

# Our Philosophy

## Camperdown Pre-School Association

### how we are

The Camperdown Pre-School is run by a committee of management and operates at 50 Campbell Street, Camperdown. This facility also incorporates Maternal and Child Health, Playgroup as well as three and four year old kindergarten programs.

We pride ourselves on being part of the continuity of early learning from birth to a child's transition to school.

The kindergarten follows the Victorian Early Years Development Framework. The focus of which is on developing children's sense of personal identity, ensuring their overall wellbeing, fostering their sense of belonging and valuing diversity in the community whilst building effective communication skills and learning strategies. The kindergarten will cultivate programs that provide an opportunity for all children to develop their whole person by using their natural capacity to play, whether it is by themselves or in group settings.

The following is our philosophy which was created with the input from families, children, staff and our Committee.

### Children & Play

The kindergarten recognises that all children are individuals.

The kindergarten will show respect and build on these differences incorporating choice and opportunity into its planning.

Play will be appropriate to the developmental age of the children in the group.

Learning will be based on a play orientated approach.

The children's interests will be encouraged and used to design learning experiences that match, challenge as well as extend a child's abilities.

Children will be offered encouragement and support at their level of development to enable them to solve problems and to become independent.

Children will be allowed time to make choices and explore new ideas.

We believe children are happiest and learn best when they are relaxed and when they have a positive self image.

It is important to us that children are treated with respect, allowed to be children, to play and develop at their own pace in a safe environment.

### Environment

The kindergarten will always be a welcoming, warm, safe and well resourced environment.

## We are committed to .

We are committed to a common sense approach to governance, communication, and problem solving between staff, management, parents and children.

We are committed to the values of empathy, resilience, creativity, self-belief, self-esteem, sustainability, adaptability and individuality.

The kindergarten is committed to a smooth, kind, caring and gentle approach when planning transitions from home to school and from kindergarten to school.

We are committed to being a continuous learning environment that adapts to changes in education, participates in relevant networks and the ongoing evaluation of the program and its staff enabling the kindergarten to meet changing child and family needs.

## Teamwork

Through effective communication we will work together to nurture a team that is resourceful, accountable, open, accepting and approachable.

## Family

The kindergarten recognises that the family is the greatest and most important influence in a child's life. We will work closely with families to support them and to gather information about each child's strengths, interests and past experiences and expectations for the kindergarten year and we incorporate and embrace these ideas into our planning.

Our kindergarten is inclusive of all.

## Learning & Technology

We will incorporate and respond positively to innovative educational ideas and technology where possible.

We will promote and encourage a love of learning and recognise that learning is a lifelong process.

## Wider Community

We respect the input and knowledge of all early learning and educational professional services with whom we work.

We recognise that we are an integral part of the dynamic Corangamite community and encourage and support community involvement on a number of levels.

We strengthen our community by providing high quality pre-school education and supporting Playgroup, Maternal and Child Health and other community services.