

Vision



PHILOSOPHY

Goolwa Children's Centre provides accessible, flexible quality care and education for children birth to school entry in a play based program. We acknowledge that the land we meet and work on, and care for our children on, is Ngarrindjeri-Ramindjeri land. We respect the past and present Elders of the community. We acknowledge: "This is the land of the Ramindjeri-Ngarrindjeri people. They are the first custodians of this land. We respect the Elders of long ago and today".

We believe relationships are fundamental to our work and we work in partnership with families to respect each child's culture and diversity. We respect and value children as competent and capable individuals. Our daily practices reflect community needs.

Children

We believe that children have the right to:

- ⊙ Always feel safe, physically and emotionally
- ⊙ Express their ideas, creativity and feelings, naturally and freely
- ⊙ A nurturing environment which develops, challenges and supports each child's learning.
- ⊙ A harmonious and well-balanced program which fosters the development of the whole child in all areas, physical, social, intellectual and emotional.
- ⊙ A healthy, hygienic environment.

We aim to encourage in our children:

- ⊙ A sense of self-worth
- ⊙ The formation of stable, caring relationships with staff and other children
- ⊙ The development of independence and personal responsibility
- ⊙ An awareness and understanding of equal opportunity and social justice
- ⊙ A celebration of cultural diversity
- ⊙ The development of problem-solving, negotiation and self-help skills
- ⊙ An awareness of and respect for our environment
- ⊙ To develop a growth mindset.

Parents, Caregivers and Families

We aim to support parents and families in their role as primary caregivers and educators by:

- ⊙ Welcoming them to the Centre
- ⊙ Encouraging and valuing their involvement and participation to whatever extent they choose
- ⊙ Respecting and accommodating their child-rearing practices
- ⊙ Exchanging information with families about their children while maintaining confidentiality
- ⊙ Providing information about other family and children's services
- ⊙ Provide quality education programs for parents to build their capacity.

Staff

To ensure provision of quality children's services our staff will:

- ⊙ Respect children as individuals and have an understanding of children and their needs
- ⊙ Provide developmentally appropriate programs
- ⊙ Work as flexible and supportive team members
- ⊙ Be sensitive to the needs of families and the community, and be able to respond to these needs through open communication
- ⊙ Work co-operatively and collaboratively with local schools.
- ⊙ Will be aware that they are the children's main role models
- ⊙ Be responsive to children's relationship needs.

We are committed to providing:

- ⊙ An integrated approach to service delivery
- ⊙ Encouragement and access to staff development
- ⊙ Opportunities to be involved in decision-making
- ⊙ An environment which is supportive of the individual worker, especially in relation to their physical; professional and emotional needs

Governing Council

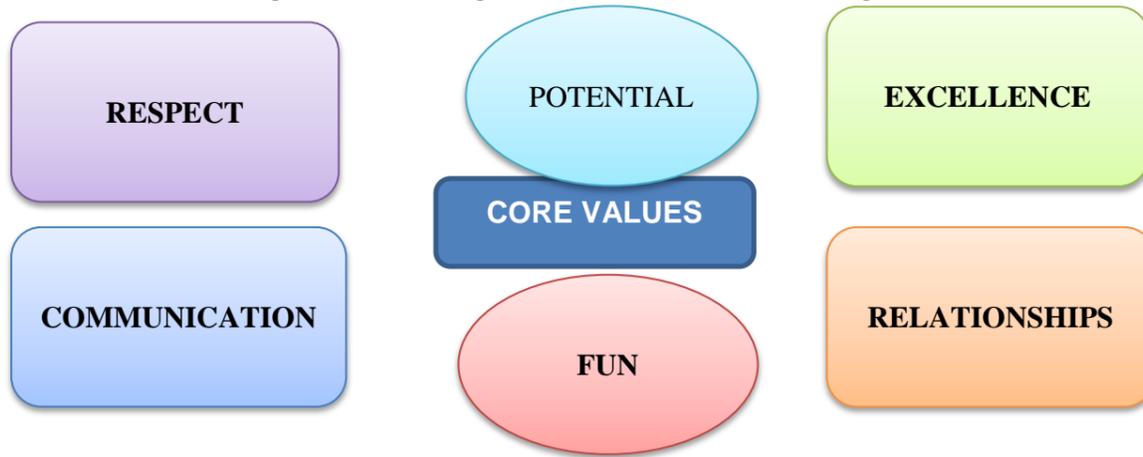
Our Governing Council will:

- ⊙ Work in partnership with staff and parents to ensure an effective and co-operative style of service delivery
- ⊙ Be encouraged to take an active role in the planning of a high quality program and curriculum
- ⊙ Work to ensure that finances are properly managed
- ⊙ Treat all employees fairly and consistently and adhere to the principles of equal opportunity

Community

Our Centre will:

- ⊙ Promote awareness and knowledge of the need for and value of quality children's services
- ⊙ Participate and liaise with other community groups, agencies and services to share resources, develop networks and advocate for families in our community
- ⊙ Value and acknowledge the wide range of social and cultural backgrounds of the community it serves



REVIEWED: March 2014, March 2015, March 2016, March 2017.
Next Review March 2018

Discussion around words that staff felt were important to have in their Centre's philosophy statement.

Respect	Trust
Relationships	Empathy
Communication	Partnerships
Being positive	Compassionate
Honesty	Confidential
Supportive	To listen
Care	Understanding
Friendly	Together
Culture	Diversity

Discussion around what were values to the team.

Beliefs	They Guide our practice
Standards we stand by	Ties in with our morals
A way we respect each other	nonjudgmental
Honesty	A way of behaviour

How do we get our values?

Our up bringing	Life experiences
Education	Knowledge
Personal dispositions	Culture/religion

After the days session staff got together to revisit the development of the centre philosophy statement. Brainstorming words that they would like to see in the statement.

Communication	Relationships
Support	Honesty
Positivity	Respect
Communication	Diversity
Advocacy	Collaboration
Partnerships	