

C.a.F.E. Enfield Children's Centre - Site philosophy

C.a.F.E. Enfield Children's Centre is an integrated site including Community managed Child Care, Department for Education Preschool, Playgroups, Child and Family Health Services, Learning Together, parenting support programs, and Adult Education. These services work together to support health, social, emotional and educational outcomes for children and their families.

We are committed to developing the cultural competence of our educators with respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures as we work towards development of our Reconciliation Action Plan. We acknowledge the Kaurua people as the traditional custodians of the Adelaide region and that their cultural and heritage beliefs are still as important to the living Kaurua people today.

We believe that inclusion is a right and that every child is entitled to high quality early education and care. Our practices reflect the belief that children are capable and competent learners from birth and unique in their own individual way. Educators encourage children to try things for themselves, and support them to build a sense of optimism and positive well-being.

We believe families have a critical role in early development of their children's learning. We believe young children are happier and achieve more when early year's educators work together with families to share insights, aspirations and documentation to support and extend children's learning and development. We provide a safe, welcoming place for all children and their families to foster a strong sense of belonging and community.

We believe children have a right to play. Play is fundamental to young children's learning as they engage in exploration, imagination and investigation, while socialising and communicating with children and adults around them. Our environments both indoors and outdoors are valued equally as important learning spaces. We believe the role of the learning environment is to provide flexible, ever-evolving materials and spaces to enable children to participate uninterrupted, to work alone, in small intimate groups or as a member of a large group.

We believe children should experience wonder in their world. Children are citizens from birth, and as such have a right to be listened to and a voice in decisions that affect them. Educators work with children to develop skills, knowledge and dispositions to connect them to their environment and their community. We model sustainable practices and promote active engagement by learning from, with and in the natural environment.

We believe children need healthy food, quality sleep and lots of exercise to assist with brain and body development. Meal times are social learning times that provide opportunity to develop connections between people. Our daily routines and programs encourage children to eat a wide variety of nutritious foods every day.

The quality of Educators is the key to the provision of high quality care and education of young children. This notion is supported through an environment of trust and respect with the community and in a culture of continual reflection and renewal of ideas and understandings. Educators are actively encouraged to access and continue training and professional development. We are all lifelong learners.

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