**COLLABORATION**

**TECHNOLOGY**

**LIFE SKILLS**

**FACILITIES INTEGRATED WITHIN THE LOCAL SCHOOL (Two Schools - One Site)**

* The buildings of Merriwa Education Support Centre are an integral part of the Primary School which supports the effective integration and inclusive culture.

* Integration into mainstream primary school classes is provided with an emphasis upon the quality of that experience for each student.

* Therapy Services provided by external agencies are available to eligible students.

* School Bus Services provide a pick up and return to home service for eligible students on application.

* Dental clinic on site.

* Students have the opportunity to take part in an annual in-school swimming Program and Athletics Carnival.

* Shared school grounds, library, play areas, oval and under-covered area.

**A Small School with a Big Commitment to Children with Special Needs**

**Principal:** Karen Macri  
**Registrar:** Maxine Russ  
Baltimore Parade  
Merriwa WA 6030  
Phone: 9305 9897  
Merriwa.ESC@education.wa.edu.au
OUR MISSION

Our aim is to provide purposeful and relevant learning programs that support the individual towards enabling meaningful participation in the community. An outcomes focused curriculum delivered in a supportive, safe, stimulating and inclusive learning environment ensures the development of academic, social, creative and physical skills while fostering independence in each child.

OUR ETHOS

Our philosophy is to consider the needs of the individual child in every decision. Our Centre is child focused with an intention to provide purposeful and authentic learning opportunities for all students in our care.

WORKING IN THE JOONDALUP DISTRICT

Merriwa ESC is proud of it’s reputation for working in close collaboration with those who have a vested interest in the students in our care. Together with our parent community, therapy providers, external agency specialists and our primary school colleagues, we are able to cater for the individual needs of our students.

THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

At Merriwa Education Support Centre we offer a child centred learning environment characterised by the following features:

- Priority is given to enabling each child an opportunity to fulfil all aspects of his/her potential.
- Specifically trained specialist teachers and highly skilled staff.
- Small classes with a high staff/student ratio.
- A fully resourced Early Intensive Intervention centre, focusing on students with Autism and Global Development Delay.
- Teaching and Behaviour Management strategies which are adapted to suit individual learning styles.
- The provision of an Individualised Education Plan for each child, developed in close consultation with parents and therapists.
- One to One and small group instruction provided within each class as required.
- Co-operative Learning and First Steps Strategies utilised across the School.
- A strong focus on functional skills, social competencies, independence, self regulation and community access.
- A commitment to incorporating technology in the classroom across all learning areas by utilising electronic whiteboards, computers, the internet, iPads and associated software.

THE MERRIWA CAMPUS

Merriwa Education Support Centre and Merriwa Primary School work closely together to develop a culture of promoting the highest ideals of learning and social interaction in an inclusive setting. We aspire to being a warm, friendly, welcoming school where manners, behaviour and personal effort towards excellence are regarded as important, and where the needs of the children are at the core of every decision. A rich cross fertilisation of professional knowledge is encouraged between staff from both schools, and students across the campus are given the opportunity to access various programs as appropriate for their learning needs.

Students are enrolled at the school after consultation with parents and the Regional School Student Service Team.

The Education Support Centre provides a learning program for eligible children from the surrounding suburbs.