



## Woodend Children's Centre Philosophy Statement

Our practices are underpinned by site values of:

RESPECT

EQUITY

DIVERSITY

Our teaching team aim to create a play based learning environment which nurtures confident and creative individuals with a strong sense of **belonging, being and becoming** to participate as active community citizens and successful lifelong learners.

**We welcome and value** the uniqueness of families and their role as the child's first and most influential educator. We celebrate and learn from the diversity of our community, the global experiences of our families and cultural connects to the land, skies and waterways of First Nations peoples. We acknowledge and continue to build upon our awareness and understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives through stories, song and connection to language and land.

**We understand, recognise and develop** the strengths of every child and draw upon their interests to build upon their identity and disposition of a capable and competent learner who in partnership with their families and friends, participate in and contribute to our play based learning community. We understand that music lies within us all and is a powerful connector to culture, community and self.

**We critically reflect, challenge and evolve** our teaching practices to deepen holistic and responsive approaches to meet and grow the learning and developmental needs of individuals and groups of children. Our teaching team recognise that learning occurs in social contexts through interactions, conversations and shared thinking. We intentionally create learning opportunities which sustain, extend and challenge children within a safe and nurturing learning environment.

Children and educators understand this philosophy through the words:

BE SAFE	BE KIND	BE YOU
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To take risks</li> <li>• To explore</li> <li>• To inquire</li> <li>• To experiment</li> <li>• To seek help &amp; comfort</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To yourself</li> <li>• To others</li> <li>• To the living environment</li> <li>• To our learning resources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be understood</li> <li>• Be heard</li> <li>• Be included</li> <li>• Be recognised</li> <li>• Be celebrated</li> <li>• Be, Belong &amp; Become</li> </ul>