



Bland Shire Preschool Philosophy

Our Preschool is a Council run service; we cater for children aged three to five years in West Wyalong and surrounding villages of the Bland Shire.

Program and Practice:

- We believe children learn through collaboration and communication with others; whilst providing them opportunities to practice and consolidate their skills in all learning.
- We aspire to implement a child centred, educational and play based program based upon the Learning Outcomes, Principles and Practices outlined in the Early Years Learning Framework of Australia – Belonging, Being and Becoming and Standards from the National Quality Framework.
- We aim to celebrate diversity within our service and play a role in fostering and developing an understanding of inclusion.
- We strive to implement a flexible program including experiences and routines that are responsive and contribute to each child's current knowledge, idea, culture, abilities and interest. This is drawn from a variety of methods including but not limited to learning stories and reflections.
- We embrace magical moments throughout the day, allowing children and educators to embrace spontaneous learning.
- We endeavour to include sustainable practices in our daily programs and daily routines whilst encouraging and educating children in sustainable practices.

Educators and Staff:

- We employ qualified and experienced staff, which are committed to working for the best interest of children and families whilst providing staff with ongoing professional development.
- We believe in nurturing an environment of teamwork, where all staff are valued and their contribution is acknowledged. Providing secure, respectful and reciprocal relationships.

Children:

- We endeavour to value the individual needs of all children within the context of their family, cultural group and their community.
- We believe children have a right to play and be active participants in their own learning, whilst contributing to the program by following their interests; therefore enhancing their learning disposition and enabling them to develop relationships.
- We encourage children to develop confidence and positive self esteem through creating a sense of belonging in which each child is acknowledged as a unique and special individual.
- We believe that in order for children to actively engage in the program they need to feel like they belong.

Physical Environment:

- We believe in using both the indoor and outdoor environments to encourage children to play, observe, engage their senses, explore, investigate, imagine, make choices and problem solve.
- We encourage children to play and learn through collaboration and communication with other children and adults and through interacting with the environment.
- We provide a rich and nurturing environment that has the potential to stimulate imagination, promote creativity and enhance aesthetic development.

Families and Community:

- We aim to have trust, respect, collaboration and open communication between families and staff. We believe this forms the basis for strong partnerships.
- We encourage families to engage in meaningful participation within the program, forming a caring community between families, children and educators is integral to a high quality program.
- We promote open and constructive communication with families. This includes formal and informal discussions, kindyHub, social media, classroom displays and newsletters.
- We strive to be a centre of excellence for early childhood education within our community.
- We are advocates for our profession; therefore it is important to share our knowledge and experience within the local community through hosting students, volunteers and information sessions.
- We believe in the use of local community expertise to enrich the children's learning and awareness of the local community for the education and development of all children.
- We are aware the needs of children, families, staff and the community are constantly changing. Ongoing evaluation is essential to create a service that is responsive to those needs.
- We work in collaboration with the community. Believing in the importance of promoting a sense of community, allowing children to connect with and contribute to their world.

From this philosophy, policies have been developed, which provide guidelines for the operation of Bland Preschool. Policy review and development is ongoing.

Next Review - February 2019