

Teaching and Learning Rationale

Pre-Kindy

Catholic Identity

In Pre-Kindy, each student's Catholic Identity is fostered and supported by:

- Our interactions with staff, children and family, which give witness to Christ.
- Raising Religious Awareness through the 'Let the Little Children Come' resource.
- Implementing the Making Jesus Real Program, including God Moments, where children are encouraged to recognise ways they live like Jesus each day.
- Daily prayer, stories and songs about Jesus and his friends.
- Each child's understanding of their uniqueness and that he/she is formed in God's image. For example: A family photo display of the children, fostering their sense of belonging.

Relationships

We build relationships with students and families and encourage positive partnerships by:

- Greeting every child as they enter the classroom.
- Building a strong rapport with the children through engaging in regular and meaningful conversation with each child.
- Welcoming parents and family members into the Pre-Kindy classroom, where they are encouraged to participate in parent roster.
- Working with families to communicate through regular conversations about their child's development and learning.
- Communicating with parents through various platforms including online media sharing and parent teacher interviews.
- Respecting family and cultural differences by collecting student/family information and encouraging family contributions to the classroom program.

Confident and Involved Learners

Our teaching and learning pedagogy allows each student to become confident and involved learners by:

- Building a sense of security through the aims of the Early Years Learning Framework. This is achieved through building relationships with students and families, providing opportunities for student's to explore their agency through inquiry, investigation and play-based learning environments.
- Integrating children's person interests throughout indoor and outdoor programs.
- Teachers adopting reflective thinking practices in order to cater for students interests and needs.
- Allowing children to develop at their own pace where they are encouraged to take risks and to be independent learners.

Learning Environment

The learning environment supports students as the third teacher by:

- Creating an environment where children feel safe, secure and supported.
- Providing a stimulating and nurturing environment that encourages creativity and deep thinking; for example, discovery centres, small worlds and loose parts play.
- Creating learning spaces that are filled with the richness of literacy, numeracy and oral language.
- Having clear pathways, enabling students to move freely. Visible and connected spaces allowing students to see and move from one space to another.
- Supplying resources that are age appropriate and easily accessible including resources that provide provocations and help students explore different perspectives.
- Incorporating the use of sustainable materials including natural, reusable, recycled materials.