**WHITFORD FAMILY CENTRE – CHILDREN’S PROGRAM**

**Statement of Philosophy**

1. Our centre offers a safe, home like environment which supports the individual needs of children and families based on open communication.
2. Families will be welcomed and encouraged to feel an integral part of our centre through input into curriculum and input into policy and procedure review. We have an ‘Open Door’ policy inviting families to participate any time of the day.
3. We provide an inclusive curriculum following the Early Years Learning Framework which reflects the diverse values of children, families, staff and the wider community.
4. We respect, accept and value each child, family and staff differences, needs and backgrounds.
5. We aim to develop awareness that inclusion is the process that enables each individual the opportunity for acceptance, belonging and participation enabling children to develop at their own pace and stage of development.
6. All areas of children’s development will be fostered through fun programs and play experiences that are age appropriate and are guided by the children’s interests.
7. All children experience learning that is engaging and builds success for life.
8. We give children time and space to enjoy just being children to learn about the world we live in.
9. Children are encouraged to enjoy each other's company and develop their social skills through free play, small and large group experiences.
10. We aim to provide continuity of care for our children and their families which enable all children to feel safe, secure and have a sense of belonging.
11. Children are guided through positive reinforcement and praise.
12. We maintain a high standard of hygiene at all times.
13. Parents provide children’s healthy morning or afternoon snack.
14. Educators initiate and maintain respectful communication with children families and peers.
15. All children and their families will be warmly welcomed to Whitford Family Centre and lovingly cared for by our dedicated professional staff.

Revised by staff and families August 2013

EYLF A Vision For Children’s Learning