

The benefits of allowing children's ideas

We all know about agency and children having a voice, but there is a difference between recording their voice, and following through with their ideas in the curriculum. These are some benefits of supporting children's ideas...



Meaningful program

The more children's ideas guide your program the more meaningful it will be for the children. If experiences are not based on the children's ideas and interests they are less likely to engage and show their full potential in their play and engagement.



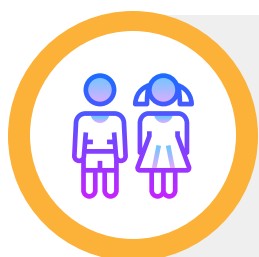
Agency

When you see children's ideas and then follow through with these it allows children to have real agency. Following through with their ideas by making changes, adding resources, modifying the routine, starting projects are all examples of agency in action.



Easier to plan

When you give children opportunities to have their ideas flow into the program it makes it so much easier to plan, as you don't need to think of everything and come up with every experience and topic, just plan to implement the children's ideas.



More engagement

Children who feel supported and included in the program through having their ideas and interests implemented are a lot more likely to engage with the experiences. They will be drawn to experiences, share more of their ideas, and show you their authentic selves.



Better self-assessment tool evidence

The more children influence your planning and service decisions the better evidence you will have for so many different elements of your self-assessment tool as it will show that children are given true agency and at the centre of your program.