



Brentwood Preschool Our Philosophy

Brentwood Preschool is a place where children, families and educators are valued. Children's safety and wellbeing is paramount and will be fostered through our child safe culture, responsive relationships, engaging experiences and safe and healthy environment. We believe kindergarten is a special time in a child's life and a place where children are recognised as being effective and competent learners.

Our play based curriculum: supports the Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework (VEYLDF) along with the National Early Years Framework (EYLF) and is based on the following principles.

- Optimal learning occurs within a stimulating indoor/ outdoor learning environment all year round
- All children are individual and are empowered when given choices and opportunities to explore their own ideas, see meaning in what they are thinking and solve problems through open-ended play experiences
- Children are citizens of our community with rights and responsibilities, being valued as constructive contributors to our kindergarten community
- Every child has the right to experience success in their learning and development
- Secure attachments and trusting relationships are the fundamental foundations for learning
- Children have opportunity to become caring citizens and motivated learners who are able to enjoy respectful, positive relationships with others now and throughout life
- Our learning environment respects and values diversity of individual learning styles, abilities, interests, heritage and values of individuals and families in our community

Our kindergarten values collaborative relationships with families and respects that parents are the first and foremost teachers of their children. Our Educators work in partnership with families to achieve common outcomes for all children. In our work with parents we:

- Understand respectful and caring relationships contribute to the delivery of effective learning experiences
- Recognise parents as the child's first and most influential teachers
- Use each families understanding of their child to support shared decision-making about each child's learning and development
- Respect, celebrate and value the individual backgrounds and unique culture and customs of families
- Communicate each child's learning along with group learning through formal and informal discussions, portfolios, program diary, reflections and electronic communications
- Encourage families, including extended family members, to become actively involved in our program

We view our kindergarten community as part of our wider local community. We believe it is important to:

- Support children and families to connect with each other
- Connect with local child and family support services
- Connect with and develop relationships with local services in the community
- Value and understand First Nations culture along with the diverse cultures of our current families
- Contribute to the ongoing training and development of high quality educators and teachers through welcoming pre- service teacher placements
- Support the inclusion of work experience school students in the educational program.

Our centre is committed to making the world a safer and greener place for all and believes in encouraging sustainable living practices and healthy lifestyles amongst our children and families. Emphasis is placed on the use of natural and recycled materials, wise water usage, recycling, composting and creating a strong sense of responsibility for all living things through hands on caring for animals and plants

At Brentwood we are committed to employing qualified and experienced Early Childhood Professionals and support the development of professional knowledge that enables educators to provide the best possible learning and development opportunities, which reflects Early Childhood Australia's Code of Ethics.

Our children state they are happy 'playing with friends', 'seeing my teachers' and that 'there friends come here', upholding our intent that each child is happy and content, feeling a strong sense of identity and belonging, knowing all have value here.

'My mum hugging my at kinder in the morning makes me happy' – 3y/o 2023

Philosophy reviewed 2023