



## **Kathleen Millikan Centre Philosophy**

The Kathleen Millikan Centre is part of a small, close-knit, rural farming community located on the lands of the Gunditjmara, Boandik & Jardwadjali people, in far Western Victoria. We actively acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the Traditional Custodians of lands across

Australia and respect people's deep connection with lands, waters, animals and communities.

We believe every child is unique and has the right to be valued and respected as part of the community. As our future leaders, we understand that they are ready to learn from birth and are capable of great things when given the opportunity to be the best version of themselves.

We understand that families are children's first and most important teachers and that they play a major role in our service, being the first link in connections that provide a supportive, caring and nurturing community.

We will realise our ideals by:

- Delivering a high standard of educational programmes that provide equal and equitable opportunities and learning outcomes for all children.
- Providing safe, welcoming environments that are stimulating, inviting and inclusive for all. Where staff, children and families can feel a sense of belonging and know that their cultural identities and beliefs are respected and treating everyone as equals, irrespective of family circumstances and backgrounds.
- Educators are committed to the safety and wellbeing of children, providing a safe and secure environment free from harm.
- We encourage and welcome involvement from parents, families and friends in all aspects of the Centre, providing opportunities to share feedback, knowledge and ideas.

- Being open and honest in all communication building strong reciprocal relationships with families as a way of getting to know each child individually and endeavouring to meet everyone's current needs.
- Advocating for the early years of learning and development as the most important in a child's life. We offer a child centred program that focuses on community involvement, sustainable practices, hygiene and, most of all, fun.
- We support children to become confident and involved learners as they learn about the world around them through play.
- Modelling and teaching children kindness, empathy and the opportunity to practice mindfulness in everyday situations.
- We believe in the importance of giving children the freedom to move, learn and develop in their own time, spotting (rather than stopping) risky play to keep children safe, not limited.
- Our "non-interference" influence supports each child social and emotional development and provides opportunities for them to become trusted and capable learners.
- Educators are committed to learning about reconciliation, through conversations and professional learning opportunities

### Child Safe Statement

Glenelg Shire Council is a Child Safe Organisation. As a child safe organisation Glenelg Shire Council takes deliberate steps to safeguard children from physical, sexual, emotional and psychological abuse and neglect. It puts children's safety and wellbeing first and embeds a commitment to child safety in every aspect of the organisation. Glenelg Shire Council complies with requirements of the 11 New Child Safe Standards.

Reviewed by:	Date:	Next Review Due:
Children, families & educators	Term 2, 2024	Term 2, 2025