

**Pre Kindy Statement of Philosophy**

Whitford Family Centre Pre Kindy believes in supporting the unique and individual needs of children within a safe and home-like environment. All areas of children’s development are fostered through fun programs and play experiences which are age appropriate and guided by the children’s interests.

Through an inclusive curriculum, following the Early Years Learning Framework, we believe in offering a program which reflects the diverse values of children, families, staff educators and the wider community.

Whilst it is the children who spend the most time with us, we believe that families should be welcomed and encouraged to feel that they are an integral part of the centre. We have an open-door policy inviting family members to participate in the session through rosters.

Whitford Family Centre aims to develop awareness that inclusion is the process which enables everyone the opportunity for acceptance, belonging and participation, allowing children to develop at their own pace and stage of development. We respect, accept and value each child, family and educators’ difference, needs and backgrounds. All children and their families are warmly welcomed to Whitford Family Centre and lovingly cared for by our dedicated professional educators.

Through engaging learning experiences, children have the space to enjoy just being children to learn about the world they live in. Educators involve children in learning about the environment and sustainability. Our educators believe in encouraging children to enjoy each other's company and develop their social skills through free play and small and large group experiences. It is our intention that this methodology will develop skills that the children can take with them and use as the building blocks for life beyond the centre.

The Centre’s pedagogical Influence is based on the theorist Bronfenbrenner whose most significant work was his ecological systems theory of child development. We consider that Bronfenbrenner’s bio-ecological approach helps us to consider the true balance of influences which are likely to play a part in the development of all children at the centre.

We strive to provide continuity of care for the children and their families which enable all children to feel safe, secure and have a sense of belonging in an environment where educators initiate and maintain respectful communication with children families and peers with open lines of communication between all parties.

Educators at the centre recognise the need for a healthy environment where the children’s physical and mental wellbeing is given our upmost attention.