

Amarina Early Learning Centre Child Care Philosophy

Amarina ELC is a place where “belonging, being and becoming” moves beyond words into a culture that we believe in.

It is our aim for people to feel like they are a part of our family the moment they walk in the door. Building relationships is one of the most important aspects of what we do; creating an atmosphere that is warm and welcoming for children, their families and visitors; a place where children feel loved, safe and secure.

Amarina recognise children’s need for strong attachments to those who care for them. We make a commitment to get to know each child, take joy from being with them and make ‘being’ available to them a priority. This is supported through our educator’s knowledge and understanding of the attachment theory. We model our practices on the “Circle of Security” and importance of enriching each child’s social/emotional development.

Also of high importance are the partnerships we form with families; recognising them as children’s first and most influential teachers. We aim to form strong links between the child’s home life, the service and the wider community.

We encourage all families to participate in the life of our service in any capacity they are able and we welcome and value their input and feedback as partners in the care of their children.

We believe the environment should be built by the people within it and children need to be able to see and feel a reflection of them within that environment.

As we celebrate the different and diversity of others, we create a place that is reflective of the cultures of the educators, the children, their families and the community. We respect the Aboriginal heritage of our country, most importantly the Dharawal people; the traditional custodians of our land.

Realising that each person has something unique and special to bring to Amarina, we welcome and embrace the diversity of each person linked to our service.

We work with the Campbelltown Child & Family Centre to support families within Amarina Early Learning Centre and within the local community making the community a stronger place to live.

Experiences provided for the children, planned or spontaneous, indoor or outdoor, are undertaken to support the learning and development of each child and their individual strengths, needs and interests. Our curriculum recognises the Early Years Framework as the underpinning foundation for the way we educate our children. We believe that children will thrive best in a play based learning environment. We strive to create rich learning opportunities where children are encouraged to explore, discover, bring out their imagination through creative arts, build relationships and above all have fun!

To identify children's strengths, we carefully observe and reflect, then plan with these strengths and interests in mind, setting children up for success and providing opportunities for them to play and learn in their own unique ways. We recognise the routines of our day as just as important in children's learning as the "play" times and strive to scaffold learning opportunities into all aspects of the day.

We believe continual building of our own knowledge through professional development and further learning is the best way for us to advocate for lifelong learning. As educators we never stop learning and often engage in co learning with the very people we teach. To ensure we create a culture of professional enquiry, we work together to reflect on our current practises, review outcomes and generate new ideas.

By engaging in reflective practices, we are always pushing the boundaries of what might be, in our goals to make Amarina Early Learning Centre the best place to be - a leader in our field and a service of excellence, where every child in our care has the best possible experiences each and every day.