

# **WELCOME!**

Welcome to our child development center community. Thank you for giving us an opportunity to be a part of your child's development. We look forward to building a partnership that will support your child's experiences at the center. Because the family has the most influence on your child's learning potential it is important for parents and center staff to acknowledge their joint responsibility for the education of your child, and work together cooperatively. We encourage you to share your ideas and suggestions. Please feel free to ask questions.

## **VISION**

Our program will provide an atmosphere where individuals are respected and recognized for their uniqueness. We will offer encouragement and support to foster each person's self esteem, autonomy, competence and success.

## **MISSION**

**To accomplish this vision, our mission is to provide . . .**

### **. . . children**

- a safe, healthy, developmentally appropriate learning environment
- recognition of their unique talents and contributions
- respect for their ability to think, learn and solve problems
- guidance to help them successfully interact with others as they seek to discover answers

### **. . . parents**

- support and recognition of the interconnectedness of child and family
- encouragement and understanding of the challenges parents encounter
- recognition and respect of the family culture(s) and values
- provisions for frequent communication with staff

### **. . . staff**

- opportunities for professional growth in child development and in facilitating learning
- information, resources and support which assist their efforts to promote program quality
- encouragement to act as advocates for children and the child development profession
- provisions for frequent communication with families

### **. . . college students**

- an exemplary child development model based on current child development research
- a climate of mutual respect and trust where we encourage open communication
- an atmosphere which views successes and failures as opportunities for learning
- information regarding advocating for children and the child development profession

## **OUR PHILOSOPHY**

### **We believe . . . .**

- Each person is a unique individual, full of discovery and knowledge
- A positive self-image is essential to the full development of each individual
- A child develops trust by the constant, caring response to his needs by the adults in his environment beginning with the primary caregiver in infancy
- Children need opportunities for expression through art, music, and language
- Children need an environment that they can explore and discover on their own with adult support
- Children with special needs are more similar to their peers than different from them, and all children benefit from learning together
- A safe, warm, supportive environment where children's emotional, social, physical, and intellectual development are enriched is vital
- Diversity is to be honored and celebrated
- Positive learning experiences in the early years set the stage for lifelong learning

## **OUR PROGRAM GOALS ARE . . .**

- To adapt to the changing needs, interests, and abilities of each child in our care
- To provide a safe, consistent, inclusive environment for children and their families
- To create an atmosphere of honesty and trust by openly communicating with one another
- To provide college students with a model program where they can apply their knowledge about children, families and their development
- To provide quality child care services to support KCCD college students in reaching their educational goals
- To achieve the California State Department of Education Desired Results for Children and Families which are:
  - Children are personally and socially competent
  - Children are effective learners
  - Children show physical and motor competence
  - Children are safe and healthy
  - Families support their children's learning and development
  - Families achieve their goals