

Majura Primary – Watson Preschool

Philosophy

We believe all children are individuals with differing needs. At Majura Primary – Watson Preschool you will see kind, dedicated, and empathic Educators with Learning Environments that encourage wonder, risk taking and collaboration.

We believe in embedding First Nations perspectives in all educators' practice as a strategy in supporting reconciliation and providing a safe space for our First Nation families.

So you will see:

- Weekly Acknowledgement of Country with the children
- Statement of Intent to learn about what an Acknowledgement of Country is and key words such as Respect, Elder
- Dedicated space with Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Australian flags with the classes Acknowledgment to Country
- Invite First Nations families in to share their History and Culture
- Photos, artefacts and other resources throughout learning environments
- Inclusion of books by First Nations authors and illustrators
- Aboriginal Australia Map from ATSIC
- Calendar by First Nations artists which includes all children and staff birthdates
- Inclusion of significant days such as Indigenous Literacy Day and NAIDOC Week
- Incorporation of the whole school Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP)
- A Cultural Integrity lens in all our programs in line with the Directorate's policy.

We believe in developing strong, nurturing, and culturally safe teacher-learner relationships which supports children to feel a sense of belonging, confident to explore their learning environment, and strengthen their wellbeing.

So you will see:

- Circle of security aware teaching
- Relational pedagogy
- Warm, affectionate, and responsive interactions between teachers and children
- Respect for the expertise of the parents about their child which informs culturally appropriate support
- The provision of consistent emotional support
- Clearly communicated boundaries.

We believe that play-based learning supports children to create relationships and learn as they explore the world around them.

So you will see:

- Long periods of uninterrupted child-led play
- A variety of resources including loose parts, open-ended and flexible environments where children can transport, transfer and integrate ideas to demonstrate autonomy and develop skills
- Child voice in the program
- Spontaneous moments being valued.

We believe in building a collaborative culture amongst staff, with open communication, commitment to improvement and reflective practice, and ongoing Professional Learning.

So you will see:

- Responsibilities being shared and decisions made as a team
- Collaboration between classes and teacher/co-educators to make decisions
- Professional learning undertaken individually as well as collectively to improve practice
- Teams having regular formal and informal reflections
- Staff feeling safe, supported and comfortable to raise concerns
- Co-educators being empowered and supported to take initiative, make suggestions and share their skills
- Mentoring new and experienced educators, pre-service teachers, and co-educators.

We believe in developing relationships with families, the school and the wider community.

So you will see:

- Educators acknowledging the diversity of families, engaging in shared decision making to support children's learning, development and wellbeing
- Times during the day where adults are available for casual conversation
- Twice yearly formal interviews to support children's and families' needs, and extra interviews initiated by either parents or teachers as needed
- Whole school events in our program
- An orientation program to support children's transition to kindergarten
- Respectful collaboration with other services including Before and After School Care, childcare centres and visiting Allied Health workers, to support the needs of shared children
- Children participating in excursions and incursions.