



A love of learning and a positive sense of self

Our focus is on each child's wellbeing, which includes assisting them to learn to self-regulate. We know that when children are not feeling safe, respected and valued as individuals, then their learning will be negatively impacted, regardless of intellectual ability.

WELLBEING IN THE SCOTCH ELC

We use *'You Can Do It! Education Early Childhood Program'* to explicitly and implicitly teach our children how to get along and be resilient, confident, persistent and organised. Each of these dispositions is reinforced through the use of accompanying puppets.

Unable to source a tool that could be administered by teachers to measure the wellbeing of children aged 3-6 we developed our own wellbeing measurement tool **Scotch ELC Wellbeing Scales** in 2014. *These are unique to us.*

Through the Scotch ELC Wellbeing Scales, we measure each child's wellbeing (and thus the effectiveness of our wellbeing approach) each term.

The Wellbeing Scales have set criteria that enables us to deeply observe each child, each term (three times on a given day) and accurately scale their wellbeing at that given time in different environments. This information is then graphed and the data is used to give us immediate and also longitudinal information about each child's wellbeing.

This equips us to be better able to predict the circumstances that might result in each child's wellbeing being compromised such as at transition times, during ill health, during a family crisis, when in a particular learning environment, or due to their relationship with another individual(s). The data is used to support each child to be able to better manage their wellbeing during times that they may find challenging.

The information (including raw data) gained from the Wellbeing Scales is shared with parents at Parent/Teacher Interviews. Prior to the interview parents receive information explaining the criteria of assessment so that they have some prior understanding.

At the interview the teacher explains how well the child scored in each of the sub categories: Level of Involvement, Language and Interaction Level and Wellbeing and Enjoyment, all of which combine to be measurable indicators of Wellbeing.

Parents and teachers are then able to work together to set goals for each child based on the rich data provided by this measuring tool of wellbeing.

Tania Darling
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