Philosophy Statement

At the Two Wells Community Children's Centre we understand that children are of the utmost importance, and we will ensure that their needs and interests are foremost in our minds. We believe that children are very clever and resourceful learners who are capable of constructing their own knowledge of the world around them. We will facilitate this learning by having strong, trusting relationships with children, families and the wider community.

We aim to provide a caring safe, healthy, inclusive, play based, educational environment in which families, children's and staff's beliefs, practices and understandings are embedded.

**Our service will reflect the following:**

**In relation to children:**

- We believe that children need a challenging, safe, friendly and secure environment in which to learn, creating a sense of belonging.
- Children will be valued, cared for, and respected as responsible capable learners.
- We will create opportunities for positive interactions, to encourage children to reach their full potential.
- Children's wellbeing and the rights of the child are paramount. They will be respected as individuals and treated fairly and equitably.
- We will provide children with the opportunity to have fun, have success with learning and be able to express themselves verbally, non-verbally, physically and creatively.
- We believe all children need to be supported in their emerging development and have trusting, meaningful relationships with their educators. We will assist in building independence, autonomy for learning and contributing members to the wider community, creating a sense of agency.
- We will provide children with the opportunity to engage in caring & respectful relationships with others.

**In relation to families:**

- We will have open and ongoing communication between parents/educators and children, based around strong trusting relationships.
- All families will be treated respectfully, inclusively and sensitively to meet their complex needs, and information will be kept confidential.
- We will ensure that families are made to feel welcome at all times, inclusive of cultural diversity, religion, appearance and beliefs.
- We will communicate with families on a regular basis, about their child's day, development and general wellbeing.
- We will encourage families to be involved in our centre in all aspects including curriculum programming, activities and experiences, governance and decision making, by asking for their participation and feedback.
• We will advocate and support parents/families in their parenting role where possible, by providing them with advice, information and general knowledge about children and their development.

• We will encourage the sharing of information, in a two way relationship/partnership to ensure we care for their child in a manner that suits their values, needs and expectations.

In relation to the program:

We will provide a program that:

• Is responsive to children/families/staff. It is evaluated, extended and is centred around the Early Years Learning Framework, My Time Our Place, principles, practices, themes and learning outcomes providing a holistic teaching and learning approach.

• Is engaging, educational, and play based. It will be reflective and responsive to individual children’s needs and interests.

• We will display a documented room program and records are kept for each child in the form of observations, learning stories, photos, work samples etc.

• Will cater for developing skills, and challenge children to reach their full potential, through play, spontaneous interactions and intentional teaching, and dispositions for life long learning.

• Is parent friendly, and easy to interpret and regularly seeks parent/family/community input and participation.

• Will provide a variety of resources, activities, experiences and learning opportunities, that positively promotes children’s choices, and creates a sense of exploration, curiosity, discovery, imagination and inquiry.

• Will promote peer and educator relationships through primary educator caregiving.

• Allows children to have quiet and active play times in an individual, small group and large group context.

• Provides opportunities for cultural competence through diversity, multiculturalism, inclusivity and appreciation of the Indigenous cultures of Australia.

In relation to the community:

We will

• Participate with other community groups and services to develop networks for families, and build that sense of community spirit and dignity for all.

• Provide support to the community and be responsive to local needs, where possible.

• Develop partnerships with the community.

• Network with other centres.

In relation to professional development:

We will commit to:

• Continually improve, learn and further develop and extend skills and knowledge both personally, professionally and as a staff team.
• Engage in professional training, learning, development and be open to changes required to strive for continuous improvement for the benefit of all.

• Keep up to date with all current Laws, regulations, standards, teaching and learning methodologies as set out by the Department of Education Child Development, ACECQA and current research.

In relation to staff’s role as caregivers/educators:

We will

• Ensure that children at TWCCC are at the core in all that we do, and are made to feel safe, secure and valued for who they are.

• Endeavour to give the very best at all times and provide the highest quality education and care for the children of TWCCC.

• Believe in our staff as the most valuable resources in order to promote the highest quality care and education for our centre. We will value their individual skills and knowledge and maintain a safe and respectful working environment at all times.

• Ensure that children are supervised at all times.

• Develop relationships with families, to ensure open communication and the needs/interests of children are met.

• Be approachable to families at all times.

• Provide a nurturing, safe environment with lots of fun and positive learning experiences, where staff engage with children and have sustained conversations and follow children’s play and interests with vigour and enthusiasm.

• Help children and families to extend themselves in all areas of development.

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 2016

Sources: Early Years Learning Framework, 2009
National Quality Regulations and Standards, 2012
Code of Ethics DECD
Rights of the Child