



CENTRE PHILOSOPHY

Our vision is to provide loving, connective care that nurtures, educates, inspires and values children (aged 0-6 years) and brings families and the community together.

We acknowledge the original owners of this land, the Gweagal, Bidjigal (also known as Bediagal) and Dharug people, along with all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the community and their languages.

At Panania Child Care Centre, we like to represent our philosophy in the form of a tree. The tree symbolises the development and personal experiences of the children and the educators all interwoven - supporting the Early Years Learning Frameworks (National Curriculum) and the National Quality Standards (ACECQA) into our daily practices. The hands and hearts represent our families, educators, the local community and the centre's environment all growing together.



We value each child, family member and educator as unique individuals. Diversity is cherished and our differences are celebrated. We believe each individual and their family's values, culture, beliefs, abilities and language should be acknowledged, accepted and reflected in the centre's environment.

At Panania Child Care Centre, all children have the right to grow in a happy, nurturing, home-like environment. We strive to create a feeling of acceptance and a sense of belonging by making sure children feel safe and secure. We believe learning is enhanced in an environment where you feel you belong. Our educators build close and positive relationships with each child, and understand that the foundation for these relationships is trust and respect. We nurture these important relationships with our children, our families and our staff through open and meaningful communication.

Education can be transformational when it is focused on the child and takes them on a journey of self-discovery and growth. Each child's passion, creativity and

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Imagination are valued and nurtured, and encouraged to soar. We believe in developing the mind, body and soul.

We provide our children with opportunities to discover and learn about themselves, others and the environment in an atmosphere that encourages harmonious and meaningful relationships.

Play is essential in the lives of young children. We believe that we must allow children to 'just be' and to explore and discover in a calm, uninterrupted environment. We create an environment where play is fun, spontaneous and authentic. Our play experiences are imaginative, hands-on, stimulating, relaxing, comforting and challenging. We meaningfully celebrate our children's play, discoveries and learning through reflection and documentation.

At Panania Child Care Centre, our children are encouraged and supported to follow their learning interests, passions and ideas. We recognise that young children are resourceful and capable of making a valuable contribution to the community and to the world. We strive to build a community which values children, respects their rights and provides them safety and love.

We believe as part of this community, we have a responsibility to maintain a sense of belonging for all. We strive to foster a connection to the land, to recognise and value our shared Aboriginal history and culture, and to actively embrace and share the message of reconciliation.

We encourage and support children to interact peacefully and collaboratively, to express empathy for others and to actively challenge bias and promote social justice. We like to develop a partnership with each family, and we encourage you to participate in our centre's community and welcome your interest and involvement.

By nurturing a sense of wonder, belonging and love of the natural environment - our land, nature and animals - we can ensure a sustainable future for our children and our world. It is critical to develop lifelong respectful, positive and proactive attitudes towards our environment. To do this, we provide children with time to play outdoors every day - to feel the grass beneath their feet, the sun on their face, the fresh air filling their lungs and the natural rhythm of the seasons.

As educators, we too are always learning and growing, and we are constantly driven to be better. We have an ongoing commitment to continue on a path of professional growth through critical reflection and professional development.

Ultimately, developing a readiness for the transition to school, and more importantly, a readiness for life, are integral to the role of our centre. Our focus is on our children, our families, our educators and all the connections we have made since 1998.

Come and grow with us...