



# *Statement of Philosophy*

**VISION: At Elizabeth North Preschool and Occasional Care, we aim to guide, inspire, and encourage children to achieve personal greatness.**

Through the 'About You' questionnaires, families have told us they want their child(ren) to feel safe, to feel cared for, and to be supported to develop skills while experiencing joy. The children have told us they want to play and have fun. By collaborating with children, their families, wider community and interagency professionals, we provide a safe, supportive, nurturing, happy, and challenging learning environment for all children in our care. Children develop a sense of belonging, explore ideas, and take risks in their play-based learning, leading to new knowledge and skill development across physical (gross and fine motor), language, social, emotional, and cognitive developmental domains.

We believe that learning is a relational experience and warm, responsive relationships are foundational, and that every child is unique, needing to be met at their individual stages of development and play. Through parent/carer information, developmental assessments, observations, and identifying each child's needs and interests, we intentionally plan our program to ensure every child has opportunities to contribute to their own learning by thinking independently, making choices, problem solving, develop a positive sense of wellbeing, and have the opportunity to actively participate in our preschool community as caretakers and custodians.

As Educators, we strive for a culturally equitable and inclusive preschool. We respect diversity and differing cultural perspectives, including those of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin. We acknowledge the family's role as the child's 'First Educator' and support them to maximise their child's attendance at preschool, where they have opportunity to build upon those first years of early child development and strive to meet their full potential.

We provide an intentionally planned, interesting, and stimulating active learning environment to promote sustained play that is embedded in joy, security, and trust. This is supported by our carefully structured routines and rhythms that create predictability of flow throughout the day and provide continuity of learning and transitions.

As Educators we are committed to a cycle of reflective practice, to ongoing learning, and to collaborative leadership and teamwork. We are committed to a high quality practice at all times in the best interest of children's outcomes.