



Immanuel Lutheran College Outside School Hours Care Philosophy

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM AND PRACTICE:

At the core of our service lies play-based learning. By keenly observing and engaging with children, our educators skilfully support individual learning journeys. This is a top priority for us, as we firmly believe it empowers children to confidently embark on a journey of discovery, imagination, and exploration, all while fostering positive relationships and nurturing their strengths and interests. Our dedicated educators are committed to staying informed and applying various learning theories and strategies tailored to effectively support children at various stages of development.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND SAFETY:

Our commitment is to ensure that every individual is treated fairly within a safe and secure learning setting. To establish this environment, we employ active supervision of both children and staff, along with ongoing accreditation and training. We promote a sense of responsibility among children for their own well-being, encompassing making healthy choices, assessing personal risks, selecting nutritious foods, and engaging in physical activities. Our Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) program incorporates well-established routines, seamless transitions, and meticulously planned activities in accordance with established procedures.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT:

Our service environment is crafted to foster purposeful play-based learning experiences, both within indoor and outdoor settings. The versatile resources and equipment available serve multiple functions, inspiring children to link previous learning to their current play and engage their imagination. Thoughtful planning goes into designing physical spaces and activities, ensuring inclusivity and equity for both individual and collective children. At Immanuel Lutheran College OSHC, we prioritize environmental stewardship, guiding children to make sustainable choices. Educators actively involve children in nurturing our established gardens, and the produce is utilized within our service.

STAFFING ARRANGEMENTS:

Immanuel Lutheran College OSHC is dedicated to integrating holistic approaches to lifelong learning, a commitment strongly influenced by our qualified and motivated educators. These educators consistently uphold our equitable and inclusive policies. Recognizing the diverse backgrounds of the families we serve, our staff actively cultivate relationships to enhance the depth and quality of our care. Every educator comprehends the significance of reflective practice, promoting continual learning within our service and facilitating the professional development of our staff.

RELATIONSHIPS WITH CHILDREN:

Our educators take pride in cultivating respectful and equitable relationships with both the children and their families. Their support serves as a positive influence on each child's social and emotional development. Recognizing diverse abilities, educators create opportunities that cater to varying physical, social, emotional, and cognitive needs. At OSHC, we actively promote and support inter-age friendships, believing that this fosters a spectrum of social and emotional skills.

COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS WITH FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES:

Families in our Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) program are at the core of our service, playing a vital role in fostering lasting, inclusive, respectful, and trusting relationships. Our educators actively promote family involvement in shaping future plans and evaluating past programs, aiming for ongoing improvement in all aspects of the service. Valuing the expectations, attitudes, strengths, and knowledge of families regarding their children's experience at OSHC, educators strive to incorporate these insights. Communication is key, and educators work to share community connections that are relevant to the families. OSHC is committed to enhancing relationships with the local community by engaging with various community members through the program.

GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP:

The service is unwavering in its commitment to delivering high-quality care for children within a vibrant, play-based learning environment infused with a Christian Ethos. Robust systems are in operation to handle risks and facilitate the efficient management, ongoing enhancement, and smooth operation of a quality service. Staff members actively engage in monthly staff meetings, undergo regular staff reviews, and partake in continuous professional development. Demonstrating flexibility, educators readily adapt to changes in QLECS policies, government recommendations, and mandates. Both the OSHC committee and educators fully comprehend their roles and responsibilities in implementing quality standards in accordance with the National Law and Regulations.

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