



Preschool Age Arts Education -The Artspace Philosophy

Our innovative program for preschoolers includes an opportunity for parents/carers to learn and be involved in contemporary best practice arts education alongside their child.

Programs run over nine weeks during school term and have been developed in consultation with early childhood experts.

All classes are taught by practising artists and educators and are inspired by the Reggio approach to early childhood arts education.

Our programs include the opportunity for children to 'look at' the art made by real artists, and experiment with, the different mediums and techniques that artists use.

We believe that through the visual arts, children become braver and more investigative in their approach and focus while their interpretative skills are developed.

The visual arts can boost self confidence and esteem and teach 'cause and effect' as well as a clearer view to the way the things around us connect (supporting and creating pathways to literacy, numeracy and scientific learning). Most importantly, the visual arts are a fun and unthreatening means for individual expression.

At Artspace, the emphasis is on the process rather than the end product (although there is always something interesting to take home) and our programs have been developed to stimulate and ignite children's imaginations and innate artistic abilities.

For this reason we have steered our program away from the kind of 'craft' activities that ensure a formulaic end product and any 'colouring in between the lines' type activities.

To ensure all children get individual attention, group classes run with 8 children or less at each session.

Illawarra Children's Services is a not for profit organisation committed to quality creative education.