmth and a passion for learning.

FUN AND INVITING: We aim to provide a fun and inviting environment for our students in which to learn and grow.

Our Families

We value and believe in:

PARENTS AS TEACHERS: Parents and guardians are children's first and foremost teachers. Working in conjunction with parents fosters children's love for learning making it a fun, full time part of children's lives.

PARTNERSHIPS: The importance of working in partnership with parents in all aspects of their children's preschool life and working towards best outcomes for the children.

HELPING CHILDREN LEARN: Encouraging families and the wider community to contribute where they can to the children's learning. We encourage this by providing a welcoming and inclusive environment for all and in promoting diversity in all areas, including families.



Our Program

We value and believe in:

MANIPULATIVE ENVIRONMENT: Providing a kindergarten environment which is responsive, flexible and evolving to match the children's differing learning styles and interests.

REFLECTION: As educators we are constantly reflecting and evolving their practice in an effort to become better at what we do.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Keeping up to date with current research and trends in early childhood education through professional development,

TRANSITIONS: Providing smooth, predictable and enjoyable transitions between home, kindergarten and school.

LIFE SKILLS: Teaching life skills at an early age ensures that these skills become lifelong tools for all our students. This includes reading and understanding emotions in ourselves and in others, the importance of helping others and how to be a good friend.

SCHOOL READINESS: One of our main roles is helping children prepare for school and setting them to be as successful as possible. We have close partnerships with our local primary schools enabling us together to offer a smooth transition from kindergarten to prep.

EYLF: The Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) guides our programming and teaching practices at all times. The Outcomes from the EYLF are great tools to help assess current learning and provide areas to focus on going forward.

PROTECTING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES: Providing a safe environment for our families and children in our care. Our educators undergo current child protection training and operate in compliance with the child safe standards

