BERTRAM HAWKER KINDERGARTEN

PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT

Our values and vision make us who we are:
... a community of children, educators and families ... learning with and from one another
... having fun ... connecting with nature, the world and each other
... facing challenges with respect and a sense of adventure

LEARNING
We believe that children learn best when they are actively engaged in meaningful experiences that build on their current understandings and interests.

We provide play and discovery based learning experiences.

Our everyday interactions and our environment encourage creativity, literacy, numeracy and problem solving skills that are necessary for lifelong learning.

Educators are co-learners with children, families and the community. We value children’s ideas and wonderings and respond to them when we plan experiences.

We acknowledge the importance of collaborative partnerships with families, who are children’s first and foremost educators. Family and community involvement in our curriculum introduces children to new and diverse experiences and enriches their learning.

Educators work collaboratively and learn from each other by valuing our diverse ideas and expertise.

INCLUSIVITY
We believe that everyone is a capable and competent learner.

We involve children in decision making where they plan, choose, negotiate and share their interests and skills.

Diversity contributes to the richness of our community. We actively engage in discussions and experiences with children that aim to respect diversity and challenge stereotypes and biases.

RESPECT
We care for one another and for our world. We value children learning

Our central focus is on relationships, responsibility and working together to strengthen relationships. Our aim is for everyone to feel safe, secure and confident to share their ideas and be open to new ideas.

In our daily practice we encourage children to be thoughtful about what they are doing and to understand why things are happening.

Restorative Practice is used to support children to negotiate and empathise with others, to recognise when play is unfair and to build a caring, fair and inclusive community.

Through hands-on daily discovery children develop an appreciation of and connection with the natural environment.

We believe that assisting children to sustain the dispositions of self-confidence, optimism, curiosity and critical thinking will enable them to make fair decisions for themselves and actively contribute to their world.

Revised May 2014