



# Statement of Philosophy

## Soldiers' Settlement Public School Preschool Philosophy

At Soldiers' Settlement Public School Preschool we would like to acknowledge the Dharawal people who are the traditional custodians of this land. We would also like to pay respect to the elders past and present of the Dharawal nation and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the community.

At our preschool we aim to create an atmosphere that is loving, caring, honest and trusting, where all our families feel welcome and have a sense of **belonging**. The diversity of families within our local community is acknowledged and respected throughout the program. Our play-based curriculum ensures children learn and grow in a fun, happy environment where social skills are developed, children work collaboratively, they feel valued, seen and heard, and emerging skills are fostered.

We believe that the safety and well-being of children is paramount. We endeavour to provide an environment where all children are included and supported while participating in an educational program that provides a wide variety of activities to cater to children's varying interests and learning needs. We educate and encourage the children to show respect for their resources and environment. We believe we have a responsibility to introduce the children to an awareness of sustainability and encourage them to implement these practices. We believe all children are capable, motivated, independent, creative and involved learners who benefit best from play-based experiences where they are given time to engage in **being**. We draw upon our community to help support and educate our preschool children and their families through involvement in the preschool program.

Preschool educators work as a cohesive team drawing on each other's skills and experiences to provide a holistic and well-balanced environment. We support each other with on-going reflection and professional development to ensure the delivery of a quality early childhood program. We also work as part of a collaborative team of Soldiers' Settlement Public School. This provides us with the opportunity to participate in whole school activities, celebrations and transition to school programs, ensuring a successful transition to Kindergarten. We recognise children as future citizens who have the agency to make change and we will work to assist them in **becoming** socially aware members of our community.

