**PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT**

The Ngura Yadurirn Children and Family Centre is a Centre for all families and children from birth to five years and will help build the capacity of every child. We believe that children will thrive best in an environment which supports their development, education and safety. We do this by supporting and encouraging children to:

- Build stimulating learning foundational skills in numeracy and literacy in a safe and happy environment
- Explore play based pedagogy that assists in the development of children’s skills, interests and dispositions.
- Develop relationships with others where they feel safe, valued and recognised.
- Build important strong spiritual, emotional, physical and intellectual relationships between children and families.
- Extend boundaries and enhance life-long learning in a safe and developmentally appropriate way.

We believe in the provision of high quality first learning experiences, both in preschool and home environments. We do this by:

- Listening to the voice of children, parents and families
- Integrating programs within the centre that will enable the strengths of all children to be acknowledged and valued and will support all children to reach their potential
- Constructing a place of learning with a focus on promoting environmentally sustainable practices
- Continually seeking to improve all aspects of the work undertaken at the Ceduna ACFC to the benefit of all families
- Actively inviting and supporting all families to engage in the management of our centre, to help define policy and operations and identify needs and aspirations of families within our community.

The Ngura Yadurirn Children and Family Centre will have a strong focus on supporting Aboriginal families with young children to have the best start in life. We believe in the need for strong and safe family environments which best support children. We do this by working in partnership with families to:

- Providing opportunities for the voices of Aboriginal children and families to be heard.
- Becoming a focal point for families, to enhance family structures through strength based approach.
- Share our knowledge, experience and respect for each individual child and family.
- Recognising and strengthening the importance of Aboriginal language and culture.
- Providing opportunities to improve the educational and health outcomes for Aboriginal Children to give the best possible start in life.

The Ngura Yadurirn Children and Family Centre will create opportunities to unite Community. We believe in the need for an integrated and inclusive community to best support families. We do this by:

- Acknowledge the importance of the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Communities
- Working with other services to support and build reciprocal relationships with all families, based on mutual respect, inclusivity and honesty.
- Providing an integrated service with an emphasis on cultural diversity, identity and inclusion
- Creating opportunities to unite all community through strengthening belonging, ownership and shared voice through communication, collaboration and celebration.
- Developing and establishing respectful, reciprocal and collaborative partnerships in the community to address needs of individual families and the broader population.
- Providing programs, services and information that is responsive to the needs of families and that will bring families together with a sense of community.
- Promoting our commitment to the practice of Reconciliation in all areas of our service in which cultural diversity and inclusion is valued.
- Sharing best practise with families, other early childhood services and the wider community to promote the importance of the early years of childhood.