

## **Singleton Community Preschool**

At Singleton Pre-School we believe that the Early Years are vital to each child developing a sense of belonging, being and becoming. As educators we support this through respectful relationships, partnerships with families, high expectations of equity, respect for diversity and reflective practice. We believe “children actively construct their own understanding and contribute to others’ learning”; (EYLF p.9) and that play is an essential component in building and shaping children’s development for their future. Through play we observe experimentation, exploration and collaboration which support children to grow and learn about themselves, about others and about the world around them. As Early Childhood Educators, we believe in working in collaboration, sharing our knowledge and expertise. We believe in working with children to discover ideas, to provide opportunities for learning and to engage in active research alongside children. We are committed to extending our skills and abilities through ongoing professional development. “We believe in supporting families in their parenting role by sharing with them information of benefit to their child’s development and respecting the diversity of families and communities, and the aspirations they hold for children” (EYLF P13) “We recognise the connections between children, families and communities and the importance of reciprocal relationships and partnerships for learning” (EYLF P.14) We strive for diversity and believe all children, families and staff should be treated with respect, fairness and equity. Through Reflective Practice we believe that the philosophy of our Pre-School should evolve as new insights are gained and practice is evaluated.

### **FOR THE CHILD WE WILL:**

- Provide a warm, caring and safe environment offering stimulating and engaging learning experiences.
- Empower the child to develop a positive sense of self and be viewed as a valuable human being.
- Support the development of skills to work with others to investigate new ideas and solve problems.
- Honour diversity where differences are acknowledged accepted and appreciated.
- Provide an environment in which each child can develop their own sense of belonging, being and becoming
- We will provide opportunities for children to contribute to the program, facilitating child led experiences where possible (UNRC – Dignity and Rights of the Child).
- Provide an environment which is free from personal devices such as mobile phones and smart watches that can store or transmit images/videos and voice recordings.
- Have a child focused complaint handling system in relation to allegations of harmful sexualised behaviours.
- Provide a drug free, alcohol free, smoke and vape free environment for the children.
- Provide a child safe culture based on the Child Safe Standard.
- Make sure there are suitably qualified staff to supervise sleep areas and provide adequate supervision throughout the day.
- Ensure the employment of staff, committee and volunteers have completed National Mandatory Child Protection Training within 14 days of engaging with the service, working with

children check clearances, and are added into the National Mandatory Early Childhood Worker Register.

**FOR THE FAMILIES WE WILL:**

- Welcome and encourage families to be involved in all aspects of centre.
- Foster mutual respect and support between staff and parents.
- Promote on-going communication and shared decision making.
- Provide links between parents, specialists and community resources.
- Learn about, respect and respond to the uniqueness of each family, their circumstances, culture, family structure, customs, language, beliefs and kinship systems (The Australia Code of Ethics, 2019).

**FOR THE COMMUNITY WE WILL:**

- Reflect the uniqueness of the community in which we live.
- Involve Local Aboriginal and Torre Strait Islander Elders where possible to draw on their knowledge and experience with embedding Indigenous Perspectives and contributing curriculum decision making.
- Participate in celebrations and events within the community.
- Support the centre's involvement within our community.
- Promote co-operation between agencies and professionals working with young children.
- Encourage parents to use other services in their community and be a part of their local community.

**FOR THE STAFF WE WILL:**

- Provide an environment where all staff feel valued and acknowledged as professionals.
- Respect and acknowledge the unique qualities and diversity of each staff member.
- Facilitate opportunities for staff development, education and training.
- Create a sense of mutual trust and respect.
- Promote active participation by staff in all aspects of the centre.
- Support each other in maintaining a high standard of Occupational Health and safety in our centre.