

Almost French Early Learning Philosophy

Almost French Early Learning respectfully acknowledges the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation and pays respect to their ongoing living cultures as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we learn and play.

At Almost French, we nurture a warm, inclusive and engaging environment where children feel safe, valued and supported to develop a lifelong love of learning. Our educators model kind and respectful communication, embrace diversity, and acknowledge the role each individual plays in creating a positive and supportive atmosphere. We foster a strong culture of respect for oneself, others and the environment.

We recognise that we do not inherit the earth; we borrow it from our children. Sustainability is embedded in our everyday practices, and we engage children and our community in ongoing reflection about how our choices impact the planet.

We are committed to being a Child Safe Organisation. The safety, wellbeing and rights of every child are central to our practice. We actively implement the Victorian Child Safe Standards by creating environments where children are heard, supported and protected. We uphold children's rights and maintain zero tolerance for child abuse, racism and discrimination, promoting inclusive and culturally safe practices for all.

We believe that children are curious, capable and competent learners with unique voices. Our program celebrates each child's strengths, interests, home languages and cultural identities, supporting a strong sense of belonging.

Our program is guided by the Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework (VEYLDF), the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF), and the French Éducation Nationale, informing our holistic and bilingual approach. Our practice is inspired by a range of educational approaches, including play-based learning, Reggio Emilia and project-based learning. Children engage in meaningful experiences through both intentional teaching and spontaneous exploration across areas such as STEAM, sport, yoga, drama, cooking, gardening, literacy and numeracy.

We value strong partnerships with families, recognising them as children's first educators. Through ongoing communication and collaboration, we support each child's development and celebrate their learning journey. Informed by these partnerships, educators engage in continuous critical reflection to ensure all children are supported to contribute, collaborate and extend their learning.

As part of a vibrant inner-city community, we connect with local organisations and professionals to enrich our program and strengthen relationships that support children and families. We collaborate with the broader community, including early childhood services, allied health professionals and primary schools, to enhance continuity of learning and provide holistic support for every child and their family.

