



Foundations Early Learning Centre

Statement of Philosophy

We believe that Jesus Christ is Lord of all.

Foundations Early Learning Centre provides a caring, nurturing, and safe environment where biblical truths are taught and lived. We believe children are created in God's image, that each child is precious and has wonderful God-given gifts and abilities that are to be nurtured and encouraged. Our aim is that each child may grow in the knowledge and understanding of the person and character of God, and develop Christ-likeness in both attitude and practice.

Our service exists to help parents fulfil their responsibility of raising their child. We partner with families to *'train up children in the way they should go; so that even when they are older they will not depart from it'* (Proverbs 22:6). In this, the Early Learning Centre acts as an extension of the home where we:

- value children as unique individuals;
- equip children to grow as competent and confident learners;
- help children develop personal virtues i.e. patience, kindness, love, respect;
- equip children to develop their gifts and talents for service in God's world; and
- encourage children to think and act in a Biblical, faithful way.

We believe each child's learning is based upon strong and positive relationships with caring adults and other children. The role of the educator is to guide and support children's learning by providing an environment that offers encouragement, challenge, curiosity, stimulation and positive role models. We also acknowledge that each child learns at a different pace and this requires a range of differing learning and teaching styles.

Our curriculum is firmly based on God's Word and incorporates the most contemporary early childhood theory and research and Australian Government curriculum guidelines including the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) and the Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework (VEYLDF). Foundations Early Learning Centre offers an education and care program that:

- includes both specifically planned experiences, as well as activities and interactions that arise spontaneously;
- reflects the diversity of cultures and people that God has created;
- offers an age-appropriate program that caters for individual and group learning; and
- ensures Biblical truths underpin all learning experiences.

Through our program children will develop a Biblical understanding of the world and their place in it. Constructive intentional play allows children to experience a wide range of activities to provide an environment where they can ask questions, solve problems and engage in critical thinking. Life skills are developed while equipping children to make wise choices and participate fully and actively in society. At Foundations Early Learning Centre all children will develop and experience a strong sense of belonging, being and becoming.