

Introductory Policy 2 – vision, mission and values

HDKA promotes a commitment to child safety, wellbeing, participation, empowerment, cultural safety and awareness including children with a disability, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and/or communities and children from cultural and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds.

HDKA has a zero tolerance of child abuse and a duty of care to prevent and manage child abuse risks including physical and online environments.

Purpose

The fundamental and unchanging purpose of Horsham and District Kindergarten Association (HDKA) is:

To facilitate the effective and efficient operation of Horsham and district kindergartens and other affiliated early childhood services and programs

Core values

The core values of HDKA are:

- That we nurture and support our preschool children to give them the best start in life and our staff to be exceptional early childhood professionals.
- To provide access to early childhood programs for all children including those in rural areas and small communities.
- Diverse but fair: encouraging diverse early childhood approaches with fair treatment of staff, children and families across all kindergartens.
- Working cooperatively and in partnership to achieve our core purpose.
- Being a confidential, respected and trusted body for families to engage with.

These values guide everything from recruitment choices to program delivery.

Vision

The HDKA vision over the period of the current strategic plan is that:

HDKA services, programs and staff are recognised across Horsham and district as first rate with HDKA itself renowned for coordinated governance and operations and a pioneering approach to early childhood provision

Outcomes

HDKA aims to achieve the following outcomes:

- HDKA has expanded to facilitate early childhood services and programs beyond kindergartens.
- Kindergartens and other programs and services:
 - Have a reputation for excellence in the provision of early childhood education in the district
 - Meet the requirements of Universal Access, the Victorian Early Childhood Teachers and Educators Agreement 2016 (VECTEA) and the National Quality Agenda
 - Have more effective and efficient operations
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