

## Statement of Philosophy

### We Believe:

**Each child is important, has rights and individual needs.**

### We do this by:

- Fostering the secure attachment between the child and the primary caregiver, which is important to the child's behavioural and emotional development.
- Encouraging a sense of self-worth.
- Developing trusting, caring relationships between educators and children to ensure each child feels safe and secure.
- Ensuring that all children's voices are heard and respected.
- Encouraging each child to be unique and express their ideas, creativity and feelings naturally and freely.
- Encouraging the development of independence and personal responsibility.
- Encouraging an appreciation and understanding of differences in culture, language, gender, age and ability.
- Providing a safe environment with monitored risks where appropriate.

### We Believe:

**That children are capable and confident learners.**

**That the program reflects a holistic approach that pays attention to the children's physical, personal, social, emotional and spiritual wellbeing as well as the cognitive aspects of learning**

### We do this by:

- Providing a play based environment which is reflective of the children's wellbeing and where educators and families are partners in the learning process.
- Providing a learning platform that fosters in children respect and appreciation for our environment.
- Creating an environment that allows the child's self-identity to evolve naturally.

### We Believe:

**Parents/guardians and families are the child's primary caregivers and that positive parent partnerships with staff are essential to the provision of quality early childhood education.**

### We do this by: :

- Welcoming all families into il nido and encouraging their input into our programs.
- Treating all families and children equally, with respect and ensuring honest and open relationships are maintained.
- Considering families as a partner in their child's learning. Opportunities are created for families and educators to exchange information regarding their child/ren's development and learning.
- Recognising cultural perspectives of families and children to be shared and integrated throughout the centre.

**We Believe:**

**That high staff morale, open staff communication and team work are essential for the provision of quality care within the Centre.**

**We do this by:**

- Fostering the wellbeing of all staff, where they feel comfortable to self-reflect and be vulnerable without judgement.
- Encouraging staff to be supportive of each other's needs which creates an environment of cohesive working relationships and a sense of belonging.
- Providing professional development and learning opportunities for staff which will build their capacity to develop and implement exciting and developmentally appropriate programs and environments for the children in their care.
- Staff promoting a positive and professional mindset to maintain high expectations of themselves and others.

**We Believe:**

**That the centre should provide strength based approach to community programs that meet the needs of the local community and support sustainability though out the centre.**

**We do this by:**

- Being sensitive to the changing needs of our community.
- Providing equity of access to our community programs regardless of social, cultural or economic status.
- Participating with other community groups and partners, share resources and develop a support network for families.
- Empowering our community to make positive improvements.

***Relates to National Quality Area 7: Service Management***

To support effective leadership and management of the service that contributes to quality environments for children's learning and development. Well-documented policies and procedures, well-maintained records, shared values, clear direction and reflective practices enable the service to function as a learning community. An ongoing cycle of planning and review, including engagement with families, creates a setting for continuous improvement.

Element 7.2.1A statement of philosophy is developed and guides all aspects of the service's operations

**Reviewed:** February 2017

**Next Review:** February 2018

**Reviewed by:** il nido Children's Centre