

Greenhills Preschool



Our philosophy is reviewed each year and reflects the voices of the families and educators at Greenhills Preschool.

The educational program reflects our philosophy and provides children the opportunity to engage in various learning experiences.



Our emergent play based program provides a balance between child initiated and adult guided learning.



Why an indoor/outdoor program?

Offering an indoor/outdoor program that is available at the same time, provides children with more flexibility and choices therefore we are more able to respond to individual needs and interests

- Both the indoor and outdoor environments provide important learning opportunities.
- Outdoor play provides challenges and risks that allow children to test the boundaries of their physical, social, emotional and intellectual development.
- This type of program provides more space for children to move about and explore at their own pace- reducing noise and stress levels.
- When the learning environments are less crowded it is easier for children to focus, concentrate and follow through with a task.



Why progressive snack time?

- Enable children to eat when they are hungry as opposed to us telling them when to eat
- Children take responsibility for when they are hungry- independence & self help
- Play is not interrupted- longer time to engage
- Children have the opportunity to sit with a small group- social interaction.



Why a play based program?

- A play based program is educational
- Children's needs & interests guide a play based program. Children's self esteem increases when their needs and interests are recognised
- A play based program provides a balance of children initiated learning, adult initiated learning through structured and unstructured experiences
- When experiences are based on children's interests, they are more likely to feel motivated, become engaged & complete tasks
- Play gives children the opportunity to rehearse things that confuse, frighten & intrigue them – constructing new understandings & knowledge
- A play based program helps children develop initiative, imagination, responsibility, ownership, problem solving and relationships
- Play fosters cooperation, turn taking, & communication skills



Greenhills Preschool Philosophy

-Children -

For children to....

- Be celebrated as capable individual learners who are encouraged to express their ideas and opinions.
- Develop their resilience, self esteem, sense of worth and confidence in a safe and nurturing environment
- Build respectful, warm relationships with educators and their peers
- Be engaged in a variety of meaningful learning experiences and embrace the joyfulness of their childhood
- Feel empowered to be an active member of their community
- Feel passionate and excited about their learning



- Program -

We believe it is important to.....

- Provide a welcoming and supportive environment for all children and families
- Scaffold children's learning by extending and providing stimulating environments that cater to the needs and interests of children.
- Provide children with opportunities to explore, experiment and respond without any pre-prescribed outcomes.
- Create a balance between guided play and learning and child directed experiences.
- Offer more opportunities for uninterrupted play enabling children to practice and master new skills.
- Enhancing children's holistic development through meaningful and creative experiences.



- Offer and utilise natural and engaging materials which provoke wonder and appreciation of the natural environment.
- Support and encourage a strong focus on sustainability ideas.
- Challenge stereotypes surrounding gender bias, culture, age and ability promoting equal opportunity.
- Collaboratively document children's development in a variety of ways to reflect upon their ongoing learning, incorporating educational assessment and evaluation.
- Provide positive and appropriate interactions with all children, educators and community members.
- Refer to relevant documentation & up to date information (VEYLDF & EYLF, Code of Ethics UN Rights of the Child)



- Community -

- Children, Educators, families and the wider community will feel supported to learn collaboratively in a safe environment
- Educators will strengthen connections to the wider community, providing children and families a feeling of belonging and support
- Families are encouraged through a number of ways to contribute to the program, for example, through portfolios, the committee, visiting our kinder sessions, working bees, staff/parent interactions, etc
- Educators will promote the importance of play and the strong foundation it builds to children's life long learning.



- Educators -

We believe it is important to....

- Be reflective in our practices to guide ongoing improvement toward high quality educational programs
- Educators, children, families and the community construct the program collaboratively.
- Work collaboratively to implement and evaluate the program
- Develop and maintain reciprocal respectful relationships
- Utilise each individual's strengths and support each other.
- Ensure each child feels special, welcome and secure.
- Regularly participate in professional development and sustained shared thinking.



- Educators and families will work together in supporting each child's learning and development.
- Educators and families will engage in promoting and encouraging smooth transitions for children, to and from kinder, specialists and school.
- Educators, families and children will celebrate the uniqueness of each family, culture and their beliefs as well as fostering an awareness of local and global issues.
- Recognise each child's individuality and foster and support different learning styles.

