

Bertram Hawker Kindergarten Philosophy Statement



Bertram Hawker Kindergarten's community provides a safe, empathetic, supportive and relationship rich environment whereby children enjoy meaningful opportunities to learn.

The preschool years coincide with an exciting stage of rapid development where children's developing empathy, strengthening independence and curiosity about the world around them take centre stage. Bertram Hawker Kindergarten embraces children's unique strengths, personalities and temperaments, providing a strong, healthy platform for self-discovery, confidence and life in the broader community.

Bertram Hawker Kindergarten is a welcoming community where children and educators work collaboratively and learn from each other's strengths and challenges. We foster a genuine sense of belonging and understanding, which empowers children to feel confident about who they are and what is important to them. Our experience has taught us that when the personal rights and individual needs of each child are met they will be inspired and excited by learning, exploring and engaging in new experiences.

At the core of our values is the understanding that all children are capable and competent learners, who are involved in decision making throughout their day, where they plan, choose, negotiate and share their interests and skills.

We acknowledge the importance of collaborative partnerships with families, who are children's first and foremost educators and we respond to the unique circumstances of each individual child and family in a deeply respectful way.

Caring for ourselves, caring for each other and caring for the world, Bertram Hawker Kindergarten bases its values on global cultures that encourage kind, balanced and harmonious relationships, underpinned by Aboriginal perspectives that connect sustainability and culture.

By emphasizing the importance of learning, health, wellbeing and constructive expression of thoughts and feelings, children develop self-awareness, optimism and confidence. Experiences such as daily gardening, animal care, tree climbing, neighbourhood exploration and visits to elderly care settings allow children to learn in ways that extend far beyond the kindergarten.

Our core practice of hands-on discovery and inquiry both inside the kindergarten and outside in nature play enables children to develop an appreciation of and connection with our natural environment. Through daily opportunities to play, imagine, discover and communicate with others, our community fosters curiosity, creativity, collaboration and a lifelong love of learning.