

## **SECTION 1**

### **COLUMBUS ELC – INSPIRING A LOVE OF LEARNING FOR THE FUTURE**

**OR**

### **COLUMBUS ELC – HELPING YOUR CHILD NAVIGATE THEIR WAY TO A PROMISING START!**

Each chapter in life is a new frontier. Our centre is designed to create a sense of wonder in our youngest learners and to meet the developmental needs of all our children.

At Columbus we get such joy from providing environments that allow your little explorer to make new discoveries at every turn, optimising their learning opportunities whilst they play. We encourage investigation, problem solving, independence, confidence and most importantly, help to build resilience in our little people as the wiring for these lifelong learning and interpersonal skills are laid.

Our early childhood educators offer exceptional care in a warm and nurturing environment. Our tailored learning programs are designed to assist each individual child to reach their potential and expand their learning ability. We see building strong child-staff-family relationships to better understand your child's needs as an important part of preparing your child to step out into the world with the confidence and skills they need to make the most promising start in life.

## **SECTION 2**

### **WHAT WE OFFER**

At Columbus ELC we appreciate the concern and importance of leaving your child in someone else's trust and care. We believe that every child has the right to feel safe, secure and supported. Our highly qualified educators, in addition to our new, secure and purpose built premises will feel like a home away from home for your child, while providing parents with invaluable peace of mind that their child is being looked after by us as if they were our own. We provide:

- Safe play and learning environments
- Personal focus on your child's individual needs
- Quality educators and resources
- Delicious home cooked nutritionally designed meals
- Convenient long day care hours – 7.30am to 6pm
- Nappies, wipes and linen
- Collaborative partnerships between families and educators
- In house community events including parental guidance and support

(Then for expandable table)

### **SAFE SECURE AND PURPOSE BUILT**

- New and purpose built building, designed to inspire learning and imagination
- Warm and safe play and learning environments with multiple indoor and outdoor spaces providing children with opportunities to investigate, lots of variety, entertainment and sufficient stimulation to facilitate growth and development
- Unobtrusive surveillance and high security for the safety of your child, staff a peace of mind

### **COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS WITH FAMILIES**

- We work closely with each child and in collaboration with families to understand expectations and needs
- Individual programs that cater to suit each child's needs, learning style and aptitude so that they may flourish
- Quality programs based on experience and latest research in line with the new Early Learning Years Framework and National Quality Standards

### **HIGHLY QUALIFIED STAFF AND EDUCATORS**

- Warm, friendly, passionate and professional educators and staff that attribute to more qualitative care and education
- Staff receive regular training and to achieve higher levels of service

## **NUTRITIONALLY DESIGNED MEALS**

- We Commit to providing a balanced nutritional menu that is wholesome, age and nutritionally appropriate for all children
- We cater to children with allergies, intolerances, cultural requirements etc to ensure each child dietary requirement is met properly
- Our highly experienced cook prepares meals on site with fresh produce in high quality, industry approved restaurant grade kitchen

## **LONG HOURS + PARENTAL SUPPORT AVAILABLE**

- Open long convenient hours, Monday - Friday 7.30am - 6.00pm
- Caters for children 6 weeks to 6 years
- We are located opposite Ryde Hospital at 58 Denistone Rd, Denistone 2114
- Encourage parental involvement in developing and maintaining programs
- Run regular parental support seminars in which parents can exchange ideas on parenting and get answers!

## **SECTION 3**

### **OUR PROGRAMMES**

Language is... “the quintessence of our humanity.” – George Steiner, 1964

Guided by the nationally approved [Early Years Learning Framework \(EYLF\)](#) our qualified, experienced and educated staff develop programs for each child based on their individual needs and interests. These programs are designed to enhance and continually progress each critical developmental area and support each child’s growth holistically. We adopt a play based educational style with a strong emphasis on literacy development and school readiness, preparing each child with the skills and aptitude needed to thrive in an ever changing world.

Also, Columbus takes fun very seriously.

### **DISCOVERY CLUB**

Learning and development is a rapid and exciting process for babies and very young children. Every moment counts. We provide the love and interactions that every baby needs to establish a strong sense of safety, recognition and curiosity – the springboard to healthy communication and learning.

### **ADVENTURERS**

OR I had the following (bit simpler)

In these formative years your toddler is developing their sense of identity and personal power. Our activities encourage and bring out their independence, invoke new skills and strengths, through meaningful experiences via interest-led play.

### **EXPLORERS**

Your increasingly independent little person is becoming more competent as they begin to navigate and integrate into the world around them. Here children will learn to build confidence, emotional resilience and develop healthy social relationships.

### **ADMIRALS**

The preschool year is fundamental in readying your child for the transition to the more formal learning environment of ‘big school’. Children ‘play’ their way through the customised rich learning programs designed specifically to best prepare them for their formal education journey ahead.

(I think we can perhaps take out the first ‘formal learning environment’ wording so it is not repeated in such a short space... just make it “transition to ‘big school’”)

## **SECTION 4 (OPTION 1)**

### **OUR FOCAL POINTS: MILESTONES & DEVELOPMENT OUTCOMES**

Children's learning is ongoing and each child will progress towards the outcomes in different and equally meaningful ways.

- [Developmental milestones provided by the Australian Children's Early Childhood Quality Authority \(ACECQA\)](#)

(link: <http://theconversation.com/what-outcomes-parents-should-expect-from-early-childhood-education-and-care-94731V>)

For some parents it can be difficult to know what your child should be learning and whether or not they are reaching developmental milestones. At Columbus we recognise that parents have different ideas and expectations of their child's learning outcomes. We also see that each child is unique and has an individual way of learning and applying themselves. Our practices are based on the latest evidence-based research and our dedicated team of educators specialise in understanding and identifying the age appropriate developmental milestones that children should be reaching at each stage of the first five years of their education and care. Our educators will promote children's learning and development in the following developmental areas in the following ways:

Also, Columbus takes fun very seriously.

(then for tabs)

### **EMOTIONAL**

#### **CHILDREN HAVE A STRONG SENSE OF IDENTITY**

- Acknowledge and respond sensitively to children's cues and signals, and attempts to initiate interactions and conversations
- Support children's secure attachment through consistent and warm nurturing relationships
- Mediate and assist children to negotiate their rights in relation to the rights of others
- Develop authentic children's understanding of themselves

## **SOCIAL**

### **CHILDREN ARE CONNECTED WITH AND CONTRIBUTE TO THEIR WORLD**

- Model language that children can use to express ideas, negotiate roles and collaborate to achieve goals
- Plan experiences and provide resources that broaden children's perspectives and encourage appreciation of diversity
- Encourage children to listen to others and to respect diverse perspectives
- Notice and listen carefully to children's concerns and discuss diverse perspectives on issues of inclusion and exclusion and fair and unfair behaviour

## **PHYSICAL**

### **CHILDREN HAVE A STRONG SENSE OF WELLBEING**

- Plan for and participate in energetic physical activity with children, including dance, drama, movement and games
- Provide a wide range of tools and materials to resource children's fine and gross motor skills.
- Model and reinforce health, nutrition and personal hygiene practices with children

## **COGNITIVE**

### **CHILDREN ARE CONFIDENT AND INVOLVED LEARNERS**

- Provide learning environments that are flexible and open-ended
- Listen carefully to children's ideas and discuss with them how these ideas might be developed
- Provide experiences that encourage children to investigate and solve problems
- Draw children's attention to patterns and relationships in the environment and in their learning
- Provide opportunities and support for children to engage in meaningful learning relationships

## **LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT**

### **CHILDREN ARE EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATORS**

- Engage in enjoyable interactions with babies as they make and play with sounds
- Model language and encourage children to express themselves through language in a range of contexts and for a range of purposes
- Provide literacy-enriched environment including display print in home languages and Standard Australian English
- Talk explicitly about concepts such as rhyme and letters and sounds when sharing texts with children

(then underneath please create hyperlink)

\*SOURCE <https://www.acecqa.gov.au/sites/default/files/2018-02/DevelopmentalMilestonesEYLFandNQS.pdf>

Please click for more in depth information.

## **SECTION 4 (OPTION 2)**

### **OUR MISSION STATEMENT, PHILOSOPHY & VALUES**

**OUR FOCUS** is our children and how we can assist them best/most in lifting them to their highest potential and preparing them to navigate their way in today's challenging world

**OUR TOOLS** are our people - by people we mean staff, parents and carers in collaboration, always

**OUR FOUNDATION** is community, providing a sense of belonging and security

(For expanded table section – 3 tabs only)

### **COLUMBUS MISSION STATEMENT**

At Columbus we are fiercely passionate about the next generation of our society. The welfare of your children in every way - psychologically, emotionally, intellectually and spiritually - is our first and foremost priority.

We strive to maintain a safe and secure environment for your precious little wayfinder to grow and learn with assurance. We endeavour to love, support, look after and prepare your child for life's journey ahead, as if they were our own, without prejudice, in order to maximise their confidence and abilities within themselves, so that they may employ their fullest potential and be their Personal Best whilst embarking on their unique passage of self discovery and learning.

Also, , Columbus takes fun very seriously.

### **OUR PHILOSOPHY**

We believe in advocating for the rights of each and every child - the right to feel safe, to feel free to explore and the right to quality care and education.

We know that each child is unique and believe in supporting this uniqueness to grow. We believe the way to achieve this is by fostering and scaffolding children's individual interests and skills, while supporting them to engage in and build rich and meaningful relationships with the world around them.

At Columbus relationships are integral to everything we do. Our relationships with our children, parents and carers are central to the success and satisfaction of everyone involved.

*"It takes a village to raise a child"* and it has never been more necessary than it is today in this fast-paced, pressure-packed world. We are a family-centric childcare and pre-education centre there for you and your family. We have a strong commitment to building healthy relationships and bonds between children, staff and families as we believe this creates a safe space for children to explore and flourish in their discoveries and learnings.



We believe in community and belonging. Having a place where you can just “show up” as you are warts and all. We celebrate our differences and teach loving kindness, acceptance and respect.

## **OUR VALUES**

The centres conduct is driven by upholding it's strong values of honesty, respect, compassion, and loving kindness, innovation and excellence in action. In caring for and cultivating our children we advocate individuality, respect, confidence and self worth, expression and communication, resilience, honesty, accountability, compassion and kindness.