



## Blackwood Kindergarten Community's Philosophy Statement

Our vision statement...

We are a supportive and inclusive community kindergarten inspiring an enthusiasm for lifelong learning. We encourage children to approach new challenges with confidence and creativity. We love our Natural Environment and understand the responsibility that we all share by living within it. We will observe what it does and learn from it, we will care for it and give back to it when we can. We will play with it and we will take only what we truly need from it.

Our mission...

To support all our families in the education of their children, while maintaining a strong sense of community and a connection to our local natural environment.

“We learn something new every day” (child voice)

We believe our children are capable learners. We encourage children to have a voice in what happens at kindy and to ask questions. As educators and parents we support and guide learning by following up children's interests and enquiry, embedding literacy and numeracy into our play based curriculum. We nurture the strengths and interests of individual children.

“I practice and I get better”

We believe in challenging children to extend their learning, to learn from each other and to develop Executive Functions such as persistence, problem solving, self -regulation and delayed gratification. We believe we are all learners together.

“We can swing really high.” “You can go fast down the slide”

We believe in the importance of encouraging confidence and supporting healthy physical development. We believe in assessing the benefits as well as the risks in any endeavour.

“The best thing about kindy is playing with friends”

We believe that kindy should be a caring, supportive, friendly and comfortable environment for everyone. We expect staff and families to support the learning of all children and to have a say in our kindergarten.

“We make a good team”

We encourage everyone to share their knowledge, to listen, play, and work cooperatively and collaboratively.

“I like going on adventures”

We get messy, we have fun, and we get excited about our discoveries. We help children to explore the world and their place in it. We nurture a sense of identity and belonging within and beyond the family, with peers and within our community. We contribute to our world by learning about other cultures, sharing our own culture, and we believe we can make a difference by helping others less fortunate.

“We look after things” “We don't hurt” “We don't waste water” “We put worms in the vege patch”

We encourage children to develop a sense of respect and responsibility for each other and their environment. We follow and teach sustainable practices and value our natural play spaces, our hills environment and all the creatures in it.