

Policy Document No: ELC01
Category: Early Learning
Topic: Philosophy and Mission Statement



Date of Issue: 1st February 2008
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At Mount Scopus Memorial College Early Learning Centres we aim to provide our children with quality care that promotes the wellbeing, education and development of all children.

Our Mission:

Mount Scopus Memorial College follows the ethos of two mission statements:

The mission of Mount Scopus Memorial College is to provide each student with an education and an environment that

- promotes excellence in learning and academic achievement by means of inquiry and critical thinking and by creating a desire for lifelong learning
- develops the student's whole personality by offering a wide range of activities, inside and outside of the classroom
- provides Jewish learning, values, experiences, within a Modern Orthodox and Zionist framework, that enable each student to make an informed choice as to the meaning of their Jewish identity
- Engenders values, knowledge and skills so that students can play their full part in their communities— as members of the College, as Jews, as Australians and as citizens of the World.

As a member of the International Baccalaureate Program we are bound by The Mission Statement of the International Baccalaureate Organization:

- The International Baccalaureate Organization aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. To this end the IBO works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment. These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

(Sourced from the International Baccalaureate Organization)

The Practices of Mount Scopus Memorial College Early Learning Centres are based on this philosophy that was developed in consultation with parents, staff and management.

Our aim is to provide a warm, caring and secure environment where children are nurtured and encouraged to develop international mindedness and build their Jewish identity.

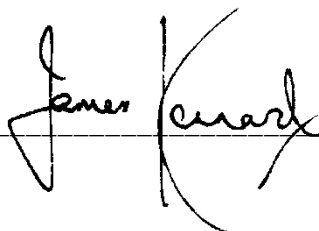
- We recognise that parents are the first and continuing carers and educators of their children. We acknowledge the partnership of parents, staff and children in creating a community of learners with a desire and love of learning.
- We believe in the individuality of each child and family and encourage the development of warm and responsive relationships with staff and peers based on mutual respect.
- We believe that children need a strong sense of wellbeing for good physical health, positive sense of self and successful social functioning.

- We view children as capable, competent learners and value and build on children's strengths, skills and knowledge. We acknowledge children as active participants in their own learning and consult with them regarding a range of aspects of our program.
- We accept every child without bias or prejudice and promote an inclusive, non-judgmental atmosphere.
- We respect and value our indigenous heritage and make use of the diverse range of cultures and perspectives that exist within the school, national and global communities to encourage learning that foster international mindedness.
- We will provide Jewish learning, values, experiences, within a Modern Orthodox and Zionist framework that are meaningful, relevant and age appropriate for young children.
- We believe the role of teachers is to provide a secure learning environment where children are valued and respected, to be responsive to the individual needs and interests of children and facilitate the connections of knowledge. The teachers will value, support and model inquiry.

We value the knowledge and commitment of our Staff and provide ongoing professional learning based on the outcomes of the annual appraisal.

We believe the philosophy statement incorporates the core values and beliefs of the staff and families using our service. We acknowledge the philosophy may change based on new awareness and evaluation of current practices.

Approved by the Principal:



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Kenard", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" and the last name "Kenard" clearly distinguishable.

Reviewed: May 2014: