

## OSHC Philosophy



### **We believe children's well-being and development is supported best when they feel safe and secure.**

*Rationale – It is only when children feel safe that they will take risks to explore their physical environment. Children need to feel emotionally secure and valued.*

We will endeavour to :

- Provide a physical environment that is safe and encourages investigation
- Provide a happy, engaging atmosphere
- Interact with children in a warm and friendly manner
- Be consistent and fair in our expectations of children's behaviour and guide children in a positive way
- Ensure consistent and fair consequences to inappropriate behaviour
- Provide a predictable routine displayed on the pin board
- Continue our own Professional Development to ensure we understand best practice in this area.

### **We believe children's social and emotional development is critical to their future learning and well being.**

*Rationale – 'Current research shows that our children's success in life will depend less on their "traditional" IQ and more on their emotional intelligence – their ability to form successful relationships, be more understanding of others and form a positive outlook on life. They will need the new "Three Rs", the values of respect, responsibility and relationships. These values underpin every student's capacity to thrive at school' (Dr John Irvine & John Stewart)*

We will endeavour to:

- Help children learn to interact effectively
- Help children learn to balance their own rights, needs and feelings with those of others
- Celebrate children's achievements
- Model good behavior, respect and manners as staff members

### **We believe young children learn best through play and should be given autonomy in their environment.**

*Rationale – We believe that play is a child's work and that all learning is experiential. Children learn by doing. We aim to provide a creative and stimulating environment in which children can interact with materials and each other. Children are free to wonder, explore, create, and make mistakes, question and repeat experiences from which they can make their own conclusions.*

We will endeavour to

- Provide a balance of child initiated and adult initiated activities
- Provide materials that can be used in flexible and imaginative ways
- Provide opportunities for children to make choices and decisions
- Provide opportunities for children to work collaboratively with others
- Provide opportunities for autonomy, small group and whole group interactions
- Encourage risk-taking as a part of learning
- Plan experiences and activities to enhance children's physical and creative development

### **We believe children learn best when there is a positive and supportive relationship between staff and parents.**

*Rationale – Building relationships with families is in the best interests of all children and is an integral part of a quality curriculum. Communication and partnerships with families create a strong sense of belonging and connectedness.*

We will endeavour to

- Recognize and value the prior knowledge and experiences the children bring from home to the Out of School Hours Care environment
- Encourage parents to share information about their child
- Be available for informal chats whenever possible
- Provide regular communication in the school's weekly newsletter
- Display the weekly planned curriculum on the pinboard
- Display children's work to keep parents informed
- Write information on the white board which is located in the playground about the program

### **We support the School's faith based ethos, Christian values and motto of 'Sharing Jesus love, Learning as we grow'.**

*Rationale – We believe children should know that they are created with special gifts and talents to develop, enjoy and use. Children should be able to hear God's Word, know of His love and appreciate all that He gives us.*

We will provide children with the opportunity to

- Enjoy trusting relationships
- Experience a sense of belonging within a caring Christian community
- Question and be given appropriate, sensitive responses
- Experience love, forgiveness and faithfulness