



LITTLE ST. MARGARET'S

AN ADVENTURE IN EDUCATION

Philosophy Statement

In relation to children we:

- believe that early childhood education is an integral part of children's learning and development.
- believe they have a right to a safe and stimulating learning environment.
- support the development of meaningful relationships between peers, educators, families and the wider community.
- maintain high expectations for each child and encourage the development of independent, resilient individuals.
- foster a sense of identity and belonging.
- encourage interactions in relation to others that show care, empathy and respect.
- value the child's voice and incorporate their ideas and experiences in the curriculum.

In relation to our educational programs we:

- value a play based curriculum that provides children with opportunities to explore, discover, question, reflect, imagine and take chances.
- value the benefits of a secure and nurturing environment that provides each individual child with the opportunity to grow emotionally, physically, intellectually and socially.
- use intentional teaching strategies that are deliberate, purposeful and thoughtful.
- provide programs which reflect children's interests and abilities, placing emphasis on choice and independence.

In relation to families we:

- value their role as children's first and most influential teachers.
- encourage meaningful family participation as we believe it is essential in achieving the best possible outcomes for each child.
- believe that effective and respectful communication is the foundation of strong relationships.
- acknowledge that all members of the Little St. Margaret's community have a right to experience a sense of belonging.
- respect each family and value the contribution each family makes to the service.



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In relation to educators we:

- employ early childhood professionals who are highly trained and passionate.
- value individual skills and experience, and recognise that these contribute to a diverse team, essential for delivering high quality programs.
- support them to be lifelong learners and encourage them to undertake professional development in order to enhance the educational program and outcomes for the Little St. Margaret's community.
- believe that reflective practice is essential to provide a high quality curriculum.

In relation to the community we:

- acknowledge children as global citizens.
- welcome the contributions of external professionals which enhance the outcomes for children and families.
- promote active involvement that builds connections between Little St. Margaret's and the broader community.
- recognise that children have the right to belong and participate in many different communities.
- acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which Little St. Margaret's operates, and pay our respects to Elders past and present.

In relation to diversity we:

- believe that inclusion is grounded in ideas of social justice and human rights.
- are committed to breaking down barriers to inclusion.
- believe all children have a right to belong to the Little St. Margaret's community. We celebrate individual differences and work towards achieving the best possible outcomes for each child.
- value the cultural history of all children and families and promote awareness and acceptance of different cultural practices within the context of Little St. Margaret's and the broader community.

In relation to the environment we:

- endeavour to create a welcoming and nurturing atmosphere for the Little St. Margaret's community.
- believe in providing inviting spaces for play that encourage children to investigate, imagine and explore ideas, both independently and with their peers.
- encourage awareness of the interdependence between people and the environment and the need for sustainable practices to develop environmentally responsible habits in children.