



Outside School Hours Care Philosophy

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM AND PRACTICE:

Scaffolding learning for individuals is of high priority and we believe this provides children with opportunities to confidently discover, imagine and explore whilst developing positive relationships and further developing strengths and interests. Our diverse educators are dedicated to informing and implementing different learning theories and strategies that best support our children during their differing stages of development.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND SAFETY:

Our service believes each individual deserves to be treated equitably in a safe and secure learning environment. In order to create this environment, we have sufficient supervision of children, current staff accreditation and training and promote healthy lifestyle options. We strive to encourage the children to take responsibility for their own healthy decision making in regard to their safety, the menu and physical activities. Immanuel Lutheran College OSHC regularly practices our incident and emergency management practices and procedures involving all staff and children.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT:

Our service environment is designed to encourage meaningful play-based learning both indoors and outdoors. The resources and equipment at our service can be used for multiple purposes which simulate children to connect prior learning to their current play and use their imagination. Physical spaces and activities are planned and created with the inclusion and equity of individual and collective children in mind. Immanuel Lutheran College OSHC strive to increase the prevalence of our Christian Ethos in the OSHC room. Immanuel Lutheran College OSHC cares for the environment and supports children to make environmentally sustainable choices. Educators encourage the children to care for our established gardens and use this produce within our service.

STAFFING ARRANGEMENTS:

Immanuel Lutheran College OSHC believes that incorporating holistic approaches to lifelong learning begins with the inclusion of qualified and highly motivated educators. Educators continually strive to uphold our equitable and inclusive policies. Our staff endeavour to recognise the diversity of our families that attend the service and are constantly building relationships that will help to contribute to the richness of our care. Each of our educators understand the importance of reflective practice to promote ongoing learning within our service and to support the professional development of staff.

RELATIONSHIPS WITH CHILDREN:

The staff at Immanuel Lutheran College OSHC pride themselves on building respectful and equitable relationships with the children and their families. Educator guidance is vital and we understand that how we interact within the service can impact on the child's social and emotional development. To cater for all children, we make considerations for the differing physical, social, emotional and cognitive abilities to ensure our programming and group dynamics are suitable for all children. All Educators strongly believe in the inclusion and equitable support of every individual child at the service. All aspects of the program, including routines, are organised in ways that maximise opportunities for each child's learning.

COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS WITH FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES:

We believe OSHC families are the heart of our service and this is essential to develop and maintain effective ongoing inclusion respectful and trusting relationships. We encourage parents to contribute to future planning and evaluate previous programs to ensure we are continually improving all aspects of our service. Our service partnerships are based on effective communication and building foundations with care givers. We value care giver expectations, attitudes, strengths and knowledge in regard to the children's experience at OSHC. Educators aim to communicate and support families through sharing community connections. We strive to develop our relationships with the local community through engaging with various community members through our program.

GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP:

The Christian Ethos is an integral part of our service and we believe all children can prosper when guided by our educators and walking at the hands of God. The operation of the service is based on the service philosophy. The service is committed to providing quality care for children in a rich learning environment with Christian Ethos. Systems are in place to manage risk and enable the effective management and operation of a quality service. Staff members participate in monthly staff meetings, staff reviews and professional development. OSHC committee and educators understand their role and responsibility in the implementation of quality areas.