Punchbowl Preschool Philosophy

OUR PLACE
The Aboriginal Custodians of the land in Punchbowl are the Bediagal People. Punchbowl Public School was built on this land as a Department of Education and Communities Preschool. It was built in the early 1970’s by the Whitlam Government. It was constructed to assist the large amounts of non English migrants living in the local community at the time. It is a two (2) unit preschool with an early intervention unit sharing the grounds.

OUR BELIEFS
At Punchbowl Public School Preschool, we believe that each child, family, and educator is a unique and valued individual. We value and honour diversity and accept and celebrate differences in other people. We believe that each person and their family’s values, culture, beliefs, abilities and language should be acknowledged and accepted and reflected in the preschool environment.

We believe children deserve a fun, stimulating and pleasing environment which encourages learning through play. We believe play is essential in the lives of young children. We believe play values the ideal of allowing children to “just be,” and recognises the importance of early childhood.

We believe play should be fun, exiting, spontaneous, hands – on, stimulating, relaxing, comforting, and challenging. We believe it is important to provide opportunities for children to create, experiment, discover, explore, investigate, solve problems, and express ideas with the support of other children and educators. We believe in celebrating children’s play and learning through meaningful documentation and reflection.

OUR GOALS AND ASPIRATIONS
Our goals are to enable the children to be the capable, resourceful and valued members of the community, we believe them to be. To encourage and support them in following their interests. Each child is an individual and learns at his or her own rate. Our goal is to both recognise and respect this by aspiring to an unhurried environment with meaningful, authentic experiences. Thus enabling the child to learn in a more affective manner.

OUR COMMITMENT
We are committed to supporting the children to make their own decisions and choices and seek to actively develop positive problem solving skills in a success – orientated environment. We are committed to providing children with opportunities to discover and learn about themselves, others and the environment in an atmosphere that encourages harmonious and meaningful relationships.

Engaging in a sense of wonder, belonging to and love of the land, nature and animals is critical for young children to develop lifelong respectful, positive and proactive attitudes to our environment. In giving children time to play outdoors everyday, experiencing the natural rhythms of the seasons, and breath fresh air, as they explore natural materials.

INTENTIONS FOR ACTIONS
We are active in building a community that enables children to develop a readiness for the transition to school, gaining confidence in literacy and numeracy.

The community being the children, families, the educators of Punchbowl Public School and Preschool. As part of this community, we have a responsibility to our children and families to establish and maintain a sense of belonging and connection to the land and to our shared Aboriginal history and culture.

We are intent on developing respectful relationships with children, families and staff through open and meaningful communication. We encourage and support children to interact peacefully and collaboratively, and express empathy for others.

We are intent on actively supporting and developing a partnership with families to share the nurturing and education of their children, providing consistency between the home and preschool. We encourage each family to participate in the preschool community and support and welcome their interest and involvement.

We believe that each child is a unique human being who can contribute so much to the enrichment of our lives, as we can to theirs.