MISSION STATEMENT

“All Essex Heights Childcare Programs will provide a safe, enjoyable, hygienic and caring environment that meets the needs and expectations of parents and children.”

“The program recognizes and supports the value of play and the importance of middle-childhood development.”

PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

- A committed, experienced and caring staff that are community minded.
- The first Quality Assured program in The City of Monash.
- The student to staff ratio is 1:15 minimum at all programs. (1:8 on excursions)
- Bookings are not essential for Before/After Care.
- All staff hold current Working With Children Check.
- The program is in regular consultation with State and Federal Government agencies that oversee childcare regulations.
- The program provides a wide variety of activities on a daily basis.
- The National Childcare Accreditation Council recognizes the program provides the Highest Quality Care in relation to their 30 Key Point Indicators.
- Afternoon tea and breakfast provided at NO EXTRA CHARGE
- Childcare Benefits for Centrelink approved families.
- All programs approved by the Federal and State Governments.
- Selected to be part of The Federal Governments Active after School Program initiative.
- All programs located on school grounds.

Before Care
Operates from 7.00 am – 9.00 am. COST $10.50 (1st and 2nd child)

After Care
Operates from 3.30 pm – 6.00 pm. COST 12.50 (1st and 2nd child)

Vacation Care/Curriculum Days
Operates from 7.00 am -6.00 pm. COST $35.00 (1st and 2nd child)

The Vacation Care Program operates every 1st, 2nd and 3rd term holidays. During January the program re-opens three weeks prior to school commencing.

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL FOR CURRICULUM AND VACATION CARE PROGRAMS
**PROGRAM ACTIVITIES**

Everyday we try to provide the children with one organized activity in the afternoon. It may be sport, drama, dance, art, construction or cooking. They can choose between an organized activity, free play, indoor games or outdoor games. If they want they can try everything.

**Inside Activities**: drama, dress ups, board games, Lego, art, cooking, drawing, group games, dance

**Outdoor Activities**: play equipment, there is a great variety of sports equipment, organized games, skipping, football, tennis, soccer, basketball, cricket.

**Excursions**: Werribee Open Range Zoo, Village Cinemas, Task Works, AMF Bowling Chadstone, Melbourne Zoo, IMAX Cinema, Coopers Settlement Farm, Mini Golf Collingwood Community Farm and various Adventure Playgrounds. These are just a few of the Vacation Care excursions.

**CHILDCARE BENEFITS AND TAX REBATES**

The program only provides Childcare Benefits to families approved by Centrelink. This will mean a reduction in childcare payments and reimbursements. You must be registered with Centrelink before you can receive any reductions or tax claims.

The program will also issue Childcare Usage Statements at the end of the financial year if required for income tax purposes.

You may need the program’s Customer Reference Number to lodge your claim. The number is 555-010-362A or 1-5Y1-84

**FEEDBACK AND EVALUATION.**

It is essential for the programs development that we gather feedback from the community. The program has a suggestion box and communication book. These are located at the sign in/out table in the hall. We often put out surveys and we are more than happy to talk to parents and children regarding any issues they may have pertaining to the program.

**PROGRAM CONTACT NUMBERS**

If you have, any queries please ring 9807-2615/ 0417-941986.

We aim to provide a SAFE, STIMULATING, and DIVERSE program that is driven by the CHILDREN, PARENTS and STAFF.