

A Philosophy and Aims

The YWCA is a not for profit women's membership movement, creating opportunities for the growth and empowerment of women and girls in order to attain a common vision of peace, justice, freedom, health, dignity and care for all people through women's leadership.

Strengthened by Christian heritage and enriched by our worldwide membership of women and girls the **YWCA Hunter Region** is a women's membership movement based on feminist principles. Today we aspire to sustainability through the richness of diversity from many beliefs and values. YWCA Hunter exists to support, empower and connect women and families for a stronger community.

For over 125 years, YWCAs in Australia have been developing the next generation of women communities. YWCAs in Australia provide strong leadership, mentoring and opportunities for women and girls; advocacy with government; and programs and services that support women and girls, their families and communities. Every year we reach a quarter of a million people, working with them in over 100 sites in mainland Australia.

The YWCA Hunter is part of an international movement, a global membership based movement of women and girls, which promotes women's leadership and gender equality and that influences governments, concerning women's issues, on a global level.

YWCA HUNTER REGION INC. MISSION STATEMENT

The YWCA Hunter Region exists to support, empower and connect women and families for a stronger community. The YWCA Hunter Region Inc. has been operating since 1921 in King Street and at the current premises at 24 Dawson Street Cooks Hill since 1963. The YWCA Hunter has a chequered history of program delivery and we aim to move with recognised needs/trends and available research in the community. Today we predominantly deliver programs geared at early interventions delivering a suite of classes for children at preschool age and primary age.

Code of Conduct As members of the YWCA Hunter Region Inc. community, we are committed to the values of integrity and respect and at all times will behave in a manner that upholds these values.

YWCA VACATION CARE

Our Service Philosophy and Aims

The YWCA Hunter Region Inc., Vacation Care is located at 24 Dawson Street, Cooks Hill. It provides a safe, respectful, nurturing and play orientated environment where individuals are afforded the opportunity to develop to their full potential as contributing, worthwhile members of the community. We believe that all staff, children and their families are valued members of the community. We value community and diversity, recognising and encouraging thought and discussion on what enriches our community. We believe that discussion shapes an inclusive disposition toward community and citizenship.

AIMS

- To provide a program that reflects the values of and meets the outcomes on the My Time Our Place framework for school aged care in Australia.
- To provide a service to the community for children of both working and non-working parents while providing a priority of access to working parents.
- To provide a healthy, caring, affordable and safe environment for school aged children from early starters to Year 6.

- To ensure that every child is treated respectfully regardless of race, ethnicity, socio economic background, abilities or disability.
- To provide a consistently high quality of care by team leaders with specialised skills, abilities and training.
- To provide a varied program of activities that caters for the children's different needs and interests.
- To provide a relaxed, friendly and fun learning environment to ensure that the children enjoy their holiday time.
- To provide children with the environment that affords them the opportunity to develop their social and communications skills by encouraging their interaction with others.

We aspire to: (from MTOP)

Outcome 1:

- Children have a strong sense of identity. Children feel safe, secure and supported
- Children develop their autonomy, inter-dependence, resilience and sense of agency
- Children develop knowledgeable and confident self-identities.
- Children learn to interact in relation to others with care, empathy and respect

Outcome 2:

- Children are connected with and contribute to their world
- Children develop a sense of belonging to groups and communities and an understanding of the reciprocal rights and responsibilities necessary for active community participation
- Children respond to diversity with respect
- Children become aware of fairness Children become socially responsible and show respect for the environment

Outcome 3:

- Children have a strong sense of wellbeing
- Children become strong in their social and emotional wellbeing
- Children take increasing responsibility for their own health and physical wellbeing

Outcome 4:

- Children are confident and involved learners
- Children develop dispositions such as curiosity, cooperation, confidence, creativity, commitment, enthusiasm, persistence, imagination and reflexivity
- Children use a range of skills and processes such as problem solving, inquiry, experimentation, hypothesising, researching and investigating
- Children transfer and adapt what they have learned from one context to another
- Children resource their own learning through connecting with people, place, technologies and natural and processed materials

Outcome 5:

- Children are effective communicators
- Children interact verbally and non-verbally with others for a range of purposes
- Children engage with a range of texts and gain meaning from these texts
- Children collaborate with others, express ideas and make meaning using a range of media