

Yarralea Children's Centre Philosophy

At Yarralea Children's Centre all aspects of service operation are underpinned by the following principles to create a learning community for children, families and staff:

- Trust, respect and collaboration within Yarralea's community of children, staff and families is fundamental.
- All-weather, indoor/outdoor authentic play programs provide nurturing, stimulating, responsive and adventurous environments for learning.
- Learning with continuous Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledges, histories and cultures develops an understanding and respect for the cultural identities of the Traditional Custodians.
- People are unique, come from a variety of backgrounds, have their own temperaments, skills and abilities and approach learning in individual ways.
- Play is children's natural way of expressing, sharing, extending and modifying accumulated knowledge, living skills and attitudes.
- Learning is a social activity, and people learn best when they can share their ideas with others.
- Creative arts are ways of understanding the world we live in and are valuable tools that come instinctively to children through play.
- Story making and storytelling helps to creatively integrate what we know with what we can imagine.
- People interact within and between different social and cultural worlds, including family/cultural communities and popular culture.
- Respect for the natural world and connection with sustainability is embedded and underpins practice across the daily program and service operation.
- Home Kinder and Bush Kinder foster essential physical, mental and social/emotional development through regular, unstructured, nature play.
- Positive relationships are supported through learning spaces which encourage aesthetic beauty, culture and respect for the natural environment.
- Learning is supported & enriched when staff, children & families share knowledge and skills.
- Early education is integral and provides a bridge between home and school learning by building skills such as independence, resilience, literacy, numeracy and STEAM through play.
- Inclusion and fairness are embedded through policies and promoted in programs through the phrase "Everyone can Play"
- A culture of environmental and social sustainability is promoted through compassion, openness and intentional teaching.
- Community connections are valued and fostered