

BRINKWORTH PRIMARY AND EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTRE

**SITE CONTEXT STATEMENT**

Brinkworth Primary and Early Childhood Centre is a small country site 150 kilometres north of Adelaide where lifelong learning begins, is encouraged and fostered. This site is highly valued within the community and has been since 1895. At Brinkworth, educators’ value and develop the whole child and recognise the important link between academic achievement and children’s wellbeing. Through fostering these elements, we will achieve our goal of developing powerful learners.

Our values are Respect, Responsibility, Honesty, Learning and Kindness. These values were developed by the children in 2018 through valuable discussion, collaboration and an understanding of their importance in both the site and the wider community. Children are encouraged to demonstrate these values in their daily school life and have the opportunity to choose a weekly value focus through Friday meeting times. This demonstrates child-voice and ownership with learners choosing a value for the following week that they feel needs further focus. The voice of our learners is highly encouraged and children at Primary School are given leadership roles within the SRC.

Our School and Quality Improvement Plans for 2020 focus on developing Oral Language skills to promote success in all areas of literacy and developing an understanding of Number to deepen children’s understanding of maths concepts in a developmental sequence. Within this, we ensure we are monitoring children’s wellbeing using a range of strategies from the Berry Street Education Model, improving attendance and creating engaging and inspiring spaces. All educators are committed to this task through developing their knowledge in weekly meetings, professional development, working closely with children and appropriate and specific data collection.

Educators provide children with many opportunities for success by teaching, providing support and assessing against children’s individual learning goals. We ensure individual children can expand their knowledge through daily lessons, play-based learning and inquiry. In 2020, we have begun using learning groups to differentiate and target our teaching towards learner goals and abilities. This happens using consistent data collection and educator discussion with one another and families.

As stated in our Improvement Plans, we value our families and their engagement in learning. We embrace families as ‘partners in learning’ and acknowledge the importance of having a strong partnership with them. Through a strong partnership comes a deeper engagement, curiosity and progression of learning.

At Brinkworth there is a wide range of curriculum inquiry and programs including Loose Parts Play, Premiers Reading and BeActive Challenge, Breakfast program, Woodwork, Pastoral Care, Student Voice, daily whole school fitness, Nature play in the pine forest, environmental activities, SAPSASA involvement, Canberra Trip for year 6’s, focussed, departmental approved intervention and technology opportunities including 3D Printing and coding. In 2019, we amalgamated our site and committed to creating a strong connection with our kindergarten. We encourage whole site learning, cohesive term inquiry units and special days and events. By having inquiry-driven learning, we give our children the opportunity to be involved in both local, regional and interstate excursions and incursions to deepen their understanding and interest in the topics.

Strong, relevant and positive communication with children, educators, parents and the wider community keeps the direction of learning on course and provides a positive atmosphere where each child feels valued and an important part of our team.

At Brinkworth Primary and Early Childhood Centre, we value each child involved in the learning journey and support the wellbeing of everyone involved through collaboration, conversation, communication and care. Together, we ensure we are “Growing Together.”