

## *Saddleworth Early Learning Centre*

Saddleworth Early Learning Centre's (SELC) philosophy was developed between the Preschool Director, Early Childhood Workers, children, Governing Council members and families. The statement is reviewed annually and communicated to families and the wider community through informal conversations and newsletters. Staff regularly refer to the philosophy to ensure the philosophy and our practise reflects what we believe. We talk with children about the things we believe are important to ensure they have the best possible time at kindergarten and to ensure the best possible learning outcomes for them.

### **Our Philosophy**

**We believe that each child is individual, unique and important and has the right to develop holistically to their full potential. SELC will support this by:**

- Providing a curriculum (the Early Years Learning Framework) that allows children to explore, imagine, create, problem solve, take risks, develop independence, socialise, have fun and play.
- Providing a high quality care and learning environment that is safe, welcoming, happy supportive, accessible and caters for the individual needs of children and families.
- Providing opportunities for families and community members to become involved in our programs and services.
- Fostering the development of stable, caring and respectful relationships.
- Respecting and valuing the cultural and social diversity of children and their families.

**We believe that parents and families are a child's first educators and we aim to:**

- Welcome parents and family members with respect and sensitivity.
- Encourage open communication between staff and parents/carers.
- Respond to individual family needs.
- Recognise and respect the diversity of families.
- Create, support and encourage involvement and participation.
- Provide information about support services available at the site and in the local community.

**We believe the staff to be the centre's most valuable resource. In order to provide a high quality program we aim to:**

- Use a holistic approach.
- Provide job satisfaction.
- Value the skills and knowledge that each individual staff member brings to the team.
- Respect the diversity of staff backgrounds and experiences.
- Encourage ongoing professional development opportunities.
- Maintain a safe and supportive work environment.

**We believe that the centre is a valuable community resource and as such we aim to:**

- Build relationships and share information with our feeder schools.
- Build relationships with our Playgroup and our local Family Day Care Provider.
- Build relationships with other community agencies.
- Provide an accessible, flexible and high quality service in response to community needs.