

Dernancourt Kindergarten

Service statement of philosophy

At Dernancourt Kindergarten we aim to provide a safe, nurturing, adventurous, learning environment that fosters children's curiosity, wonder and awe.

Children

We believe children to be competent, curious and courageous learners from unique and diverse backgrounds. We support their right to express views, opinions freely and have these taken into account regarding any matter affecting them. We strive to meet the needs of the whole child by providing opportunities to develop physical, social, emotional, cognitive and language skills. We aim to foster the development of the whole child through a play based program which is flexible, challenging, developmentally appropriate and promotes high engagement and involvement. We want to give children the chance to spend time in nature with passionate teachers encouraging exploration and learning.

Families and Communities

At Dernancourt Kindergarten we develop authentic, inclusive and respectful relationships with parents/caregivers and the school community. We provide families with the opportunity to work in partnership with educators, to participate in their child's learning and development, to share decision making and to contribute to and/or access resources to support family wellbeing. We value the diverse strengths and interests of parents/caregivers/members of the community and invite them to teach/share any expert skills or experiences to complement and enrich our learning program. We aim to work alongside community groups, agencies and services to share resources, provide education and develop support networks. We value the connection Kurna people have with the land and seek to engage with members within the Aboriginal community.

Educational Staff

Educators work collaboratively to support and enhance children's learning, wellbeing and development. Respectful, honest and trusting relationships and communication is maintained. We value the unique skills and contribution of each staff member learning from and with each other. Opportunities for professional development are encouraged and supported in order to achieve best practice.

Management

The Dernancourt Kindergarten is managed by a parent run voluntary Governing Council in conjunction with guidelines set by the Department for Education. This creates opportunities for parent involvement and participation.

We liaise regularly with parents/caregivers and all families are given the opportunity to gain information about our centre through policies, newsletters, photo displays, the parent resource area, our website and Facebook groups. Families are kept informed about key decisions determined by the Governing Council through notices, information displays, social media and regular distribution of minutes. We welcome feedback from families and all views are respected and responded to.

