

PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT

At Coffs Harbour Family Day Care we recognise that it is in the early years of development that children form who they are as individuals, the foundation on which children base the rest of their lives on. Children are full of potential, confident and capable of building their own theories.

We believe respect for each child and their family is paramount and is expressed through listening, observing, and interacting with families. We recognise that the family is the child's first and most important teacher. Parents are viewed as partners, collaborators, and advocates for their children. We involve and invite parents into every aspect of the curriculum. We embrace cultural diversity, respecting family's diverse values, beliefs, cultural backgrounds, traditions, life experiences and knowledge. Families are encouraged to share their culture, language and experiences with Educators and staff.

We recognise and value the relationships children have with Family Day Care educators. Passionate and resourceful educators are essential to providing learning environments that are inclusive and respectful to all. Our educators are seen as role models who have their own personal philosophies and ideas, supporting each individual child, and providing the best possible outcomes for children.

We help children develop a sense of belonging by creating an environment where they can build connections with peers, staff, community and their natural environment.

We are committed to professional teamwork, and ongoing professional development to extend our skills and abilities. All staff value and respect one another and the contributions they make to create a cohesive team. We recognise our responsibility in ensuring and maintaining current workplace policies and procedures.

We provide a learning environment where children learn and develop by exploring their world through stimulating and challenging play. We plan for children's learning around their interests and their own specific needs, guided by the National Quality Standards, the Early Years Learning Framework and the School Aged Care learning Framework-My Time, Our Place. This provides opportunities for children to reach their potential, in all areas of their development: physical health and wellbeing, social, emotional, language and cognitive, and spiritual.

We encourage environmental sustainability by empowering people to take responsibility for making informed decisions towards a sustainable future, whereby we gain knowledge and understanding of the environment as it relates to our society. We pride ourselves on promoting and involving the children in water conservation, recycling, and growing seasonal foods.

We liaise with and utilise existing resources in the community, collaborating with all stakeholders to generate a culture of continual reflection and high quality practices in Family Day Care.

We recognise that Family Day Care is a unique child care setting where Family Day Care Educators look after a small group of children in their own homes, providing a service which is able to meet the needs of each individual child and their family.

The Coffs Harbour Family Day Care Philosophy upholds the Early Childhood Australia's Code of Ethics.