



# Grow Early Learning Centre

Long Day Childcare Centre

Web: [www.growelc.com.au](http://www.growelc.com.au)

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## Our Philosophy

At Grow Early Learning we value and believe children should be educated and care for in a caring and stimulating environment in which all children can feel safe and secure. Each child is a valued individual with unique interests and strengths and we give children the freedom to choose activities they are most interested in. Staff guide children to make positive choices about their learning and development. Developmental play enables children to learn through concrete “hands-on” experiences such as doing, experimenting, predicting, achieving and making mistakes.

We believe all children, families and staff have a right to be treated with fairness and equity, have the same opportunities for participation and are accepted as valued members of the community. Relationships are important to a child’s health, well being and development.

## Children’s experiences

### A variety of perspectives about child learning

Through current theories, professional knowledge and understanding of child learning and developmental practices we aim to enrich each child’s experiences so that they develop a sense of self-achievement.

Through implementation of the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) we build on children’s interests and knowledge as individuals within the group and wider community. We look at developing the child as a whole by linking their learning and environment to the EYLF's 5 Learning Outcomes, principles, and practices.

We encourage their self help skills and promote a positive attitude to encourage high self worth, as we believe if a child is confident they will have the ability to do anything they set their minds to, now and into the future. This encourages lifelong strong emotional intelligence that gives children the ability to cope with life’s challenges.

## **The Importance of the early childhood years**

Children under 6 years of age are constantly learning. Most of a child's learning actually takes place during these years as research has found that under the age of 6, and even more so up to the age of 3, children's brain development is at its peak. All of the experiences a child has in this time contribute to the kind of people they will eventually become. Learning and development takes place through the medium of the child exploring [their] environment. The most common term for this form of learning is "play".

## **The Importance of play**

Play is the means by which young children develop their physical, intellectual and emotional skills. As they play, they learn to socialise, to consider others and the give and take of human relationships. The environment that stimulates growth and development through play also helps extend and promote the adaptability and creativity of the child.

Whilst educators value the learning through play experiences of children, we will ensure that activities planned for or any requests are appropriate for each child's age, developmental stage, and cultural beliefs.

## **Children's place in the community**

We acknowledge the valuable contribution that the community in general can make towards the holistic development of each child. We do this by fostering links between the children, their families and the broader community.

## **Diversity, fairness and social justice**

We support the principles of social justice. All children and families of all abilities, from religious, cultural or linguistically diverse backgrounds are treated equitably and are valued and included in all aspects of the Centre and the community.

We believe all children, families and staff have a right to be treated with fairness and equity, have the same opportunities for participation and are accepted as valued members of the community.

We acknowledge and respect the many differing social and cultural backgrounds of children in our care and the experiences these bring from the home environment. Respecting the needs, feelings and property of others is a mutual practice which assists in the development of compassion in others regardless of age.

We provide an anti-bias program as this encourages children's awareness of similarities between people, and it teaches them respect for individuals regardless of gender, religion, culture, race, physical or intellectual abilities.

## **Living document**

*Our philosophy is a living document and it is made available to everyone involved in the centre. All staff are supported to know, understand and contribute to our philosophy. In order to ensure the philosophy continually reflects current understandings about the way children develop and how child care informs their experiences, we perform periodic collaboration with parents, children, management, staff, the wider community and all other stakeholders.*

**Date endorsed by Committee/Board:**

12 April 2008

**Date reviewed:**

24 January 2013

**Date to be reviewed:**

January 2014

**Source Documents:**

1. Belonging, Being, Becoming: The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia. (2009). DEEWR.
2. National Quality Framework, (2011) ACECQA