

“This generation will require leaders and citizens who can think ecologically, understand the interconnectedness of human and natural systems, and have the will, ability, and courage to act”

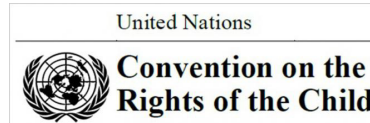
Michael K. Stone

Our Aims are that children will develop:

- an awareness of nature’s changes and the rhythm of the seasons
- an awareness of the capabilities and the limits of their bodies
- their ability to assess risk and identify hazards
- their understanding of the Dharawal connection to country
- emotional resilience and an emotional connection to the planet
- their imagination through open ended experiences such as storytelling, observation, creative design with natural materials
- dispositions and skills for a smooth transition to school
- a sense of belonging to a community of learners

Being in nature also gives us the gift of experiencing a place where there is no judgement. It is a place that eases our stresses while increasing our creativity.

Jan Cleary, 2007



Article 3: Best interests of the child.



Article 5: Respecting young children’s evolving capacities.



Article 12: The right of the child to be heard. The right to participate.



Article 28: Children have the right to an education.



Article 29: Education should develop each child’s personality and talents to the full.



Article 31: Children have the right to relax, play, and to join in a wide range of leisure activities. Opportunities to experience, interact with, and play in natural environments and the animal world.

More information

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Bush Preschool

Beyond the Fence

Enriching Learning



WHAT?

KCP has added a Bush Preschool experience to our curriculum.

Children and educators will ;

- spend unhurried time in nature play
- be free to; collaborate, explore, communicate and question
- participate in adventurous journeys to deepen learning
- develop positive attitudes to themselves as capable learners

At KCP WHY?

- Research documents the positive benefits of time in nature
- Foster connections, appreciation and investment in the natural world
- Helping children and our preschool community to develop a solid foundation and a lifelong sense of wonder in our world
- To foster understanding and respect for our natural and cultural heritage
- Positive contribution to building dispositions and skills for a smooth transition to school
- Strong gains in physical and cognitive development

Vision

- Fun
- Curiosity
- Freedom
- Discovery
- Loving the land
- Connection to place
- Different perspectives
- Embedding sustainable practices
- Children learning about risk and safety
- Learning about nature and how to nurture it
- Connecting to the Dharawal relationship with country
(traditional owners of our land)



WHY?

Benefits of Nature Play for Children:

Learning to be;

Resourceful	Creative
Independent	Curious
Responsible	Persistent
Risk takers	Observant
Team members	Confident
Problem solvers	

Good Citizens

All of these important dispositions and skills can contribute to classroom success.

WHERE?

- On the western side of the fenced outdoor environment on preschool land.
- A number of sites have been identified on Wollongong Council land and NPWS- Illawarra Escarpment State Conservation Area.

HOW?

- Groups of 10 children and 2 educators will spend 2-3 hours each session for 4 weeks

Duty of Care: The safety of children & adults will be paramount. There are clear guidelines, policies and procedures.