

## Our Philosophy



# Lakeside Creative Minds is a warm homely space immersed in an atmosphere of joy, laughter and wellbeing.

A place that values the comfort of our families and promotes our children's voices. The early years provides us with the privilege of working alongside children as they develop life skills and explore the world in a mindful way. We take pride in our natural organic-based learning environments and extend our commitment with a pledge to preserve the environment.

We recognise the need to educate and include children in our sustainable practices to protect our environment today and for the children's future.



#### Home life

Families are the most important influence in a child's life. Our role is to create a "home life" atmosphere, ensuring all children feel comfortable, nurtured and secure in respectful relationships. Each child is a unique individual with a wide range of needs, skills, interests and learning styles. Thus, it is important to provide developmentally appropriate and safe experiences to extend children's understanding of their world, creating an environment which provides opportunities to scaffold children's growth, learning and development.

Children are given every opportunity to succeed and their diverse circumstances, cultural background and abilities, are respected and valued by our educators.

#### Holistic wellbeing

Our approach to teaching is one with a view of the child in a holistic manner. This means that we will provide support to each child by supporting their physical, emotional, social and spiritual well-being. We believe that each child is unique and that they should be treated as an individual. We provide a play-based learning environment where, through play, each child can discover various interests, ideas, share thoughts and build on the areas of development.

We believe it is important the educators facilitate learning using our National Frameworks through interest based intentional teaching, programming, reflection and documenting children's progress based on sound developmental knowledge.

### Open ended environments

We believe that our open environments are the third teacher. We feel that children benefit the most when their own interests lead their inquiry and curiosity. We strive to build and extend on their interests with respect, encouragement and support. At every opportunity we promote a natural way of living. As a service we take our environmental responsibility to heart and have embedded ongoing sustainable practices that both our staff and children implement with pride, we hope to make a small difference to the environment and yet a huge difference in educating tomorrow's future.

We acknowledge the contributions of Indigenous peoples from the past, present and emerging, who have shaped and continue to enrich the country in which we live.

