



# South Coogee PS ECE Philosophy

## High Quality Early Childhood Programs

At South Coogee, our programs aim to assist in the development of competent, confident and creative learners who will grow up to be responsible citizens. We believe that children have the fundamental right to access high quality programs, environments and pedagogical practices that acknowledge and respond to each child's uniqueness in the way they develop, grow and learn.

Our programs are evidence-based and are reflective of the *Early Years Learning Framework*, the *National Quality Standards*, and the *Western Australian Curriculum*. They also take into account whole school plans and initiatives, and community input. Curriculum experiences integrate knowledge, understandings, skills and values and attitudes across all learning areas. The emphasis on literacy and numeracy is encapsulated in a holistic approach to learning where key ideas and concepts in a range of learning areas are presented in phase appropriate ways.



## High Quality Early Childhood Learning, Teaching and Assessment Practices

We provide opportunities for students to learn through a balance of play, intentional teaching and spontaneous experiences. Educators use a variety of strategies, including structured and unstructured play and explicit approaches with whole-class, small-group and individual encounters. Indoor and outdoor environments are used to enrich learning and provide opportunities to explore in active and engaging learning experiences. Students are encouraged to make decisions and take risks in learning, show initiative, make choices, reflect, problem solve and persist.

Educators' knowledge and ongoing assessment of each child's achievements are used to build on children's learning. Learning intentions are made clear and educators encourage students to reflect on their learning and ways to improve. Our educators have high expectations for all children's learning and demonstrate understanding of content and pedagogy. They monitor student's learning to develop programs and if required, access appropriate support to help individual children achieve their potential.

## Positive Sense of Identity and Well Being

We believe that building and nurturing relationships with children is crucial to their sense of belonging. It is important that children feel they are part of a community that supports and encourages their individuality, unique strengths and interests. The early years is a crucial time in which children develop interests, construct their own identities and begin to make sense of the challenges and complexities of everyday life. Learning experiences at South Coogee emphasize the need for children to develop skills that will allow them to participate fully and actively in society.

## Collaborative Partnerships and Effective Relationships

We value and acknowledge parents as children's first educators and involve families in supporting children's learning and contributing to the program. We believe that collaboration and participation are important elements in sustaining parental involvement in our children's learning. Effective partnerships with stakeholders that support children's learning and development are built on common goals and expectations, clear communication and mutual respect.