



# St James Park Kindergarten



*Who we are... By children, parents and educators of St James Park Kindergarten*

## Philosophy Statement

### Children

- Kindy is a welcoming, safe and secure environment where each child's agency is encouraged and fostered.
- We acknowledge the many ways children express their ideas and are committed to creating opportunities for people to understand, clarify, resolve and learn from and with each other.
- We are committed to building inclusive and balanced relationships where children have a strong sense of wellbeing, belonging and are decision makers.
- We recognise children as competent and capable learners and acknowledge it matters how children see themselves.
- We value the process of communicating, making meaning and critical reflection through meaningful play.

### Families

- We recognise families as their child's first educator and acknowledge and understand our role in working together to ensure every child and family feels heard, seen and can share their ideas.
- We believe family voice affirms identity and enables a network of support to ensure every child feels secure and thrives.
- Through open, honest and trusting relationships, children, families and educators collaborate, learn from each other and contribute to decisions, which leads to a sense of connection.

### Community

- We are committed to the provision of an inclusive and equitable community and society for all where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples experience a sense of belonging and identity.
- Kindy is a place we come together, where we build and foster partnerships between children, families, educators, schools and our local community.
- We value and support continuity of learning and believe children, families and educators all contribute to positive transitions between settings.
- We understand learning takes place throughout life and within rich and meaningful engagement with community.
- Through strong relationships we value, respect and include the perspectives, beliefs and preferences of our community.



# Sf James Park Kindergarten



## Pedagogy

- Through critical reflection and small specific actions, we create big impact for lasting change, where each child is represented, and learning is continuously extended.
- The physical environment is an integral part of the curriculum, it engages and fosters a sense of ownership and respect which encourages a sense of connection to place and our community.
- Educators support children's learning through spontaneous and intentional teaching, a flexible and responsive pedagogy, creating rich learning environments with play-based, open-ended materials and time for children and educators to become deeply immersed in holistic learning experiences.
- We value learning dispositions of resilience, optimism, curiosity, imagination and problem solving and embed opportunities for educators and children to focus on learning processes.
- We explore and incorporate current early childhood theories and practice and seek opportunities to engage with contemporary research.

## Educators

- Establish a learning environment and opportunities which support and are responsive to children's learning dispositions and wellbeing.
- Reciprocal relationships, meaningful conversations and collaboration between educators and children lead to new understanding and a deeper sense of involvement.
- Through ongoing professional learning educators ask questions and are willing to find out, our knowledge is not static; it continues to develop and change.
- Reflective practice occurs collectively; multiple perspectives, diverse knowledge, experiences, views and attitudes provides new insights into children's learning leads to experimenting with new ideas and continued motivation to make a difference to children's learning.