



Stepping Stone Tanunda Childcare & Early Development Centre

CENTRE PHILOSOPHY

Stepping Stone Tanunda Childcare & Early Development Centre's philosophy underpins and guides the way we work with children, their families and the community; which is influenced by the Early Years Learning Framework and the National Quality Framework.

Stepping Stone Tanunda Childcare & Early Development Centre is proudly South Australian owned and we acknowledge and respect the traditional custodians whose ancestral lands we are upon.

In regards to children, we:

- believe that each child in our care deserves to be cherished and respected as individuals, who have their own needs, ideas, interests and strengths
- believe that each child will grow and develop at their own pace
- will build nurturing and respectful relationships with all children
- aim to provide children with opportunities to learn different life skills, so they can be ready and prepared for life's challenges
- will be inclusive of all children
- believe that each child has the right to be safe, happy and supported so they can be themselves
- will encourage all children to express themselves in positive ways, to become caring and respectful to others and to form friendships as this is an important value in 'belonging' to their world
- will endeavour to encourage all children to become independent by engaging them in all areas of development to gain confidence and to build their self esteem
- want children to be able to embrace childhood and all the wonders it has to offer
- have inclusive practices which allow all children to participate in the program regardless of ability

In regards to families and the community, we:

- believe that parents and families are the most important people in their child's life and we will endeavour to have supportive and respectful relationships with them
- aspire to gain more parent and family input into our educational programs as we believe that by working closely with families we can achieve the best outcomes for children
- believe that family culture should be supported, respected and acknowledged within our centre
- recognise and appreciate the roles that parents have in a collaborative partnership with their child's educators
- aim to build respectful and quality relationships with the wider community by working closely with other professionals to benefit the children in our service and to be seen as a part of the wider community

In regards to education, we:

- use the Early Years Learning Framework as the foundation of our programming
- believe that children learn best through play and intentional teaching opportunities
- program based on children's ideas, interests, strengths and needs which are collected using a variety of different techniques
- believe that children's learning, discoveries and milestones need to be celebrated, we will do this through meaningful documentations, reflections and learning stories
- believe that educational programs need to be flexible and tailored to all children
- will provide a wide range of experiences and opportunities for children to reach all the learning outcomes

In regards to the environment, we:

- will provide a safe, secure and friendly environment for all children and their families
- aim to provide children with a happy, healthy and stimulating learning environment where they have the choice to play indoors or outdoors
- will provide children with rich indoor and natural outdoor spaces which gives children opportunities to engage in, explore, build resilience and extend on their curiosity
- believe that our learning environments play a huge role in our educational programs
- believe that children need to be aware of sustainability and what they can do to protect our world for now and for the future

In regards to our educators, we:

- aim to provide a team of dedicated and trained educators, who are caring, enthusiastic and passionate about being the best educators they can be
- are committed to ongoing learning and professional development to provide the best and up to date education for the children who use our service
- believe that we need to work effectively as a team. We will do this by working together, supporting, motivating and communicating effectively with each other

Written by Centre Director and Staff Team in consultation with children and families.