

# YMCA St Paul's OSHC Philosophy

The YMCA Outside School Hours Care Philosophy for working with children is based on the trilogy of Mind, Body and Spirit, all of which play an equal role in every child's development. YMCA Outside School Hours Care also works within the quality standards set down by The Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority incorporating the National Quality Framework into every day routines.

YMCA Outside School Hours Care values children as capable and competent citizens by providing opportunities for children to succeed and develop a positive sense of identity and self-worth. Through encouragement and guidance, children can extend on their interests, ensuring that they are active participants in decision making.

YMCA Outside School Hours Care values and promotes the importance of childhood and the significant role we play as educators and advocates for children. YMCA Outside School Hours Care Educators are encouraged to seek ways to build professional knowledge and develop shared learning communities, with shared decision making, that support critical reflection about the program to ensure children's interests and needs are met in an ongoing and meaningful way.

YMCA Outside School Hours Care supports a respectful relationship amongst children and adults. Educators are tuned into the children's thoughts and feelings and endeavour to assist them to develop a sense of wellbeing and social development. Educators exhibit qualities of fairness, humour, sympathy, compassion and trusting relationships with other colleagues, families and children. Educators promote a welcoming environment for children and their families to work actively in a shared decision making process towards the programming experience. An important focus at YMCA Outside School Hours Care is to establish a trusting environment for families and their children, and for them to know that they will be cared for appropriately.

YMCA Outside School Hours Care ensures qualified and quality Educators who show genuine concern and care for all the children at their service. All services operate under strict Work Place Health and Safety legislations and acknowledge and respect all individuals and their confidentiality.

*Our Philosophy at YMCA St Paul's Outside School Hours Care is to have a child centred, safe, fun, friendly and relaxed environment that is centred on the thoughts, ideas and desires of children.*

#### **Our values:**

**Inclusion:** *To promote and advance participation, friendship, trust and celebration of diversity;*

**Healthy eating/activities:** *To encourage healthy eating, cooking and hygienic practices that enhance life-long skills;*

**Open Learning:** *To learn through play and participation in meaningful & purposeful activities;*

**Sustainability:** *Creating a safe and environmentally friendly space for all;*

**Development:** *Building self-esteem, interpersonal and social skills for all and encouraging children to make good choices.*



We build strong **PEOPLE**  
strong **FAMILIES** strong **COMMUNITIES**