**Curriculum Overview – A summary of the Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework (VEYLDF)**

This gives you an insight into how activities are worked out and why experiences are planned or presented in a certain way. The program is established with the interests of the children in mind. We run an emergent curriculum, which means we don’t necessarily always know what we are about to explore or discover. The curriculum emerges gradually, as the children explore and discover their surroundings.

The curriculum at preschool is guided by the **Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework (VEYLDF)**. There are five developmental outcomes for this age level and we are required to monitor your child in each of these areas. The five areas are as follows:

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| ***Identity:*** *As your child develops their sense of self they will learn to interact with others in a co-operative and caring manner. They will develop confidence in their own abilities, persevere at challenging tasks and feel secure enough to contribute effectively to large and small group activities.* |
| ***Community:*** *Your child is beginning to understand where they fit into the world and how their actions impact upon their environment. Understanding social rules and how your actions affect others is an important lesson and one children learn through play.* |
| ***Wellbeing:*** *Your child is becoming increasingly independent and is beginning to understand complex issues, such as health and wellbeing. This category refers to your child being able to understand and monitor their own emotions, look after their own physical needs, having an ability to manipulate tools for writing and cutting, as well as developing a capacity to undertake complex gross motor activities, such as balancing and climbing.* |
| ***Learning:*** *In early childhood your child learns through play. They use dramatic play to learn about their own role in society, as well as others’, they use their problem solving skills to work out how to complete an activity, they use prior knowledge and apply it to new situations. Your child should be showing a curiosity and enthusiasm for learning and developing their ideas and creativity.* |
| ***Communication:*** *This category is not just about your child’s speech, but about their listening skills, their comprehension of instructions and their ability to carry them out, their ability to adapt their communication skills for different audiences, and their ability to express ideas and thoughts non-verbally (ie. Through dance, drama, art etc.) Patterns and symbols form the basis of language, so it is important that your child understands this before they can begin to comprehend numbers and letters.* |

We hope this makes things a little clearer in regards to how we monitor your child whilst they are at preschool and gives you an understanding of what sort of outcomes we are anticipating your child will achieve. In preschool it is not all about learning the alphabet and numbers, but about developing independence, developing the ability to communicate effectively and follow instructions well, to socialise effectively with peers, to show enthusiasm for knowledge, to have confidence to explore and question and to show stamina, commitment and focus. Your child will learn and extend upon all of these skills through play.