

Your child's early learning



ECMS recognises parents as their child's first and most enduring teachers. Our educators will work in partnership with you to develop an early learning program that reflects and builds on your child's interests, curiosities and skills. Your child's early learning programs will extend your child's learning and help them reach their full potential.

The National Early Years Learning Framework and The Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework are the foundational curriculum documents for early learning. These frameworks outline the principles, practice and outcomes essential to enhancing children's learning from birth to eight.

The frameworks provide five key learning outcomes that support children to build:

1. a strong sense of their identity
2. connections with their world
3. a strong sense of wellbeing
4. confidence and involvement in their learning
5. effective communication skills.

You can learn more about both these frameworks by visiting <https://www.education.gov.au/early-years-learning-framework>

The value of play early in life

Play is children's important work. It is the vehicle for children to develop vital physical, social, cognitive and emotional skills. Play helps children make sense of their world and practice skills such as empathy and resilience.

Your child will have the opportunity to learn through a range of play-based activities and having fun.

Activities will include:

- language and literature
- music and movement
- art and craft
- dramatic play
- science and maths experiences
- sensory motor activities
- activities to promote physical co-ordination and fine motor development.

Your child will make choices about their learning and their curriculum will be based on their unique interests. Educators will set up experiences that allow your child to explore and research, enabling them to realise their potential in all areas of their development.

Relationships for learning

Brains are built through back and forth

interaction, much like a game of tennis or volleyball. Healthy development occurs when young children 'serve' communication (through babbling, early speech and words) and adults 'return' by getting in sync with the child at their stage of development. Relationships with adults and other children are critical in children's early years. The relationship your child develops with their educator is a pathway for your child to experience separation, develop new relationships and practice their social and emotional skills.

Another important relationship is the one that you have with your child's educators. Working together, you can help your child gain the best possible early learning experience and ensure your child's experience is consistent with your values and culture.

Documenting your child's learning journey

Educators value all the work children do in their play. Educators will capture, collate and document your child's work to ensure you have full access to all the stages your child's learning

and development.

Documentation may include photographs, your child's words and dialogue, written observations, learning stories, group projects and investigations and samples of your child's work.

Many of our centres use Storypark to document children's learning. Storypark is a live, secure, login based e-portfolio that will enable you to enjoy insights into your child's learning throughout the day. It will also allow you to contribute to and comment on what your child is doing. We encourage you to share information about your child and family with educators at every available opportunity. You can also post your family activities and your child's updates on Storypark to share with educators. Storypark will provide you with documentation on your child's early learning journey that you can keep for life at no cost to you.

If Storypark is not at your early learning centre when you start, it's coming soon.

