



Sunny Faces Early Learning Centre

Sunny Faces ELC Philosophy

At Sunny Faces Early Learning Centre our children are the core to everything we do; Sunny Faces Early Learning Centre is committed to working in partnerships with families. Families are the most important part of a child's life and we feel if we can meet each families individualised needs we can provide an ideal learning environment for your child in centre and at home. Early learning is the foundation for future success in life. The first five years are the most important part of children's growth. At Sunny Faces Early Learning Centre children engage in a wide variety of activities within a flexible daily routine to ensure that every part of their day is not just fun, but acts as a 'teachable moment'. In each room educators develop a program that will build on each child's interests and abilities. Our curriculum is based on the Early Years Learning Framework. The framework has a strong emphasis on play-based learning, and recognises the importance of communication and language (including early literacy and numeracy) and social and emotional development. By implementing the Early Year's Learning Framework in their programming, your child's educators are helping your child to develop:

- a strong sense of identity.
- connections with their world.
- a strong sense of wellbeing.
- confidence and involvement in their learning
- effective communication skills.

In relation to children:

We believe each child is an individual with their own capabilities and aspirations. These qualities are nurtured throughout a safe and secure environment and allow children to grow and develop. We believe that children are resourceful learners who are capable of constructing their own knowledge of the world around them Each child is important and has individual needs and rights. We will act in the best interest of the child at all times. We believe play is essential to young children's learning. We believe that children have a right to: always feel and be safe, physically and emotionally, to be unique express their ideas and feelings naturally and freely. We feel we need to have a nurturing, learning environment which develops and extends their talents and adopts principles of equal opportunity and social justice, to provide a well balanced program which fosters the development of the whole child through the development of physical, social, intellectual and emotional skills and to explore, experiment, discover, solve problems and find out about themselves through a natural home like environment.

We encourage children to feel a sense of self-worth and to develop of stable, caring relationships with staff and other children to help develop independence and personal responsibility. We program to help children find awareness and understanding of differences in culture, language, gender, age, needs and ability. Our programs and day to day routines help children develop problem solving, negotiation and self-help skills and gain an awareness of and respect for our environment.

In relation to families

At Sunny Faces Early Learning Centre we respect that parents / guardians are the first main role models and educators for a child, this is why we value every input given and encourage their involvement and participation in the program. Our goal is to develop partnerships with families and engage in shared decision making where appropriate. We respect and accommodate their child rearing practices where possible. We exchange all information with parents / guardians about their child's progress, daily events

Source:

- ★ Education and Care Services National Regulations





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and successes. We encourage parents / guardians to share cultures and beliefs, We value sibling play and encourage and provide this where possible throughout the daily routine. We maintain confidentiality and respect the families right to privacy at all times.

In relation to staff:

We support staff in their full capacity to deliver high quality care following this philosophy and staff individual pedagogies by providing a flexible work environment that supports their physical, professional and emotional needs. We believe it is important to acknowledge and support the personal strengths, professional experience and diversity that each team member brings to the centre and share knowledge and skills with each other to ensure we maintain a high quality care at all times. We seek and encourage staff input to service and program improvements and support individual professional development needs through training, mentoring and networking opportunities. Our goal is to provide above licensing standards for qualifications of our educators within the centre and strive to improve and succeed as team at all times. We believe it is important to use positive reinforcement and encouragement as tools to direct and promote positive behaviours in children.

We aim to build high self-esteem and self-worth in our children. We strive to observe, document and evaluate all practices to continually update and improve the quality of our service and standards of care provided. We acknowledge that learning is life-long and we are committed to professional development within Sunny Faces Early Learning Centre. We are guided by the Early Years Learning Framework in to our programs and class rooms as we aim to provide a diverse program that reflects both group and individual needs. Through ongoing observations and evaluations, we aim to provide enriching experiences that encourage and promote learning and development. Our program not only covers the areas of language, cognitive, social/emotional, fine motor and gross motor development, but also provides for the holistic child.

In relation to the community:

At Sunny Faces Early Learning Centre we value our community and acknowledge the wider range of social and cultural need within. We believe it is important to connect with people, services and agencies within the communities that support children and families. We feel it is important to strive to remain aware of and respond to, where possible, the changing needs within our community. Our centre aims to be sensitive to the wider range of social and cultural backgrounds of the community it serves.

Our visions and aims at Sunny Faces Early Learning Centre are:

- Promote an environment where play is valued as the primary mode of learning.
- Establish a warm, friendly, relaxed atmosphere where children and their families feel welcome.
- Provide an open-door policy to encourage family involvement and participation, to build positive relationships with open communication with families each day and through written information newsletters, also providing times for staff to meet with parents formally and informally through orientation.
- Provide a stimulating environment where children are encouraged to choose from a wide variety of appropriate experiences, that challenges and extends their knowledge and skills, and are relevant to their ongoing interests, abilities and needs.

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- Provide an ongoing process of observing, planning, implementing and evaluating. (That is, child initiated and play based incorporating the early years learning framework)
- Encourage children to develop independence and self help skills by making choices and decisions and to accept responsibility that comes of these
- Provide an environment that is safe, yet provides challenge and diversity.
- Provide an emergent curriculum that looks at the holistic child, as well as the developmental areas of language, cognitive, social/emotional, fine and gross motor development.
- A nutritionally balanced, healthy, fresh menu provided daily.
- To provide families with up to date information about health, hygiene, education / childcare updates centre practices, policy development and decision making.
- Continually be involved in an ongoing honest self-assessment / self reflection and maintain high quality care at all times

Source:

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