

# MAWSON LAKES SCHOOL OSHC CENTRE PHILOSOPHY

We acknowledge that this country always has and always will be the Kurna People's home. We thank and show respect to the Aboriginal People, as we now live and learn on this beautiful land. We acknowledge that we must learn from the past and look to the future, walking together on this country.

Mawson Lakes OSHC aims to provide a high quality recreational care for primary school age children, in a welcoming environment. We believe that children are free thinkers, with an inquisitive nature and a confidence in their own abilities. Through thoughtful planning, programming, spontaneous activities and daily reflections, the children are given the independence to explore and investigate to develop life-long skills. Out of School Hours Care has formed a valuable and integral partnership with Mawson Lakes School and the local community to establish a diverse and well-supported centre, providing Before School Care, After School Care, Pupil Free Days, and Vacation Care.

The children we care for are diverse in culture and family, this allows for a reciprocal learning experience between our children and our educators. Our partnership with families allows for parents to share their cultural experiences with us, this bond encourages continuous growth and connections within our service. We gather feedback from community resources to facilitate reflection on our practice and continue to grow together as a service. We are fortunate to have a natural environment that places us in the middle of Dry Creek Linear Park; this creates an environment to broaden children's understanding for sustainability and build their respect for nature, land and country. We are appreciative of the resources our school and community offer us with access to STEM facilities, as well as indoor and outdoor shared spaces to investigate and play.

We take pride in employing educators with a wide range of skills and professional ideals who provide both challenging and rewarding activities in a safe and secure environment. Children are encouraged to have a strong voice and contribute to our programmed activities and philosophy, which grows and changes as our centre's needs change. We strive to encourage good health and hygiene practices through our curriculum and daily routines. Our team believes in growing together, which means we are committed to continuing professional development and critical reflection on our practice.

We harbor a strong relationship with our families to ensure that the needs of each child are being addressed. The line of communication between families, educators and teaching staff is paramount to us, ensuring that all children are listened to and respected. Our staff encourage communication and social interaction by promoting group activities while recognising individual needs and wants. Educators encourage children to respect the feelings of others, while we grow together in embracing leadership, responsibility, and self-regulation. We hope to instill compassion while problem solving which leads to lasting behaviours and thoughtful habits from the children.

Mawson Lakes OSHC has an OSHC Sub-Committee which represents us to our Governing Council, our families are welcome to participate in the OSHC Sub-Committee and are encouraged to give input on all aspects of OSHC matters.

Our implementation of our philosophy in our practice allows us to make a positive difference in a child's life both here, now and in the future.