



We are committed to working with families to develop pro-social behaviour in all our students and developing their emotional intelligence.

We believe children need resilience, perseverance and other life skills if they are to remain optimistic in the face of life's daily challenges. Too many children come to school with the belief that "I come to school to be better than others".

If a predominance of children is in the pursuit of being better than others, it's hard to believe that the classroom could be anything other than tense, hostile and tiring. It is important that we counteract this belief by working to convince children of its dangers and encourage them to see school as a place where they "come to better themselves by being able to work with others". The focus always must be on pursuing their "personal best".

As adults, our happiness in life revolves around our relationships, so we instil in children that "the more others I can work with the better person I will become." If we can create safe classrooms where children are considerate of themselves and others, then they will have every opportunity to reach their potentials. We use The Game Factory (Play Is The Way) program to educate our students to become strong and successful adults.

Play is the way games assist teachers to guide children beyond the simple pleasures of playing games to the character building benefits that can be achieved.

Play is the Way games:

- help children to develop and habituate patterns of behaviour that are personally advantageous and culturally appropriate.
- teach children to respond appropriately to the thrill of success and the disappointment of failure. To enjoy competition with good grace and consideration for the other side.
- assist children to control impulsive behaviour and control the need for immediate gratification as they strive for long term rewards and goals.
- encourage children to use their skills to advantage others in the pursuit of common objectives. They strengthen the skills of teamwork and cooperation and help children to manage relationships.
- create a common awareness and language with which to discuss the processes of human action and interaction. They encourage empathy, respect and an appreciation of difference.
- engage children's emotions and call for mastery and control of those emotions to achieve success. By being challenging, the games develop self motivation and perseverance. They help children to identify the reasons for failure and foster optimism and resilience.
- act as metaphors and analogies for life and by playing these games children hone the skills that help them to live, learn, work and play well.
- improve the social, emotional, physical and mental health of children.
- By playing the games children initiate a process of self awareness and discovery. They create a shared body of experience that is used to build up relationships within the group and to develop the group.
- Because they require effort and application, The Games Factory games help children to understand the value of process in the pursuit of success.