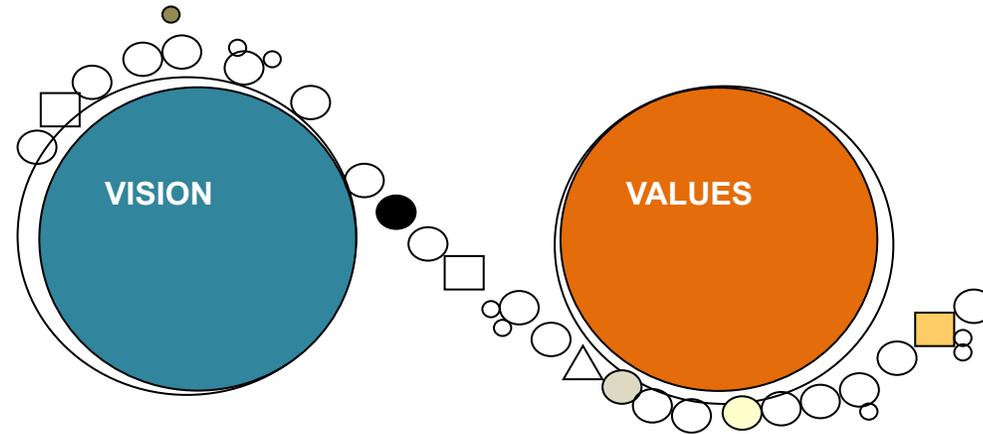


Children's Services Statement of Philosophy

Individuals and families in all their forms, are respected by, connected to and engaged in their community.



We value diversity
We work inclusively
We are respectful
We foster sustainable practice

Our vision and values underpin our Children's Services philosophy.

We acknowledge and respect the diversity of our families and their histories, cultures, languages and traditions. Children are given opportunities to understand Australia's indigenous heritage and cultural diversity, and the importance of being inclusive and respectful.

We believe that:

- Every child is a unique individual to be celebrated
- We have a responsibility to see each child reach their full potential
- The most powerful way that children learn is through play.

A holistic approach:

We create a welcoming environment for all families who come into our centre, where positive and supportive relationships are formed. We actively encourage parents to be involved in their child's learning and social development. We utilise a play-based curriculum, supported through the Early Years Learning Framework of Australia and the Victorian Early Years Learning Developmental Framework with a strong emphasis on the concepts of Belonging, Being and Becoming. We recognise that children need opportunities to connect to the natural world fostering an understanding and respect of the natural environment.

Educational approach:

Through the play-based curriculum independent choices are enabled fostering individual development, and opportunities for the children to explore and discover; experiment, take risks and problem-solve solutions, and therefore extend knowledge, develop relational skills and contribute to their own learning and developmental outcomes. Children are supported in a safe environment and encouraged to develop dispositions to support their own learning including:

- Resilience
- Social Confidence
- Self-Motivation
- Problem solving
- Resourcefulness

We are committed to supporting the cultural and personal safety of children and families. Children with additional needs are supported through an individualised approach of working with parents and specialist personnel appropriate to each situation. The Craig Family Centre's integrated, inclusive and holistic approach to education and learning, fosters connectedness and engagement with the different communities, from home to the broader world, that they are a part of.