

Anne Sgro

Children's Centre



Policy Name:	Philosophy of the Centre		
Level:	Service Delivery	Category:	Philosophy
Policy Number:	1	Next Review Date:	July 2020

Purpose

This philosophy sets out the values and beliefs that define the community of Anne Sgro Children's Centre, its staff, children and families.

Scope

This philosophy applies to the Nominated Supervisor, the Committee of Management of Anne Sgro Children's Centre and all staff, volunteers, families and their children.

Procedures

This philosophy was created by the Staff of Anne Sgro Children's Centre, with input from the Committee of management. It will be reviewed yearly as part of the centre's ongoing improvement. Staff are encouraged to use the philosophy as part of their daily practices and when reflecting on their programs, routines and practices.

Philosophy Statement - At Anne Sgro Children's Centre we believe in providing each child with a strong sense of belonging within our community, forming secure respectful and reciprocal relationships with peers and educators. We feel it is important to build positive partnerships with each of our families recognising the parents as the child's first teachers and forming an open ended relationship that will help us provide for the "whole child". Our Centre strives to provide a quality, interest based program that reflects and collaborates in accordance with the Victorian Early Years Learning Framework. We believe having high expectations is especially important in achieving the five Learning Outcomes, which we incorporate into our program.

Outcome 1: Children have a strong sense of identity

Outcome 2: Children are connected with and contribute to their world

Outcome 3: Children have a strong sense of well being

Outcome 4: Children are confident and involved learners

Outcome 5: Children are effective communicators

We value the importance of reflective practice where all involved continually develop their skills and professional knowledge to provide the best opportunities for all children and families within our service.

Learning Environment/ Value of Play - We understand that children are capable of investigating and exploring their environment to further their own learning experiences. Their ideas, opinions and values are highly respected and the child's interests are taken seriously and form the basis of our play based curriculum. Educators support engagement within the early learning setting through the setup of permanent learning areas. This allows for solitary and group learning where children are encouraged to experiment, explore and investigate through play at their own pace.

Partnerships with Families- We believe forming a relationship between an Early Childhood Educator and the child's parents is the first and most important relationship. We feel it is important that parents and educators build and maintain a reciprocal relationship based on respect and understanding, in order for them to work in collaboration with one another.

Inclusion, Equity and Diversity- We believe all adults and children at Anne Sgro Children's centre are to be treated equitably and with respect, regardless of their background, ethnicity, culture, language, beliefs, gender, age, and socioeconomic status, level of ability, additional needs, family structure, sexual diversity or lifestyle. We recognise and respect the importance of the cultural backgrounds of our children, families, staff and our community.

Evaluation

In order to assess whether the values and purposes of the philosophy have been achieved, the Nominated supervisor will:

- regularly seek feedback from everyone affected by the philosophy regarding its effectiveness
- monitor the implementation and compliance with the centre philosophy
- encourage staff to use the philosophy as a reflection of their programs, routines and practices
- review the philosophy to ensure that it reflects the Anne Sgro Children's Centre community

Authorisation

The Philosophy of the Centre was adopted by the Anne Sgro Children Centre Committee of Management in September 2015