## South Morang Preschool Association Philosophy

Mill Park Lakes - Stables Kindergarten - South Morang Riverside - South Morang Reid St

South Morang Preschool Association acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the First Peoples of this nation and the Traditional Owners of the land on which we work, play, and learn. We recognise their continuing connection to culture, land, water, and community. We pay our respects to Elders past, present, and emerging.

Our services are located on the land of the Wurundjeri People.

We value the semi-rural natural environment of our community and acknowledge that our role as educators extends to promoting sustainable practice and care for the environment in order to preserve our natural resources for future generations.

## Piaget informs us that "Play is the work of childhood".

We provide dynamic teaching environments, that enable all children to participate in a unique and challenging play based educational program.

Risky play is valued as one of many opportunities for children to develop self-agency, and responsibility. As the children learn to understand their environment, they become confident to explore and take appropriate risks in their play, associated with their age and stage of development.

## Children are seen as being capable, confident, and involved learners when nurtured and empowered.

We will promote an environment for discovery and curiosity where children can explore their ideas and pursue their questions as they facilitate their own learning.

We respect each child's individuality and cultural background, value each family's participation in the program and work in partnership with families to provide the best outcomes for their child. Families are recognised and respected as children's first and primary educators. We see each child as unique and capable, having their own interests, values, skills, ideas, and talents that have been developed since birth in the context of their families, culture, relationships, and experiences.

Within our services we ensure equity of access and inclusive practices for all children, their families, and the wider community in a meaningful and respectful manner.

The Child Safe Standards underpin our values, practice, and policies. Children are provided with opportunities to build their individual strengths, interests, and self-esteem.

Maslow's hierarchy of needs informs our practice that children learn and develop to their full potential when they feel safe, secure, and respected.

We instil in our children the thought that they can be whatever they want to be where fun, and laughter fill the air.

"tell me and I forget ....
teach me and I remember....
involve me and I learn."
Benjamin Franklin