

## **CENTRE PHILOSOPHY**

*The beliefs and values of the staff and families at Elder Street Early Childhood Centre have been consolidated to form our philosophy on the care and education of children whilst attending the centre.*

*Our centre welcomes all families, recognising the diversity of people's beliefs, cultures, values and abilities within our wider community.*

*We believe that children's development is influenced by the social and cultural context in which they live. We therefore strongly support the development of partnerships with parents based on mutual respect. We value and welcome their input and involvement in the centre.*

*Management are committed to addressing the needs of its families, staff and the wider community. We aim to consult with these parties involved in the centre on issues of policy and procedure development.*

*Our professional, caring, informed and committed staff work together to meet the goals of our service. Staff have access to resources and training within the community that enhance their abilities to provide for the children's needs. We aim to develop positive and nurturing relationships with each child at the centre. Management of the service holds staff abilities, needs and levels of experience in high regard. They aim to ensure that staff are rewarded both intrinsically and extrinsically often within their work place.*

*We provide a modern, attractive, secure, hygienic and interactive environment for children to explore whilst stimulating their senses and minds.*

*Our program philosophy is based on understanding the value of play. Play is the vehicle through which children learn about themselves and their surrounds. It also importantly encompasses the belief that children are people with potential, curiosity and interest in constructing their own learning as they play. We implement this belief within our program by using the Emergent Curriculum.*

*This type of curriculum explores what is "socially relevant, intellectually engaging and personally meaningful to children (Jones & Nemo, 1994, p3) Through the ever changing emergent curriculum our staff are engaged in a process of supporting, facilitating, observing, interpreting and evaluating the children's needs interests, ideas and activities, as they play.*

*We aim to assist in developing respectful, confident, happy and capable children, familiar with the wider community who are secure and content in their environment.*

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**EMERGENT CURRICULUM - CENTRE PHILOSOPHY REVIEW**

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (optional) Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**CENTRE PHILOSOPHY**

*We welcome all stakeholders (parents/carers, staff, children, management and community) of Elder Street Early Childhood Centre to join in celebrating our Centre Philosophy.*

*We encourage you to write comments in support of our service philosophy and hope that by being involved in this ongoing evaluation, we will be able to include these words of support and ideas in the wording of the philosophy in future reviews. We also hope this process of sharing our thoughts, values, ideals and feelings about the centre's way of doing things will assist in building a stronger partnership between all stakeholders and therefore provide the best place possible for the children to grow and learn.*

*If you would like to make comment on how you feel the centre could improve on meeting the philosophy, or if you feel that the philosophy should be changed, please do not hesitate in filling out a suggestion form and place it in the suggestion box located under the sign in desk.*

*Thanks so very much*