

FRANKSTON NORTH

Voice of  
Children

A young boy with dark hair, wearing a grey and white striped long-sleeved shirt and grey camouflage-patterned pants, is leaning over a sandpit. He is holding a yellow toy truck with a white front bumper, which is filled with sand. He has a joyful expression on his face. In the background, there is a metal fence, some greenery, and a building with colorful decorations. The scene is outdoors and brightly lit.

# Acknowledgements

We gratefully acknowledge the children who took part in this project and their families for allowing the research to take place. Special thanks to the Early Learning Centre Managers, Educational Leader, Teachers and Educators at Aldercourt and Mahogany Rise Child and Family Centres who enabled this project to take place, and to Bandits and Co for capturing the project through photography and film.



## About this book

This book captures images and quotes from children who participated in the Voice of Children project.

The Voice of Children Project captures the perspectives and insights of young children, aged three to five years old, who attend early learning centres located on Our Place sites.

Informed by a comprehensive literature review of studies conducted in Australia and overseas, the project seeks

to understand children's experiences, hopes, dreams and aspirations through child-led interviews. Children's experiences in their early learning environment, their sense of self and their expectations for their future are explored.

The Voice of Children Project is a collaboration between Our Place and Monash University's Health and Social Care Unit, conducted in 2022 and 2023.





# Family Connection

“My brother is at school.  
I got mummy and  
daddy. I like to kiss them  
goodnight.”

“Mummy and daddy,  
I’m going to have  
a baby sister. In  
mummy’s tummy,  
happy!”

“I live at home with  
mum and dad, and a  
baby brother. I have two  
nannies!”

# Engagement with kinder program

“ I like to play with those balls and things. I’m making a coffee, cake, sushi, and iceblocks.”

“ Playing balls. Basketballs. We just play here. There is a little hoop. I can throw, and jump.”

“ I like to draw, and paint! I like to draw a picture of my mummy, mamma, me, and my doggy.”

“ I like playing with my friends outside. Play in the sandpit. Play in the rocks. Playing and watching the babies.”











# Expectations for the future

“I want to be a doctor.  
Fix people.”

“I want a  
unicorn.”

“I like to cook  
with my mummy”

“Be a new student at  
school, and I'd like to  
play in the park. Play  
in the swings, and the  
monkey bars. Swing!”

# Children's Interests.....

“I like climbing.”

“Play. Make jets.  
Build jet aeroplanes.”

“Some toys. I got cool cars too. You push and drive them. I like all the toys.”

“Doing crafts. Reading.”

“Animals! Lego.  
Watching the movies.”











# Favourite Foods

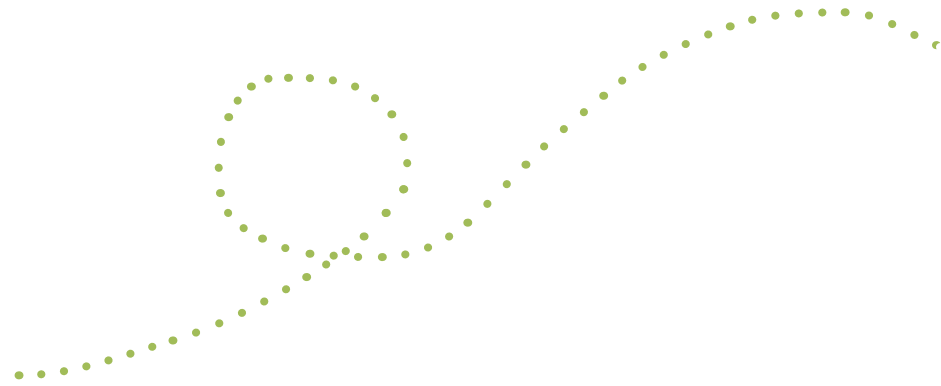
I have my icy poles. Blue. Sausages and mashed potatoes. Strawberries, grapes, raspberries and cherries.

I like dinner. Yummy dinner. I like sausages.”

Broccoli! Only broccoli! My brother doesn't like broccoli, he's allergic.”

My favourite food is broccoli and lollipops. I like chicken too! My chicken is cooked like this in a pan like sausages.”

The **Voice of Children Project** is part of Our Place's research and evaluation work. Our Place supports the education, health and development of children and families in the community. We listen to and respond to the needs of the local community and help schools to be the central place for life-long learning and support services. Our Place has a ten-year commitment to the Frankston North community.









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