



# Aurora School

## PHILOSOPHY

### Aurora School Philosophy

*Excellence in early childhood for deaf children and their families*

*Communication for lifelong learning*

Aurora School offers a unique early learning opportunity for young Deaf and Deafblind children and their families throughout Victoria. We believe in every child's right to learn and communicate, build connections and actively participate in their community. This enables children to reach their full potential.

We commit to working in inclusive and collaborative ways with children, families, professionals and the community. We aim to maximise learning and development, encourage belonging and nurture a strong sense of identity. We create a welcoming place built on respect, trust and open communication. We act to protect children from abuse and build an environment where children feel safe, protected and encouraged to reach their full potential. Through shared family partnerships and strengths-based practices, children's learning and development is prioritised and families are supported.

We offer innovative programs through a commitment to ongoing learning and reflection based on a strong understanding of early childhood education and intervention, deaf education and exemplary practice. Each child's individual differences, learning and wellbeing are appreciated.

We provide a combination of early intervention and early education programs that support the whole child, with special emphasis on the acquisition of communication, language and literacy.

We respect and value children's communication choices through a bilingual approach that allows for a variety of communication options, including Auslan, sign, listening and speaking.

All staff and volunteers must consider the safety of all children and recognise their particular vulnerabilities including children with a disability, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

We will deliver these commitments in our daily practice in Early Intervention, Centre Based Early Education Programs and our Community Kindergarten.

#### **COMMUNICATION :**

**This philosophy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:**

- Available publicly on our schools website
- Included in enrolment /parent information packs
- Included in staff induction processes

#### **POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL :**

Policy last reviewed	June 2021
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	Three Years - 2024