

# Coburg North Primary School

## OSHC Program

### Philosophy Statement



**Coburg North Primary School's Outside School Hours Care Program** aims to provide a distinctive, high quality child care service that promotes learning and development with particular emphasis on play, social interactions and recreation. Each child will be treated as an individual in a friendly atmosphere where positive self-esteem is enhanced and curiosity and initiative will be fostered. Our program is guided by the "My Time, Our Place" framework and therefore values input from the children as well as from families, staff and the local community. High quality care is provided by qualified and experienced staff which complements and supports the values of the school and the community.

#### **For the children, our program values:**

- A safe and healthy environment where activities are offered which promote play and involvement for all children as well as a strong sense of wellbeing and belonging.
- Fostering children's sense of health and well being by providing nutritional afternoon snacks and offering active play sessions.
- A secure, trusting, caring and fun environment for children and their families by consulting with them, encouraging their involvement in the program and by role-modeling fairness and respect for one another and our environment.
- Supporting children's growth, learning and development through the middle years, by providing a safe and stimulating environment, which encourages exploration, independence and creative thought.
- Encouraging children to be involved in recreational activities, that promote health and well being by supporting the Active After School Program, which is run by local sporting groups in our community.
- Respect for others, individuals have the right to be treated fairly and equally regardless of religion, culture, race, disability and gender
- Diversity - each child is an important and valuable member of our community and we recognize and celebrate what makes us unique and individual.

### **For parents/ families our program values:**

- A welcoming, supportive and friendly environment where parental input is encouraged and supported
- A service that is affordable and assessable, which complements the care offered at home and provides a vital link between school and home for working parents.
- Respect for each family in our community - we celebrate diversity and recognize different interests, abilities, beliefs, customs and cultures.
- Open Communication – information is provided to parents/ families through our handbook. Noticeboards clearly display valuable information about the program's Guidelines and Procedures. Parents are also welcome to join the OSHC program's management sub committee.

### **For Staff, our program values:**

- Positive, caring and approachable staff members willing to take the time to get to know the children and families and value their input, feedback and suggestions.
- The range of experiences and skills professional, caring and approachable staff can provide for our program, which will enable a safe, secure and simulating environment where children's interests are encouraged and nurtured.
- A harmonious, happy, supportive and cooperative environment where open communication is encouraged and respected and teamwork is valued.
- The "My Time, Our Place" Framework for School Aged Care in Australia – this framework will be used by staff to facilitate a program which aims to extend and enrich children's well being and development to help them maximise their potential and develop a foundation for future success in life.
- The importance of play where children:
  - Learn at their own pace through involvement;
  - Are given opportunities to create, explore, experiment, be active;
  - Practice skills;
  - Interact with others whilst being engaged in various experiences.
- The support of school staff, school council, the OSHC program management sub committee and families.
- Staff training and Professional Development - by providing information, guidance, training, role descriptions, Guidelines and Procedures.

### **For the community, our program values:**

- The support and partnership that is offered by our local council, Moreland City Council, which includes our venue being shared for the council run School Holiday OSHC Program – our site is extremely popular and assessable for families in the area, with many children enrolling from surrounding schools, including Coburg North PS, Brunswick North West PS, Coburg West PS, Coburg PS, Newlands Primary PS, St Paul’s PS, St Oliver’s PS, St Fidelis PS, Pascoe Vale North PS, Pascoe Vale PS, Pascoe Vale South PS.
- The resources and information provided by community groups and government organizations to help support and enhance our program such as sporting group’s part of the Active After School Program, Children’s Services, and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.
- Our contribution to the local community – through our partnership with families, the school and local community we are able to deliver a distinctive, high quality outside school hours care program which meets the needs and interests of children and families in the Coburg North area.
- Involvement in community groups by our support of, and genuine interest in the community.
- The diversity and multiculturalism of our local community and the positive contribution this brings to the program.