

Philosophy

We are proud to acknowledge the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation as the traditional custodians of the land on which the OSHC program is run.

At Tecoma Primary OSHC we aim to provide the highest level of care and education for your child in a warm, nurturing, and safe environment. By creating a feeling of acceptance and sense of belonging, we provide an environment which enables each child to feel safe and secure. We follow the Education and Care Services National Law and Regulations, the National Quality Standards, My Time Our Place V2.0, the Frameworks for School Age Care and Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework to guide and enhance our program.

The Centre provides educationally appropriate and stimulating programs to assist in the development of the whole child, their physical, social, emotional, cognitive, and creative growth. Indoor and Outdoor experiences are provided in small and large group situations. These experiences cater for each child's individual development and reflect current interests of the group or an individual child. We recognize the value of play on development. Research has found that children attain higher levels of achievement through engaging in play.

Our educational play-based programs assist each child to build and develop at their own individual rate with guidance and support by all educators:

- confidence, curiosity, and imagination
- independence and self-esteem
- respect for themselves and others
- friendly and caring behaviour
- their full potential both emotionally and physically
- foster and reinforce self-control
- an understanding and appreciation of the rights and feelings of other people

Our program embeds the culture of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders. We are committed to contributing to Closing The Gap and assisting in Reconciliation. We recognise the importance of our indigenous culture to our country, and how it enhances our society. Our programs also reflect the full appreciation of Australia's multicultural society, enhancing the children's awareness of, and respect for, cultural differences and similarities. Our programs are designed to help your child in developing all areas for success now and in later years. "Educators' practices and the relationships they form with children and families have a significant effect on children's involvement and success in learning. Children thrive when families and educators' work together in partnership to support young children's learning." (Early Years Learning Framework, 2009). Tecoma Primary OSHC endeavors to create a "family-like" atmosphere and recognise the importance of creating a link between home and the Centre, where both parents and educators work in partnership to develop the child as a whole in a mutually supportive and caring environment. Children and parents are welcomed into the Centre regardless of culture, religious and family beliefs and our educators are sensitive to and respectful of these practices. "When educators' establish respectful and caring relationships with children and families, they are able to work

together to construct curriculum and learning experiences relevant to children in their local context." (Early Years Learning Framework, 2009)

Goals

Our goals are to encourage children to:

- Have a strong sense of identity – the service aims to teach children to demonstrate a capacity for self-regulation, negotiating and sharing behaviours by motivating and encouraging children to succeed when they are faced with challenges.
- Be connected with and contribute to their world – the service demonstrates awareness of connections, similarities and differences between people and how to react in positive ways by encouraging children to listen to others and to respect diverse perspectives. The service aims for children to become socially responsible and to show respect for the environment.
- Have a strong sense of wellbeing – the service aims to teach children to show self-regulation and manage their emotions in ways that reflect the feeling and needs of others by showing care, understanding and respect for all children.
- Be confident and involved learners – the service aims to teach children to use reflective thinking to consider why things happen and what can be learnt from these experiences. Encourage children to communicate and make visible their ideas and theories. Collaborate with children and model reasoning, predicting, and reflecting processes and language.
- Be effective communicators – the service aims to teach children to convey and construct messages with purpose and confidence, including conflict resolution and following direction, by modeling language and encouraging children to express themselves through language in a range of contexts and for a range of purposes including leading and following directions.

