

# Seaford District Community Children's Centre

## Vision, Mission, Core Values & Philosophy Statement

### **Vision**

Seaford District Community Children's Centre: the leading innovative learning community in the southern region.

### **Mission**

Seaford District Community Children's Centre is a child-focused service working collaboratively with families, professionals and the community, building capacity for lifelong learning and education.

### **Core Values**

Seaford District Community Children's Centre identified core values are Care, Trust, Respect, Quality and Equity.

## **Seaford District Community Children's Centre Philosophy Statement**

### **Governance**

At Seaford District Community Children's Centre, we are a not-for-profit community service working collaboratively with educational leaders, parent volunteers, and staff representatives.

### **Aim**

We are committed to providing a safe, secure, healthy and engaging learning environment for children, and a sense of belonging and community for children and families.

Seaford District Community Children's Centre is dedicated to continuous improvement and supporting a culture of lifelong learning within our centre and community.

### **Relationships**

We build genuine relationships with children and between children and their families, we recognise that these connections are the foundation to a sense of self and belonging, encouraging meaningful learning and a place in the world.

We believe that families are their child's first teachers and work in partnership with families to support children's learning, inclusion and wellbeing.

### **Environments**

We create environments that support children to feel safe and secure by offering opportunities for children to learn, how to interact with others, respect others' rights, and be self-confident and caring. We are an inclusive service that ensures all children are recognised and valued, and that they have equitable access to resources and participation.

We are situated on southern Kurna Land which provides an inviting backdrop for children to investigate and discover nature. We believe children should be seen and heard as part of the wider community. We foster this connection to community and outdoor learning through access to our front Jenny Wren Memorial Garden, local short walks, and our nature kindergarten program using our centre transport.

### **Pedagogy**

Seaford District Community Children's Centre has a commitment to nature education across the entire service by offering a wide range of learning experiences indoors and outdoors, including nature kindy learning at the bush and beach for preschool-aged children.

We have a strong belief that children learn best through play when guided by educators that are thoughtful, intentional, collaborative and responsive to the needs of individuals and groups of children significantly enhancing children's learning and development.

Children's voices and sense of agency are captured through learning experiences where children are encouraged to make choices and decisions.

Seaford District Community Children's Centre advocates for children's rights and educates families and communities through conversation and the sharing of information and resources.

### **Transitions**

We strive in creating smooth transitions for children that support relationships, learning and development. Transitions are based on a child's readiness; children are given time to explore and familiarise themselves with their new environment and build relationships with their educators.

### **Sustainability**

We at Seaford District Community Children's Centre actively support children, educators and families in becoming environmentally and sustainably responsible. Through interactions, role modelling and demonstration we grow the awareness of children, families and educators guiding all to become active participants capable of enacting change in our community and beyond. SDCCC is committed to protecting the environment and ensuring a sustainable future for the generations to come.

### **Cultural Respect and Safety**

At Seaford District Community Children's Centre, we are committed to providing and promoting cultural respect and safety for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples within our community. Our educators and staff members are committed to promoting, exploring and celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture. Seaford District Community Children's Centre is dedicated to providing and sharing resources that support the ongoing learning for children, educators and families.

### **Core Values**

**Care** means being emotionally and physically supported (Julie Aitken 2002)

**Trust** is the capacity to hear one another's thoughts and feelings actively, and accurately and to express personal feelings and thoughts in a climate of mutual confidence in one another's integrity (Julie Aitken 2002)

**Equity** is the commitment to defend moral and ethical claims of all persons to legal social and economic equality and fairness

**Respect** means respecting the worth of others

**Quality** means appreciating objective appraisal as necessary for personal growth