



## Livingston Kindergarten Philosophy

Livingston Kindergarten has embedded within our program, practice and interactions, the Victorian and National Quality Frameworks and Principles, The United Nations rights of the child and the code of ethics. We are a child safe organization; the rights and best interests of children are at the forefront of all that we do for families and children. We engage in reflective practice; are committed to continuous improvement and strive to expand our knowledge and understanding of theory and practice.

We acknowledge and recognize the traditional custodians of as Australia's first people and embed, recognize and acknowledge indigenous perspectives across our program and service. Australia's Aboriginal and Torres straight Island cultures are valued, and we understand it is our shared responsibility to contribute to a better society and sustainable environment.

We are committed to supporting children, families, colleagues and the local community to understand respect and value diversity. We take any opportunity to support children to understand their local context and the wider world. We recognize each families and child's cultural background, abilities and experiences and learning can be diverse. Ensuring we are responsive, equitable and remove barriers to learning for all children so that everyone is included and feels a sense of belonging, and diversity is celebrated.

Our practice and service focus around connecting with community, across our community garden project, the sharing shelf and community pantry that are available to all families and the community that use the building. We endeavor to connect regularly and maintain relationships the maternal health nurse service, preschool field officer and local schools. We believe children should be supported to become socially responsible, developing an understanding and respect for the natural environment; and how they can connect and contribute to their local and global communities. Supporting the development of children's sense of agency will help them become individuals capable of making their own choices in society.

We provide an inclusive, safe, stimulating and just environment where children can construct their own understandings and make meaning through play. Learning through an open ended play-based environment, we support and extend children's interests and development through intentional teaching, self directed play and peer scaffolding. Providing an environment in which children can make their own choices, direct their own play, and take calculated risks, engage in exploration, questioning, discovery, creativity and problem solving in a cooperative and collaborative manner. Offering opportunities for children to become successful, competent and capable learners, we encourage them to experience challenges within their learning, providing opportunities to feel success and grow their confidence, so as to continue to be risk takers throughout their learning.

Families are respected and supported as we value the connectedness between children, their families and the community and the significance on their learning, and endeavor to create and support these strong links, acknowledging families are their child's first and most influential teacher. We actively create partnerships with parents and families by developing open, respectful and reciprocal relationships for meaningful communication and collaboration.

We support children's wellbeing, individual needs, diversity and perspectives through listening to their voices. Central to this we recognize that developing caring reciprocal relationships between and Educators and children; fosters secure attachments and promotes children's sense of being, belonging and becoming. We are advocates for children, supporting them to become life long learners who construct and understand their identity through their environment and interactions.