



## Outside School Hours Care Philosophy

### **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM AND PRACTICE:**

The Christian Ethos is an integral part of our service and we believe all children can prosper when guided by our educators and walking at the hands of God. Scaffolding learning for individuals is of high priority and we believe this provides children with opportunities to confidently discover, imagine and explore whilst developing positive relationships and further developing strengths and interests. Our diverse educators are dedicated to informing and implementing different learning theories and strategies that best support our children during their differing stages of development.

### **CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND SAFETY:**

Our service believes each individual deserves to be treated equitably in a safe and secure learning environment. In order to create this environment, we have sufficient supervision of children, current staff accreditation and training and promote healthy lifestyle options.

### **PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT:**

Our service environment is designed to encourage meaningful play-based learning both indoors and outdoors. The resources and equipment at our service can be used for multiple purposes which simulate children to connect prior learning to their current play and use their imagination. Immanuel Lutheran College OSHC cares for the environment and supports children to make environmentally sustainable choices.

### **STAFFING ARRANGEMENTS:**

Immanuel Lutheran College OSHC believes that incorporating holistic approaches to lifelong learning begins with the inclusion of qualified and highly motivated educators. Educators continually strive to uphold our equitable and inclusive policies. Our staff endeavour to recognise the diversity of our families that attend the service and are constantly building relationships that will help to contribute to the richness of our care. Each of our educators understand the importance of reflective practice to promote ongoing learning.

### **RELATIONSHIPS WITH CHILDREN:**

The staff at Immanuel Lutheran College OSHC pride themselves on building respectful and equitable relationships with the children and their families. Educator guidance is vital and we understand that how we interact within the service can impact on the child's social and emotional development. To cater for all children, we make considerations for the differing physical, social, emotional and cognitive abilities to ensure our programming and group dynamics are suitable for all children. All aspects of the program, including routines, are organised in ways that maximise opportunities for each child's learning.

### **COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS WITH FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES:**

We believe OSHC families are the heart of our service and that it's essential to develop and maintain effective respectful and trusting relationships with them. We encourage parents to contribute to future planning and evaluate previous programs to ensure we are continually improving all aspects of our service. Our service partnerships are based on effective communication and building foundations with care givers in regards to expectations, attitudes, strengths and knowledge. Each of our educators ensure new families feel welcome by actively approaching new families, introducing themselves and inducting them around the main areas within the service. To uphold our strong relationship with the local community, we engage with various community members through our program.

### **GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP:**

The operation of the service is based on the service philosophy. The service is committed to providing quality care for children in a rich learning environment with Christian Ethos. Systems are in place to manage risk and enable the effective management and operation of a quality service. Staff members annually undergo staff reviews and individual plans are in place to support learning and development.