



Statement of Philosophy

Childhood offers children opportunities to learn, love, develop and grow. It is within these early years that children form dispositions that support their lifelong learning – confidence, independence, curiosity, enthusiasm and creativity. This lifelong learning is supported through respectful relationships, through positive learning environments and as educators take a thoughtful and considered approach to planning for children’s learning.

Cowarra Park Preschool and Long Day Care is set amongst the natural environment and brings opportunities for children to build their love, understanding and respect of the natural environment, engage in sustainable practices and appreciate the beauty of these natural elements.

At Cowarra Park, we believe in the importance of highly qualified, experienced and passionate educators who are dedicated towards supporting children’s learning through nurturing and positive relationships. Through our relationships, we can support children in experiencing a sense of belonging and confidence within their learning environment. A confidence where children feel respected as individuals, happy and secure with educators and supported in their interactions. It is the relationships where educators take the time to listen, support and teach that children’s learning and development is genuinely promoted.

A supportive approach to relationships is embedded throughout our practices and is visible between all stakeholders. This includes the relationships between educators and children, educators and families, within the Cowarra Park team and the support gained from leadership and management. Educators at Cowarra Park recognise the significant role families have in the lives of children and value and respect the ideas and input they offer to our practices and programs. We believe that by building strong foundations with families and communities, we can enhance the partnership and optimise children’s learning outcomes.

Educators have the potential to guide children’s learning through the considered planning of the environment and through their thoughtful interactions. It is through children’s engagement with the environment and different mediums – people, environment, technology and resources – that they learn about the world around them. Planning is based on the interests and strengths of children and educators use their professional knowledge to extend children’s learning and development through meaningful intentional teaching. The social nature of our context also provides children with endless opportunities to learn alongside other children and educators – learning based on their own interests and also broadening their knowledge through the interests of others.

A lively culture of learning is modelled throughout all aspects, with educators valuing and promoting professional development and learning. It is through educator’s shared learning with children, the relationships with families and communities, reflective practice, collaboration with other educators and the accessing of professional learning that professional growth is supported. At Cowarra Park, a dynamic approach towards professional development and the continual improvement of the learning environment supports each child’s learning.