

# Soldiers' Settlement Public School Preschool



## *Environment and Sustainability Philosophy*

*If you are thinking a year ahead, plant a seed.  
If you are thinking a decade ahead, plant a tree.  
If you are thinking a century ahead, educate the  
people.  
(Chinese Proverb)*

### **Rationale**

Soldiers' Settlement Public School Preschool is committed to encouraging and increasing the awareness of sustainable practices and respect for the environment, through engagement in sustainable practices. Children, families and educators will be supported to be environmentally responsible within the preschool environment and encouraged to extend these practices outside of the service.

### **Early Years Learning Framework**

**Principle 4** – Respect for diversity

**Practice 1** – Holistic approaches

**Outcome 2** – Children are connected to their world

**Outcome 3** – Children have a strong sense of well-being

**National Quality Standards:** 3.3.1, 3.3.2, 6.1.2

### **Strategies**

#### **Educators will;**

- model sustainable and environmentally responsible practices
- embed practices in the daily preschool routine
- involve children in decision making processes and discussions about practices
- keep families informed about sustainable practices being explored within the service
- discuss sustainable practices with families and children as part of the preschool curriculum
- reflect on sustainable practices during staff meetings
- aim to purchase resources which are made from natural products and reduce the amount of plastic and/or disposable resources
- support children in developing vegetable gardens and developing an understanding of lifecycles
- collaborate with the local council to discuss sustainability and the environment, as well as engage in incursions and excursions to support sustainable practices.

**Children will;**

- engage in environmental projects with staff and specialist visitors/staff
- participate in sustainable practices, such as water, recycling, composting and maintaining the worm farm
- assist in maintaining the compost bin and worm farm
- engage in environment projects with school staff/specialist visitors

**Families will be;**

- invited to share sustainable practices used in the home and suggest ideas for implementation at preschool
- supported to reduce waste in lunchboxes
- invited to contribute recyclable materials for craft (boxes, tin cans etc)
- provided with information regarding energy efficiency, saving water, reducing rubbish and recycling
- kept informed about sustainable practices and projects being undertaken at the preschool