

# Wangaratta West Kindergarten Philosophy.

*'A philosophy is another word for a vision, or a 'great plan'. It's rather like a master plan that sets the direction in which we move' (Arthur et al, 1993).*

Our philosophy at Wangaratta West Kindergarten details our beliefs about children, learning and the role of the teacher, and the practices we implement to support children's growth and development. Embedded in our philosophy are the National Curriculum Frameworks and the National Quality standards.

## *The Child.*

At Wangaratta West Kindergarten we believe children are competent, capable and active participants in their learning. We provide opportunities for children to play, investigate, manipulate materials and actively engage in making sense of their world. Through such experiences we aim to support children's sense of agency and nurture their curiosity and interest in the world. Integral to this is playfulness and a sense of wonder.

We believe that each child is unique and comes with individual learning patterns, growth and family background. We value diversity and strive to provide a respectful and inclusive environment that develops each child's unique potential.

## *The Curriculum.*

At Wangaratta West kindergarten we believe that learning should be joyful, play-based and child-focused, reflecting the needs and interests of both the group and individual children.

We believe that although we are individuals, sometimes we must function as a group, reflecting the responsibilities of living within a community.

We believe that oral language is an important foundation for learning. Within the curriculum we endeavour to provide children with a range of opportunities to voice their ideas and opinions and contribute to the running of the room. For those children who cannot

## *Wangaratta West Kindergarten Philosophy.*

communicate orally we support them through alternative approaches so that they too can be heard.

We believe that children learn best in small groups – for this reason we are committed to running an indoor / outdoor program.

We value the outdoor environment and will maximise opportunities for outdoor play. This is reflected through our indoor / outdoor program, and our capacity to be an all weathers kindergarten.

We believe that social and emotional resilience is a key foundation for future learning. For this reason we work throughout the year on understanding emotions and building regulation skills.

### *The Role of The Adult:*

At Wangaratta West Kindergarten we believe that families are our best partners in teaching. We welcome a genuine collaboration and open two way communication.

We believe it is the role of the adult to scaffold children's learning to meet developmental challenges. We do this by observing each child, recording, reflecting, and planning experiences to meet individual needs and interests.

We believe that children have a right to feel a sense of security and belonging at kinder. We promote this by helping children connect with others and develop self-confidence through their successes.

### *During your child's time at Wangaratta West Kindergarten we endeavour to impart:*

A love of learning.

Laughter, fun, enjoyment and socialisation.

Independence, self-esteem, resilience, happiness, confidence.

Routine, flexibility, exploration, discovery, creativity and much more!

We do this so that your child will believe in themselves and their own unique skill set. That they will develop the skills necessary to interact ably and happily with others in the

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community, providing them with the necessary foundations to transition into the wider world and its demands.