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## Dandenong Community Family Day Care Philosophy 2021

*We believe the child is at the centre of all we do, surrounded by kin, family and professionals supporting learning, development and well-being.*

*We value best practice and professional development.*

*We value each other as Early Childhood Education Professionals and respect and value our colleagues knowledge*

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### Children as citizens

- We will support children's right to make choices about all things that affect them
- We will listen to their words and be responsive to their actions
- We will provide an environment where children have the right to express themselves
- We will role model diplomacy
- We will advocate for children's rights

### Equity and Diversity

- We will support cultural competency in all children including a greater understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Straight ways of knowing and being
- We will support Children's sense of belonging to their community
- We are committed to equity and avoid practices that directly or indirectly contribute to gender equality, prejudice and discrimination
- We will be inclusive of all abilities

### Partnerships with families

- We understand that the family is the child's first teacher and as such will establish a learning and caring partnership with each family
- We will use families understanding of their children and educators knowledge of best practice to support shared decision making about each child's learning and wellbeing
- We will respect and share cultural knowledge
- We will provide families with access to information about current best practice, parenting resources and their child's progress

### Curriculum

- We build on children's strengths and have high expectations for success
- We value children's learning and promote self-directed learning based on children's interests and intentional teaching practices
- We use the frameworks EYLF and MTOP and will use these to guide our intentional teaching for best outcomes for children
- We will promote independence and develop each child's sense of Agency
- We value indoor and outdoor play spaces that are flexible, adaptable and sensory rich
- We will provide children with the time to explore when they are learning and doing
- We will develop indoor and outdoor play spaces that support opportunities for learning and create interest from a child's perspective
- We believe that the environment to be the third teacher

### Educators working as professionals

- We will participate in professional development to improve practice and programs
- We will provide a safe, clean, secure and welcoming environment for children and families
- We will be engaged and enthusiastic in our approach
- We will read information given to us to be more informed
- We will share our documentation of children's learning with families
- We will share our knowledge of child development with families

### Partnerships with Professionals and Community Engagement

- We will draw on the knowledge and expertise of other professionals to include all children to participate in the curriculum
- We will work collaboratively to share information and plan to ensure holistic approaches to children's learning and development
- We will build on the strengths of each educator and team members.
- We will share information with families
- We will assist children and families to transition to other services
- We will develop an understanding of the community in which we belong
- We will seek opportunities to engage children in the local community
- We will make community connections that will support children and families individual needs

### Reflective Practice

- We will reflect on and critically evaluate our practices.
- We will think about our daily challenges and plan to support changes
- We will reflect on our knowledge and seek professional guidance
- We will share our ideas with colleagues offering new perspectives