

# **Highton Child Care & Development Centre: Mission Statement and Philosophy**

## **Our Mission:**

Highton Child Care & Development Centre is a small centre with a big heart, that aims to provide each child with a caring, safe, secure, and nurturing environment in which they can grow and flourish, with the support of high-quality, qualified educators and professionals. We follow and value the National Education and Care Services Law and Regulations, the National Quality Standards, the Early Years Learning Framework for Australia, and the Victorian Early Years Learning and Developmental Framework, which are all reflected in our curriculum and guide our daily practices. We recognise that this service is on Wadawurrung land. We acknowledge Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Peoples as the Traditional Custodians of this country and their connection to the land, water, skies, and local community in which we operate. We pay our respect to them, their culture, and customs both past and present. We also pay our respects to their community Elders, whether they are past, present, or emerging.

## **Our Philosophy:**

At Highton Child Care & Development Centre, we believe that every child is unique and deserves to be treated with respect and dignity. We are committed to providing a high-quality learning experience that is based on the principles and practices of the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF), the Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework (VEYLDF), the National Quality Standard (NQS), and the National Education and Care Services Law and Regulations.

We are committed to providing a child safe environment, where every child is protected from harm and abuse, and where their rights and interests are respected. We also believe in promoting the well-being of every child in our care, and in providing a safe, nurturing, and stimulating environment that supports their physical, social, emotional, and cognitive development.

We believe that play-based opportunities are the primary way in which children learn and that children should be encouraged to explore and discover the world around them through these experiences. We believe that children learn best in an environment that is safe, supportive, and stimulating, with opportunities for both structured and unstructured play.

We believe in building positive relationships with families and the wider community, and in working collaboratively with families to support their child's learning and development. We believe that a child's family and culture is the foundation for their learning and development, and that they are both influential and important throughout a child's life. We encourage families of the service to be actively involved in the centre where possible and honour the heritage and culture that each has to offer. We are respectful of this diversity and believe this should be recognised and celebrated.

We believe that our educators are our greatest asset, and we are committed to providing ongoing professional development and support to ensure that they are equipped with the knowledge and skills to provide the best possible learning experience for every child in our care.

We are committed to continuous improvement, and we regularly reflect on our practice to ensure that we are providing the best possible learning opportunities and experience for every child in our care. We believe in fostering a culture of continuous learning and improvement, where every member of our team is encouraged to share their ideas and insights, and to work collaboratively to achieve our shared goals.