

Bertram Hawker Kindergarten Philosophy Statement



Bertram Hawker Kindergarten creates a safe, supportive community where everyone works and learns together and feels a sense of belonging. We foster every child's curiosity, creativity and lifelong learning through play, imagination, and collaboration. Our approach is based on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives of caring for ourselves, caring for each other and caring for our world.

Caring for ourselves

Our practices ensure children have a voice at our kindergarten. We value and encourage children to express and develop their thinking, theories and ideas with educators and each other. We assist children to regulate their own behaviours, resolve conflicts and build relationships with their peers through play and everyday experiences.

We respect all children as capable and competent learners and build on their existing skills, interests and capabilities. Educators support learning by listening and responding to each child's needs and perspectives and by providing a stimulating environment that encourages children to express their ideas, play and learn. Our approach encourages self-discovery, optimism, critical thinking, independence and participation in the broader community.

Caring for each other

We encourage kind and respectful relationships between children, educators, families and the wider community, including our primary school buddies.

We value collaborative partnerships with families, who are our children's first and foremost educators. Our educators are continuously learning together with children and families. Our community is enriched by learning from the cultural diversity of the families at our kindergarten.

We support children to confidently and thoughtfully express their ideas and feelings and respect the feelings and perspectives of others. We use a restorative approach to support children to resolve difficulties that arise in relationships and to learn to negotiate and empathise with others.

Caring for our world

We value hands-on discovery and inquiry to enable children to develop an appreciation of our natural environment.

We encourage children to respect and care for the environment by incorporating sustainable practices such as caring for our animals, gardening, and recycling. Our approach is based on Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander values emphasising the connection between land, people and animals.

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