

# Rainforest ELC Philosophy

At *Rainforest Early Learning Centre* we believe giving everyone the ability to learn together in a safe, secure, challenging, creative and homely environment. We believe each child to be an individual with unique abilities, wants and needs. Educators, parents, children and the community work together as partners to enrich children's life and learning.

Our Aim is:

- To open our service to all children and their families regardless of race, gender and ability
- To embrace acknowledge and respect each family's culture, beliefs and attitudes; inclusive practices promote family contribution to the program and children's learning
- To promote diversity, respect and trust in each other, our community and the natural environment
- To provide children, families and educators with the opportunity to appreciate and understand Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their histories and experiences
- To accept and welcome children and adults with additional needs and their families as respected members of our community; educators will collaborate and seek for additional support from relevant community resources, to accommodate for individual needs
- To keep families involved and informed about their child's learning and developmental progress throughout the year
- To create a sense of being and belonging amongst the service's community, thus allowing parents, children and educators to feel valued and supported
- To be aware and informed about community events and resources and allowing community members to visit and contribute to children's learning
- To nurture and promote each individual child's strengths, needs and individuality
- For children to learn at their own pace/capabilities and develop good self-esteem, initiative, creativity, and curiosity
- For children to make choices and develop self-help skills in a positive and supportive environment
- To encourage, educate and role model sustainable living, attitudes and practices
- To seek parents, children and the community's input in providing high quality care for our children. Together, as partners, we will plan, evaluate and provide a program, which promotes and encourages equality, diversity, inclusion, discovery, investigation, creativity and growth in all areas of development.
- To plan and implement a well-balanced program that allows children to participate and engage in both traditional hands on experiences and technology based learning; the main focus is to guide encourage and promote learning which allow the child to explore, create, problem solve, consider, think, listen and view critically, make decisions, observe, document, research, investigate ideas, demonstrate learning, take turns and learn with and from one another.
- To provide and promote healthy lifestyles, habits and practices for future living; menus, programs and routines will guide and support children's learning and experiences
- To encourage and support educators professional knowledge and growth
- To recognise and embrace each educator as an individual with individual strengths, knowledge and experiences
- to provide and allocate times and resources for educators to discuss, plan, implement and evaluate a well balanced and child focused program
- to develop, review and implement appropriate policies which have been designed and modified with input from management, educators and families

**We know that parent/guardian support is very valuable in gaining information, ideas and suggestions toward the best possible care for the children in our service!**

Above all, we want all of the children in our care to learn through play and mostly to have fun whilst doing so.

*The Rainforest Team*