

Positive Education Statement.

The Yellow Cottage

At The Yellow Cottage we are committed to giving every child every chance to have the best start in life.

😊 Supporting children's development and wellbeing requires a commitment from the whole of society. The Yellow Cottage works together with families, community and schools to support wellbeing in education and health, the home and community environments. This partnership recognises children and their families as central partners and active agents in their own lives and the lives of others.

😊 Wellbeing means having good or satisfactory condition of existence – in health, happiness and prosperity. It is a complex set of interrelated factors and not a tangible thing that exists in isolation. Wellbeing is about how we are doing and how we feel. Are we healthy? Do we feel safe? Do we feel like we belong? Do we have a positive sense of identity? These are some of the factors that make up our wellbeing. A holistic approach to children and young people's development sets the trajectory for lifelong wellbeing outcomes. It encompasses many sides of life: social, cognitive, emotional, physical and spiritual. A state of wellbeing is enhanced by positive psychology (the scientific study of the strengths that enable individuals and communities to thrive) and by building protective factors and resilience that helps to respond to adversity and enjoy fulfilling life experiences.

😊 Our Guiding Principles in Positive Education are:

Child-centred – Incorporating the voices of children at all stages of development in our education and care settings will inspire participation and decision making for learning success

Strengths-based – Strengths-based approaches effectively engage and support children and their families, enabling growth and learning

Learning success – Participation in learning and experiencing learning achievement is integral to wellbeing. Promoting wellbeing and high expectations will empower successful learning.

Relationships – Respectful relationships enhance wellbeing. Building trust and care will inspire and engage children and their families to learn, grow and achieve.

Inclusion – Valuing diversity, individual capabilities and unique interests will empower children to have equal rights and opportunities in all contexts of life.

😊 Wellbeing is a critical part of how young people learn and grow. Research shows that children's wellbeing affects their ability to engage with their education. It is also a lifelong outcome of learning – those that engage more with education are more likely to experience greater wellbeing as adults.

😊 Learning that is intentionally designed to challenge and stretch learners enhances their wellbeing. When learners are supported to see a perception of 'failure' as an opportunity to learn

they will feel safe to experiment, to question, and to challenge themselves and others in their learning.

😊 Every Yellow Cottage child deserves the opportunity to be their best in life. We want to support the learning and life opportunities of all children and seek to help make them strong, creative and resilient learners, to set the trajectory for lifelong wellbeing.

😊 We will promote the wellbeing and resilience of children by inspiring, engaging and empowering. Creating fulfilling learning and life opportunities. The children will be engaged as active agents in their own lives and the lives of others. We help provide fulfilling learning, life and holistic development opportunities according to individual abilities and interests through the time they spend at The Yellow Cottage.

😊 Enhance individual practices:

Our Educators inspire children to thrive through their professional practices. We support children to feel respected, valued, have life aspiration and believe in their own potential.

Build inclusive & welcoming Preschool. A Preschool that fosters a sense of belonging for families through welcoming environments.

We make sure our spaces are inclusive, friendly, built on partnerships and we harness local strengths.

Promote respectful interactions and meaningful relationships. Children are better connected to the world around them and to a support network of people. We enhance characteristics that enable respectful and meaningful interactions and relationships.

Build a positive sense of self and individual abilities Children are empowered to succeed and realise their goals. We help them to build resilience and develop characteristics that promote a positive sense of self and individual abilities.

😊 Our current practices include:

Strength Spotting

Character Strength Development and Education for children and families.

Bush Kindy

Incorporation of Grammar Minds and developing flourishing life long learners.

Embracing the language of Positive Education

Development of Emotional Intelligence using Kimochi's and other resources

Building relationships and connections with families are central to our programs at The Yellow Cottage.

Wellness Weeks for staff each term.

Professional Development in the area of Positive Education is a focus and continued commitment.

Collated by TYC Wellbeing Committee September 2018.