



Next Steps Kindy Philosophy

OUR MISSION

To create a place where children know they are loved and valued by God and are empowered to explore and learn.

OUR VISION

We aspire to be a leader in Christian, Early Years Education and for each child to leave Next Steps Kindy: knowing that they are uniquely valued by God; understanding they have God given potential to develop; having strong relationships with God, family, peers, staff and the wider community, and growing relationships with God.

OUR VALUES

We look to the Christian values that influence our behaviours and form our culture – Faith, Learning, Excellence, Character and Community.

We also want to partner with families and churches in the development of these values.”

OUR PHILOSOPHY

Next Steps Kindy is a ministry of Nexus Church which provides high quality, Christian, Early Years education. We recognise that each child is created by God and individually valuable. The Kindy Staff care for and educate children in a safe, secure and engaging environment from a Christian world view.

At Next Steps Kindy, we employ practices and programming which provide a purposeful learning environment that enhances, stimulates and challenges children’s interest and abilities. Our Kindy is a place where children are safe and encouraged to learn through play. We are a setting that values individuals, acknowledging their uniqueness and differences in personality and learning style.

Next Steps Kindy is a diverse community formed through relationships. Relationships with God, family, educators, peers and the wider community create a positive learning environment. At Kindy, children develop the skills, attitudes and dispositions needed for life.

In our relationships with children we will:

- Create an environment where children are safe physically and emotionally.
- Promote healthy self-esteem, confidence and self-regulation through encouragement and guidance.
- Provide a caring and nurturing setting that supports children’s wellbeing.
- Model and encourage behaviour which displays care, empathy and respect and encourages relationships with peers.
- Create environments where children can take risks, make choices and decisions, express opinions and display initiative.
- Respect children by valuing their God given potential.

In our relationships with families we will:

- Respect parents as children’s first teacher and value their input.
- Involve parents in their children’s learning and communicate about their child’s development.
- Create a space where we build genuine reciprocal relationships that are strengthened and sustained over time.
- Acknowledge each child’s culture and background and the value that it can add to our program.
- Seek to develop and maintain positive relationships based on trust, mutual respect and two-way communication.

In our relationships as staff we will:

- Value the diversity of all team members and their contribution to the program.
- Grow and learn together as part of a professional community.
- Reflect on our practice, commit to continuous quality improvement and support each other’s ongoing professional and personal development.
- Base our relationships on trust and respect.

In our relationships with the wider community we will:

- Enhance children’s sense of belonging through relationships with Northside Christian College and Nexus church.
- Form new relationships with families from the wider community through use of shared facilities.
- Connect children and families with each other and local child and family support services.
- Connect with respected community representatives through invitation and involvement.

- Advocate for the value of children in our society.
- Instil a respect for all cultures, including our indigenous Australian people.