



# Early Childhood Philosophy

Kindergarten to Year 2: Early Childhood Learning at Kinross Primary School

At Kinross Primary School we believe that every student is a unique individual with their own extraordinary ideas, strengths and needs. We value the power of each child's innate curiosity, resilience, determination, sense of wonder and capacity to succeed. We view our role as early childhood educators as a privilege and we cherish the opportunity we have to build the foundations for life-long learners.

We believe that children are active contributors to their own learning, and this is fostered through our child centred play-based learning approach in combination with the explicit teaching of Literacy, Numeracy, and other key learning areas.

In Kindergarten and Pre-Primary, our play-based initiatives are based on the principles of the Walker Learning Approach. Through planned, proactive, and intentional play-based learning, children are engaged in authentic learning experiences with educators allowing for a range of teacher guided and child-initiated experiences that pave the way for a rich, meaningful, and cohesive learning environment.

Play provides opportunities for children to learn as they discover, create, improvise, and imagine. When they play, children are developing many skills, including but not limited to, testing out ideas, challenging each other's thinking and building new understanding. This is so they can become autonomous, competent, and creative learners that make choices, take intellectual risks, reflect, problem solve and show initiative.

We implement a holistic teaching programme which is based upon the WA Curriculum, Early Years Learning Framework and the National Quality Standards. We provide research-based and proven educational programs and differentiate our instruction to ensure that students of all ability levels are catered for. We ensure that our programs and instruction are in alignment with whole-school processes to provide consistency in student learning as they progress throughout later school years.

At Kinross Primary School we acknowledge that parents and families are the first and most influential educators of children. Through working in partnership with parents and caregivers we strive to develop confident children who experience caring, respectful relationships with peers and educators.

We place an extremely high value on the environment in the early learning context. At Kinross Primary School we provide a supportive environment in which there are equitable opportunities for learning regardless of ethnicity, gender, ability, age, or background. Our inside and outside learning environments are prepared where children can freely explore their natural sense of wonder and choose their own experiences with interest and enthusiasm.

*'Play is the highest form of research.'*- Albert Einstein