Stepping Stone Para Hills Childcare & Early Development Centre

Centre Philosophy

At Stepping Stone Para Hills, we are dedicated to providing a nurturing, inclusive, and supportive environment where every child feels safe, valued, and empowered to grow. We recognise that the early years lay the foundation for lifelong learning, and the rights, wellbeing, and best interests of each child at the centre is paramount.

We believe that children thrive when they experience trusting, responsive, and caring relationships. Our educators take time to truly know each child, honouring their individuality, strengths, culture, identity, and family context. We value the child within their family and work in genuine partnership with families, respecting their expertise, beliefs, and aspirations. Open, honest communication and shared decision-making reinforce our relationships.

Every child has the right to belong. We are committed to creating a warm, welcoming environment where all children, families, educators, and community members feel respected, included, and connected.

Our curriculum is play-based and guided by the Early Years Learning Framework, National Quality Standards, and the Regulations and Law. We believe children learn best through play, exploration, creativity, and discovery. Our learning environments are vibrant, flexible, and intentionally designed to spark curiosity and support children to learn at their own pace and in their own way.

Educators observe, reflect, and plan thoughtfully to create meaningful, challenging, and developmentally appropriate experiences. Continuous improvement, current research, and ongoing critical reflection guide our practice, ensuring we remain responsive to the evolving needs of children, families, and our community. Educators regularly engage in professional development to support continued growth and improvement.

We acknowledge the Kaurna people as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we learn and play. We respect and value Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures, and perspectives, embedding them meaningfully in our curriculum, environments, and daily practice. We are committed to building cultural competence, fostering reconciliation, and ensuring all children develop a better understanding of Indigenous culture.

We recognise that strong community connections enrich children's learning and wellbeing. We actively build and maintain collaborative partnerships with local organisations, services and community groups. These relationships strengthen our capacity to support children and families and help create a sense of shared responsibility for children's development and success.

Our educators and leadership team are dedicated to achieving high-quality outcomes for children. We are professional, reflective, knowledgeable, and committed to ongoing learning. Guided by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and Early Childhood Australia's Code of Ethics, we uphold ethical practice, advocate for children's rights, and strive for excellence in all aspects of our work.

We believe children are capable contributors to a sustainable future. Environmental responsibility is embedded in our program, practices, and policies. Children are supported to care for Country, understand their impact on the environment, and develop habits that promote a healthy, sustainable world.

At Stepping Stone Para Hills, we believe every child has the potential to learn, grow, and flourish. We are proud of the work we do and remain committed to providing exceptional early education and care for our community. Through strong relationships, inclusive practice, and a deep respect for children's rights and identities, we create a place where children feel safe, supported, and inspired to reach their full potential.