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EARLY LEARNING

Scotch College Early Learning Centre Philosophy

The Scotch College Early Learning Centre philosophy is based on wellbeing, focused on positive community relationships, best outcomes for children and continuous improvement. We are inspired by the principles of the Reggio Emilia Approach to Early Learning.

We endeavour to provide a safe and supportive learning environment where children are taught to respect each other and themselves and to value their interactions with others through play and discovery.

Wellbeing, Personalised Learning and Community Building underline our beliefs about Early Childhood Education.

WELLBEING

We believe:

- » Children learn best when they feel safe, happy and respected
- » Children and families have the right to have their own cultures, identities, abilities and strengths acknowledged and valued
- » Children have the right to a challenging and natural outdoor environment, which enables them to develop skills that enhance wellbeing and to experience risk taking.
- » Children have the right to a beautiful and aesthetically pleasing environment with access to the natural world.
- » Staff have extensive knowledge of Early Childhood development.
- » Our wellbeing programs of Scotch Fit and the Super Six are aligned with the Junior School.
- » Families are the most important people in the lives of their children, trusting they are safe and stimulated whilst at the Early Learning Centre

Therefore, our staff strives to:

- » Nurture relationships within our centre and provide emotional support for children, families and staff
- » Respect each other's strengths and build on each other's knowledge, communicating freely and professionally
- » Provide a challenging and engaging outdoor learning space.

COMMUNITIES

We believe:

- » Parents are the best source of information about the educational and wellbeing needs of their children and should feel comfortable to openly communicate their needs and abilities
- » Our "One School" approach enhances the wellbeing and learning opportunities for our students
- » Families have the right to feel connected with each other, the whole Scotch College community and the wider community
- » We all have an obligation to protect and sustain the natural environment

Therefore, our staff strives to:

- » Value teamwork and collaborate with one another and our families and communities
- » Promote an awareness of the natural environment and its sustainability



PERSONALISED LEARNING

We believe:

- » Children learn through play and authentic experiences
- » Children have the right to learn in their own time and at their own pace.
- » Learning should be personalised and meaningful.
- » Children have the right to learn and explore Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island cultures and to experience art and music experiences embedded in the curriculum

Therefore, our staff strives to:

- » Ensure that children have personalised learning goals created in partnership with parents and based on their strengths, interests, staff observations and parent insights.
- » Be recognised as professionals and keep abreast of, and implement, current best practice and legislative requirements
- » Work in partnership with families to ensure learning experiences are meaningful and decision-making is collaborative
- » Provide a curriculum which promotes inclusion and the participation of all children
- » Document learning and share information with families
- » Provide children with opportunities to explore and understand the nature and culture of Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island cultures