



As a community our philosophy states our shared beliefs about children and learning. We believe that children learn through their relationships with other children and adults in a social, play based environment. We recognize that all behaviour is a form of communication and is an opportunity for each individual to learn.

As a staff team we believe:

- All children have the right to feel secure and to learn and develop in a psychological and physically safe environment
- Children have a right to express their feelings and to be supported to develop positive behaviours that underpin the development of relationships with peers and adults
- Effective communication and learning occurs when families and educators work together to develop common goals for a child's well being, learning and development.
- That the consideration of children's individual, and contextual needs are crucial to successful learning and the development of positive behaviours
- That family consultation is valued and their individual perspectives respected
- Children have the right to be supported by educators who model appropriate behaviours and ensure consistent limits are set
- No child should be made to feel rejected, insecure, embarrassed or ashamed.

As a staff team we promote positive behaviour and interactions by:

- Planning for and providing an environment that promotes a sense of belonging, being and becoming and provides enhanced opportunities for learning through play
- Ensuring that limits set are reasonable and understood by all children and adults
- Providing an enriching and engaging program that enables each child to experience success, a sense of well being and gives opportunities to express feelings through sensory and other forms of play
- Using positive verbal and non verbal guidance
- Demonstrate empathy and sensitivity to each child being mindful of the variety of factors that influence behaviour
- Planning enabling opportunities for the development of skills including resilience, agency, entry and exit skills when playing, appropriate risk taking, conflict resolution, independence, leadership, respect for others and communication.
- Interacting positively, using positive language and acknowledging and modelling respectful behaviour
- Valuing children as individuals within their family and cultural context
- Involving children in goal setting, developing group norms and the development of behavioural expectations and consequences through discussion with children individually, and in groups
- Intentional teaching of appropriate behaviours and play skills, building on each child's strengths and achievements and providing choices when possible
- Encouraging open communication with children, families and staff to ensure that each child's rights are met.



We will respond to challenging behaviours by:

- Reminding children that everyone has the right to feel safe at kindergarten
- Reminding children of expectations and limits
- Supporting children to problem solve, negotiate, find resolutions and manage emotions appropriately
- Using practices that support children to empathise with others and restore relationships
- Communicating with and involving families at the earliest opportunity to work together positively to assist the child's well being and learning
- Assessing individual children's learning and development and reflecting on and reviewing the planned program and how the active learning environment supports positive behaviours
- Planning, implementing, monitoring and reviewing individual behaviour plans in partnership with families and support services where necessary
- Being aware of our limitations and seeking assistance when required
- Withdrawing children when they are at risk of hurting themselves or others, ensuring that an adult is with them all the time.

For further information please refer to

DECS Behaviour Support Policy for Early Childhood Services (2004)

http://www.decd.sa.gov.au/speced/files/links/33098_Childrens_Policy_12p.pdf