Core Beliefs
Early Learning Centre

We believe that a positive self-esteem is of paramount importance, therefore: **each child is valued for the unique individual that they are.**

We believe that children treated with respect and dignity will afford the same to others, therefore: **each child is treated with loving care, genuine concern and respectful dignity.**

We believe that each child can learn to respect and take responsibility for themselves and their environment, therefore: **each child is expected to take responsibility for their own belongings and to help with the maintenance of their immediate environment.**

We believe in the Constructivist Theory of Learning where each child builds on prior knowledge in order to construct future knowledge, therefore: **each child is treated as an individual and is encouraged to follow their own programme in relation to their own learning needs.**

We believe that there are sensitive or critical periods for optimal learnings to occur, therefore: **each child is astutely observed and monitored so that the teacher is fully aware of when these periods are for each child and appropriate teaching given.**

We believe that habits and dispositions established before the age of six become part of the child’s psyche, therefore: **these need to be worthwhile and positive.**

We believe that the environment of the child should be instrumental in providing what the child needs to learn, therefore: **our environment, both inside and out, is beautiful, clean, free of unnecessary distractions and equipped with materials to constantly challenge and entice the child to further learning.**

We believe in “structured freedom”, therefore: **each child has the freedom to choose their own work/play within the safe parameters of a clearly defined behavioural code of respect for others.**

We believe that the brain encodes new information more readily when input has been multi-sensory, therefore: **the environment is enriched with Montessorian sensorial equipment.**
We believe that a child feels safe and learns best when their work/play is purposeful, therefore: **we provide an environment where play is valued as the child’s work to construct him/herself.**

We believe that the disposition for self-directed life-long learning can be established before the age of six, therefore: **we provide an environment where learning is fun, stimulating and enticing.**

We believe that when a child is in harmony with the environment feeling safe, secure, well-loved and valued and in charge of their own learning then their inner self, their spirituality can develop. We believe that only when one is truly at peace with oneself can one extend peace to others, therefore: **our aim at this Early Learning Centre is for each child to become a truly peaceful person.**