

# CHILDREN'S SERVICES PHILOSOPHY



Wingecarribee Children's Services strives to provide education and care that values and recognises the uniqueness of all involved; children, parents, educators, staff and the community.

We believe it takes a community to raise a child and the shared vision to provide an environment which is rich with opportunities for children to grow and develop to their individual potential.

Wingecarribee Children's Services is committed to Council's 2031 plan for "A healthy and productive community, learning and living in harmony, proud of our heritage and nurturing our environment"

*Wingecarribee 2031 Our Future Our Choice.*

The following principles form the foundation of our Services and underpin our practices:

## **RESPECT:**

### **The rights of the child**

- By fostering, supporting and encouraging each child to feel safe and develop a positive self-esteem and sense of identity.

### **The role of parents and families**

- Through respectful and considerate relationships where families feel welcome and their opinions are valued, considered and incorporated.

### **Valuing and acknowledging staff and educators**

- By recognising the range of experience, skills, knowledge, values and beliefs they bring to each Service.

## **VALUE:**

### **Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures.**

- Through acknowledgment and valuing our local and wider community and embracing indigenous perspectives into practice.

### **Equity, Inclusion and Diversity**

- By encouraging each child to have a strong sense of belonging and acknowledge their unique identities, ways of learning, understandings and capabilities.

### **Our environment, fauna and flora**

- By embracing and developing our social responsibilities for the natural world and fostering a commitment to improve, educate and foster sustainable practices.

## **ENGAGEMENT:**

### **Children as successful, competent and capable learners**

- Through programs and environments which cater to the individual child. Environments that provide opportunities for each child to be an active participant in decision making, challenge themselves, take risks and develop in a supported and safe environment.

### **Value and foster relationships with families and communities**

- By providing "pathways" of opportunity for families and the community to contribute, encouraging a sense of "belonging".

### **Role modelling and being positive advocates**

- By using our position, knowledge and skills to role model to children and advocating for the rights of children and families.

## **QUALITY:**

### **Commitment to the National Quality Frameworks**

- Through compliance with legislative requirements and active engagement with the National Quality Standards and National curriculum frameworks for learning.

### **Commitment to Professional development**

- By providing opportunities for staff and educators to reflect on self-improvement and professional development and supporting and facilitating professional growth through training opportunities.
- Best Practice based on well researched and accepted practices
- Services maintain commitment towards currently recognised practices which are adopted and incorporated into Service Policy and Procedure and implemented as part of our dedication to offering high quality and responsive education and care.

### **Critical Reflection**

- Management, staff and educators use reflective practice to guide and steer each service and personal improvement.