

McKay Children's Centre Philosophy

Our Place -

McKay Children's Centre is an integrated centre that serves as a community hub, offering early learning, kindergarten, and outside school programs for children from six weeks to 12 years of age. We play a vital role in providing children with a nurturing and caring environment to support a strong sense of belonging for connection and learning.

Our Values -

Our values involve being kind, supportive, nurturing, respectful and collaborative.

Our Beliefs -

We believe that children are competent and capable learners with unique and individual needs. Children learn best when they feel safe, secure, connected, and contributing. They have endless potential to grow as resilient, curious, and diverse learners.

We believe that educators and families working together, advocating for children and sharing different and complementary knowledge supports children's growth and learning. All families contribute to the richness and diversity of the centre in their own ways.

We believe that positive relationships are formed by developing trusting, supportive, caring, and nurturing connections. Our educators strive to develop strong relationships with children and families for healthy growth, wellbeing and a sense of belonging.

We believe an effective team works from an agreed philosophy, and values and utilises the skills and strengths of each member. When all services within the hub work collaboratively, communicate effectively and respect each other, we can provide the best care and education for all of our children.

We believe our community is a valuable part of our learning experiences. It provides us with many different resources, experiences, and enriches our connections to families.

We believe our environment should be stimulating, inviting, imaginative and aesthetically pleasing for all ages. We prioritize open-ended and natural materials that can be changed and molded to provide children and educators with opportunities to challenge themselves, build a sense of curiosity, and provoke creativity, problem solving and communication.

We believe that professional development for educators builds their skills and knowledge. We continually seek opportunities to support and improve educator practice.

Our Commitments and Practices -

We provide learning and care environments that support every child's dispositions, ideas, connections and wellbeing

We strive to have open and reciprocal communication with all families to support trusting, empathetic relationships and share knowledge to strengthen children's growth and learning

We celebrate our families' cultures and embrace diversity to support children's sense of belonging and reflect the richness of our community.

We actively mentor, encourage, and show appreciation of each other and our practices.

We ensure processes for all educators to be heard and reach a consensus to support consistent practices.

We engage in critical reflection and collegial sharing to support children's growth and learning.

We strive to build a sense of shared responsibility for our environment, so it is inviting, accessible and engaging.

We encourage families and children to be actively involved in the decision-making processes for our centre through everyday informal interactions and through the Governing Council.

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Lincoln (2yrs 11mths) - "the babies".

Chase (3yrs 1mth) - "playing outside"



Charlie (9yrs 10mths)

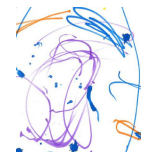
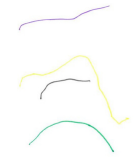
Harvey D (3yrs 11mths) - "making".



Jordan (4yrs 4mths) - "monster trucks".



Harvey M (3yrs 8mths) - "tractors".



Audrey (3yrs 7mths) - "the babies".

Playing with friends

What do our children think is most important for our centre?

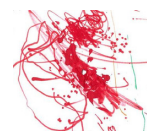
Oliver (2yrs 11mths) - "eating biscuits"



Jim M (2yrs 4mths) - "mummy".

Charlie I like osh because we get to go to the play ground.

Charlie (8yrs 3mths).



Zavier (2yrs 9mths) - "footprints"



Anna-Sofia (5yrs 2mths) - "the chickens".



Paddy (4yrs 2mths) - "the playground".

Lexi (4yrs 4mths) - "the garden".

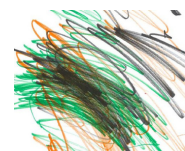


Harry (6yrs 4mths) - "the swings".



Mia (3yrs 2mths) - "friends".

Elliott (3yrs) - "playing with friends".



Imogen (4yrs 7mths) - "playing on swings".



Aaron (4yrs 6mths) - "dirt".



Tessa (2yrs 3mths) - "drawing"

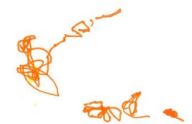


Harry (2yrs 2mths) - "toys".

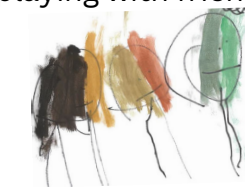


Hudson (1yr 10mths) - "woodwork" (pointing)

Henley (2yrs 10mths) - "toys".



Kate (5yrs 3mths) - "playing with friends".



Clementine (3yrs 7mths) - "the babies".



Max (8yrs 7mths) - "playing pokemon".

