

Binnowee Philosophy

At Binnowee we believe each child, family and educator is unique and should be treated with acceptance and respect. We acknowledge that children, families and educators bring a wealth of diverse experiences to the preschool environment. We aim to provide a nurturing and educational environment where children, families and staff have a sense of belonging and feel respected, valued and empowered.

At Binnowee we hold value in recognising the traditional custodians of the land, the Dharug people. Binnowee is named from the Aboriginal word meaning “a green place”. We believe that pronouncing an Acknowledgement of Country is a way of showing awareness of and respect for the traditional owners and custodians of the land.

We believe that all children deserve quality early education. We believe each child is unique and should be treated with acceptance, respect, consideration and care. We believe that through the development of secure and supportive relationships, children develop confidence and feel respected and valued. By fostering positive relationships, children will be assisted to develop the skills and understandings they need to interact positively with other. We aim to provide a safe, happy and stimulating environment which develops and extends on children’s interests, strengths and abilities. Binnowee is a place where creativity, exploration and investigation occur across all areas and where children can experience a sense of wonder and delight, self-discovery and change. At Binnowee children are encouraged to explore, make mistakes, take appropriate risks and experiment with many new experiences. Children can practice and master a variety of skills and extend the boundaries of their world with the support of their peers and educators. The natural environment offers open ended learning opportunities and we believe this green place of Binnowee needs to be nurtured and respected to ensure long term environmental sustainability.

We believe that children learn through play and that learning is enhanced in an environment where they feel they belong. We believe children learn best when they are happy, having fun and feel part of an inclusive and social environment. We believe play provides opportunities for children to learn as they discover, create, improvise and imagine. We believe play allows children to “just be” where each child can take time to understand their world. We believe each child is capable and resourceful and should be encouraged and supported to make their own decisions and choices in their play.

At Binnowee we partner with families to provide a quality preschool environment that is collaborative and where everyone has a sense of community and belonging. We believe that families are children’s primary influence in these years of rapid growth and development. We respect and honour the histories, cultures, languages, traditions, child rearing practices and lifestyle choices of families. We believe that quality early learning is enhanced by the successful partnership between families and staff where there is understanding of each other’s expectations and beliefs. We believe a successful partnership is built on trust, open communication, shared insights and shared decision-making. We encourage each family to participate in the preschool community and we support and welcome their interest and involvement.

We believe that building a strong staff team and a happy work environment will help us achieve our aim of providing an excellent early learning program. At Binnowee, all staff are respected as

individuals as well as part of the team. We acknowledge that all staff are professionals who are committed to providing excellence in early learning. They bring diverse experiences, cultural backgrounds, knowledge, talents and interests to create a stimulating work environment that is based on a culture of encouragement and support.