Policy 3.5

Inclusion and Cultural Competency

The workers, parents and Governing Council of the Two Wells Community Children’s Centre endorse the concept of a multicultural curriculum, and believe that this perspective should be implemented through the Two Wells Community Children’s Centre’s program.

To do this:

- each educator will implement an inclusive and multicultural perspectives in their program, and will reflect and respect the diverse cultures of our children, families, staff and community
- educators will use culturally competent practices and interactions with all children, families and peers
- the physical environment of the centre and its programs reflects a commitment to multiculturalism in the centre
- the program is recorded, so that parents and visitors can become aware of its aims and objectives, which will assist in its evaluation and meeting the needs of the families and centres context
- all children including those with a disability will have equitable and genuine opportunities to participate in and learn from the everyday routines, interactions, play and learning while at the service
- educators will provide a program that caters for different learning capacities and styles and will actively invite children and families to contribute ideas, interests and questions
- educators will provide a supportive environment and program that is flexible and responsive and will be focused around children’s strengths, interests, needs and abilities which is reflective to each child’s life experiences, social skills and interests
- observations of the community will be undertaken to identify the socio-economic and cultural groupings within the community
- preparation of the learning environment will allow children to discover differences and similarities in a variety ways
- encourage learning around social inclusion and Australia’s cultural heritage with a particular focus on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture
- the development of broad cultural and anti-bias perspectives will challenge stereotyping and discriminatory behaviour and encourage co-operation in all areas of the program.

It is hoped that children whose developing attitudes are influenced towards a positive view of diversity will acquire:

- an extended awareness of others
- build a strong sense of belonging and identity
- increased knowledge and understanding of Australia’s cultural history and our diverse community
- a greater capacity to communicate
- reach their full potential of participation and learning
- an increased willingness and ability to co-operate
- develop a sense of social responsibility and skills to work with a wide range of people
- develop a high level of confidence and self-esteem
Governing Council Member’s Signature: ________________________________

Director’s Signature: ____________________________________________

Two Wells Community Children’s Centre’s Common Seal

Date Reviewed: March 2015
Next Review Due: March 2017

Sources:
Inclusive Directions, 2012

Early Years Learning Framework 2010

National Quality Standards and Regulations 2011