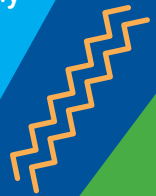


All children and young people need to play. The impulse to play is innate. Play is a biological, psychological and social necessity, and is fundamental to the healthy development and wellbeing of individuals and communities.

Play is a process that is freely chosen, personally directed and intrinsically motivated. That is, children and young people determine and control the content and intent of their play, by following their own instincts, ideas and interests, in their own way for their own reasons.



The prime focus and essence of playwork is to support and facilitate the play process and this should inform the development of play policy, strategy, training and education.

Playworkers choose an intervention style that enables children and young people to extend their play. All playworker intervention must balance risk with the developmental benefit and wellbeing of children.



THE Playwork PRINCIPLES

The practices in our service are shaped and informed by these Playwork Principles.



For playworkers, the play process takes precedence & playworkers act as advocates for play when engaging with adult led agendas.



Playworkers recognise their own impact on the play space and also the impact of children and young people's play on the playworker.



The playworker's response to children and young people playing is based on a sound up to date knowledge of the play process, and reflective practice.



The role of the playworker is to support all children and young people in the creation of a space in which they can play.



Credit - Playwork Principles Scrutiny Group, Cardiff 2005.



These principles provide the professional and ethical framework for work supporting children's access to play across the world. The Playwork Principles are the broad descriptors of our underlying ethos. You will see these principles reflected in our service policies, procedures and program and in the interactions between educators and children.

If you would like to know more about our work please speak to our Educational Leader, or to learn more about play go to www.playaustralia.org.au/playtoday

