CHILDREN AND LEARNING

Children are capable and competent and have been learning since birth.
We know that with your help and guidance, your child has been learning for a long time. The first 8 years of life are the most important—this is when your child will learn the most information that they ever will. No one learns at the same rate as anyone else so that is why we value and respect all children as individuals.

Children build deep understanding when they learn through all senses and are offered choice in their learning experiences.
Children need to know that they are valued. When they feel safe and secure, they are willing to use all their senses to explore the world around them. By sharing their questions, thoughts and feelings with others, they can work together to build a shared understanding.

Children learn best through interactions, active exploration, experimentation and by representing their learning through a variety of modes.
Children need to be active. Research from around the world has shown that children need to see, touch, feel, hear and taste to make connections between what is around them and what they are thinking. Our Prep program gives children opportunities to try new things, explore new worlds, build confidence and share their knowledge with others.

Children’s positive dispositions to learning, and to themselves as learners, are essential for success in school and beyond.
It is important to feel good about yourself as a learner and a person. As part of our Prep program, we help the children learn to be confident, capable and willing to try new things. The world around us is changing all the time. When children know the way to discover the answer to questions, work together and talk about what they know, they are able to face any challenge that they meet.

Children learn best in environments where there are supportive relationships among all partners in the learning community.
When parents and teachers work together with children, we are able to provide more variety in rich learning experiences. We are all able to share information that can help us understand about how your child learns or feels about school. It is important to ask questions and share concerns with one another.

Early childhood programs are most effective when they recognise, value and build upon the cultural and social experiences of children.
What happens within your home is very important to your child—it is part of who they are and what they know. By sharing home experiences with the school, we can see in the ‘window’ of your child’s experiences and get to know them better. As a teacher, we need to learn about the events and celebrations that are special to your family. We aim to share what occurs within our families and hope that you will help do this too.

Building continuity of learning as children move to and through school provides foundations for their future success.
Moving from home, to childcare, to Prep and then to school can be confusing for some children. By making links between these settings, children, parents and teachers can see what is the same and what is different.

Assessment of young children is an integral part of the learning-teaching process and is not a separate activity.
We use photographs and observations to build a picture about your child and what they are learning. We share these with your child and with you so that we can all talk about what is important to your child.