

## **GREENWITH KINDERGARTEN PHILOSOPHY**

### **OUR PHILOSOPHY**

*We provide an educational experience for children and their families that will develop life skills and competencies through a play and inquiry based program. All children are seen as rich and powerful learners and the educators regard themselves as co researchers of learning with children whatever their level of ability.*

#### **For children we believe:**

- *In a holistic approach to children's learning and development. This approach is concerned with the development of every child's intellectual, emotional, social, physical, creative and spiritual potential. It seeks to engage children in the learning process and encourages personal and collective responsibility.*
- *Each child is unique and competent in their own way, and the way they think, feel and interact with others reflect this. To view the child as unique and competent is to view their potential. Children need an environment to flourish and grow their positive self esteem.*
- *Children are active and interactive learners. Children's active engagement in the learning process and their engagement with others in interactive activities or engagement with materials forms the dynamics for knowledge and understanding. Through active learning children are constantly changing, adjusting, and rearranging meaning and understanding of things.*
- *Children need real life, first hand experiences. Children are observers and explorers by nature and these experiences help develop an understanding of themselves and the environment they are in.*
- *Children grow and develop in the group and learn to respect their own and each other's rights and needs. Differences are celebrated.*

#### **For adults we believe:**

- *And are committed to respecting and maintaining the rights and dignity of children and families.*
- *Parents should be able to use the kindergarten as a resource for information and parenting support*
- *The kindergarten should be seen as an extension of the child's home and that a strong partnership and link should exist between the two. Emphasis is placed on building strong, collaborative relationships with families and maintaining effective communication.*
- *All staff will be supported in their learning and in their development of new skills and acquisition of new knowledge*

#### **For the community we believe:**

- *That we should promote the role and value of our kindergarten and develop strong links with the local community and schools and liaise with other community agencies.*
- *That often the Kindergarten experience establishes life long friendships between parents and children and this is encouraged throughout the year.*

#### **We believe our program:**

- *Will support children to thrive in a child centred environment that takes into account children's daily lives- including the need for restful areas and creative areas. There should be an interconnectedness between the indoors and outdoors and an understanding that children need to be in harmony with the environment.*
- *Children need time to experiment and develop independent thinking and skills. They need time to play and explore and experiment with their ideas and knowledge. They need to try things out, make mistakes, try something else, repeat their play and consolidate ideas.*
- *Learning comes from social interactions. Children experience positive social relationships through daily interactions with responsive and affectionate adults. This helps children develop self esteem and self confidence to communicate and master challenges in their world.*

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