



Seen, Safe and Supported

Imagine Education Group's Journey with
Circle of Security Classroom

May 2026



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Welcome Message

At Imagine Education Group, we believe children learn best through safe, secure, and trusting relationships.

This year, we proudly introduced the abbreviated Circle of Security Classroom approach for educators across our services — supporting deeper reflection, emotional safety, attachment understanding, and connection in everyday practice.

Over three weeks, educators came together to learn, reflect, share experiences, and strengthen their understanding of children's emotional needs and the important role educators play as secure, responsive adults.

This ebook celebrates the educators who participated in the first Circle of Security Classroom sessions and acknowledges their willingness to grow, reflect, and place relationships at the centre of practice.

Through this work, we continue strengthening emotionally safe environments where children feel seen, valued, supported, and safe to learn, explore, and belong.



Celebrating Our Educators

Across Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, and Tasmania, educators from Imagine Education Group joined together to complete the abbreviated Circle of Security Classroom approach.

These sessions created space for educators to reflect, connect, and deepen their understanding of children's emotional needs, attachment, co-regulation, and relationships.

Throughout the training, educators shared honest reflections about the impact the program had on both their professional and personal lives.

"I have learnt many valuable skills I will carry forward both in my career and at home."

"I have learnt how to recognise when a child needs me to delight in them and when they need comfort."

"It's okay to be overwhelmed, we all need a 'time out' sometimes."

Educators described the training as meaningful, reflective, emotional, and empowering — strengthening their confidence to be emotionally available, responsive, and connected educators for children and families every day.



INFORMATION AREA



What is Attachment Theory?

Attachment theory is the foundation of the Circle of Security International approach. Originally developed through the work of psychologist John Bowlby and later expanded by Mary Ainsworth, attachment theory explores how early relationships shape a child's emotional safety, trust, wellbeing, and development.

Circle of Security Classroom uses attachment theory to help educators better understand children's emotional needs and the important role adults play as a secure base and safe haven.

When children experience safe, responsive, and consistent relationships, they begin to feel safe enough to explore, learn, communicate, and return to adults for comfort and support when needed.

In early childhood education and care, this reminds us that everyday moments matter — comforting a child, helping them through big emotions, sitting beside them during distress, and building trusting relationships over time.

These secure relationships support children's:

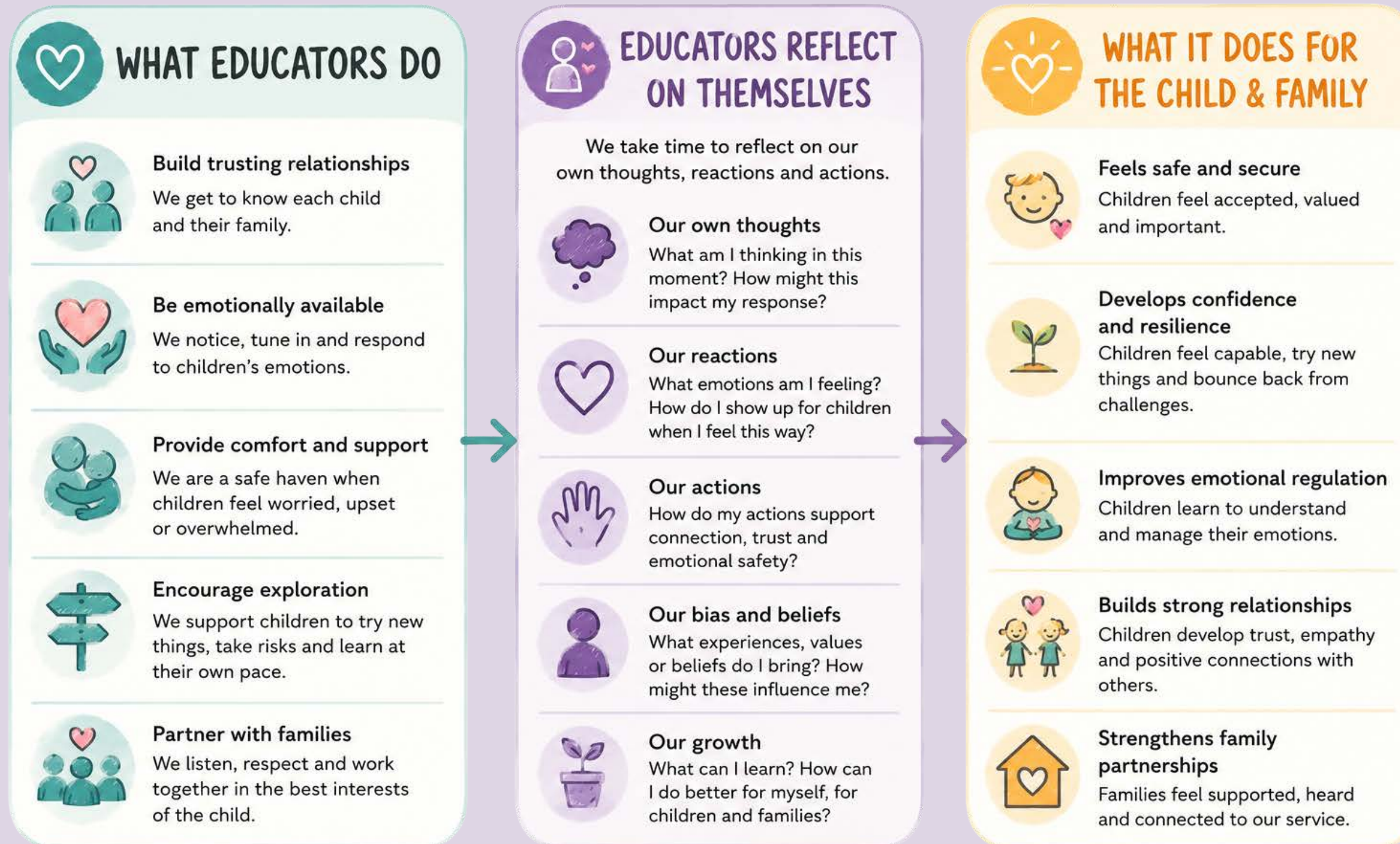
- emotional regulation
- confidence and resilience
- communication and learning
- sense of identity and belonging

Children do not need perfect adults.

They need emotionally available adults who are willing to connect, respond, repair, and be present.



What Does Secure Attachment Look Like in Early Childhood Education?



When educators feel supported to reflect and grow, children and families feel safe, connected and strong.



The Impact on Children



When children feel emotionally safe and connected to trusted adults, they are more confident to learn, explore, communicate, and build relationships.

Secure relationships help children regulate emotions, build confidence and resilience, develop trust and belonging, and feel safe to seek comfort and support when needed.

Behaviour is often communication. Behind every behaviour is an emotional need, and children rely on safe, responsive adults to help them understand, regulate, and navigate those feelings.

Secure relationships do not remove hard moments for children — they help children move through those moments feeling supported, understood, and safe.

Circle of Security and the Child Safe Standards

At Imagine Education Group, Circle of Security Classroom supports our ongoing commitment to the Child Safe Standards by strengthening emotionally safe, responsive, and relationship-based practice across our centres.



Children's voice and participation



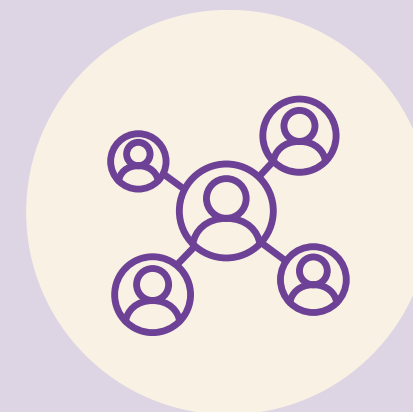
Emotionally safe environments



Respectful and responsive relationships



Educator reflection and professional growth



Safe and supportive interactions with children



Family partnerships and connection



“Circle of Security Classroom reminded me to be kind to myself, dont be so hard on myself because I am always trying”
Imagine Childcare Tinana



“The most rewarding part of this program is realizing how important I am to a child and the difference I can make in their life”
Imagine Childcare Templestowe Lower



“The training felt comfortable and a warm environment where we could talk without judgement or fear, we felt safe”
Imagine Childcare Grafton

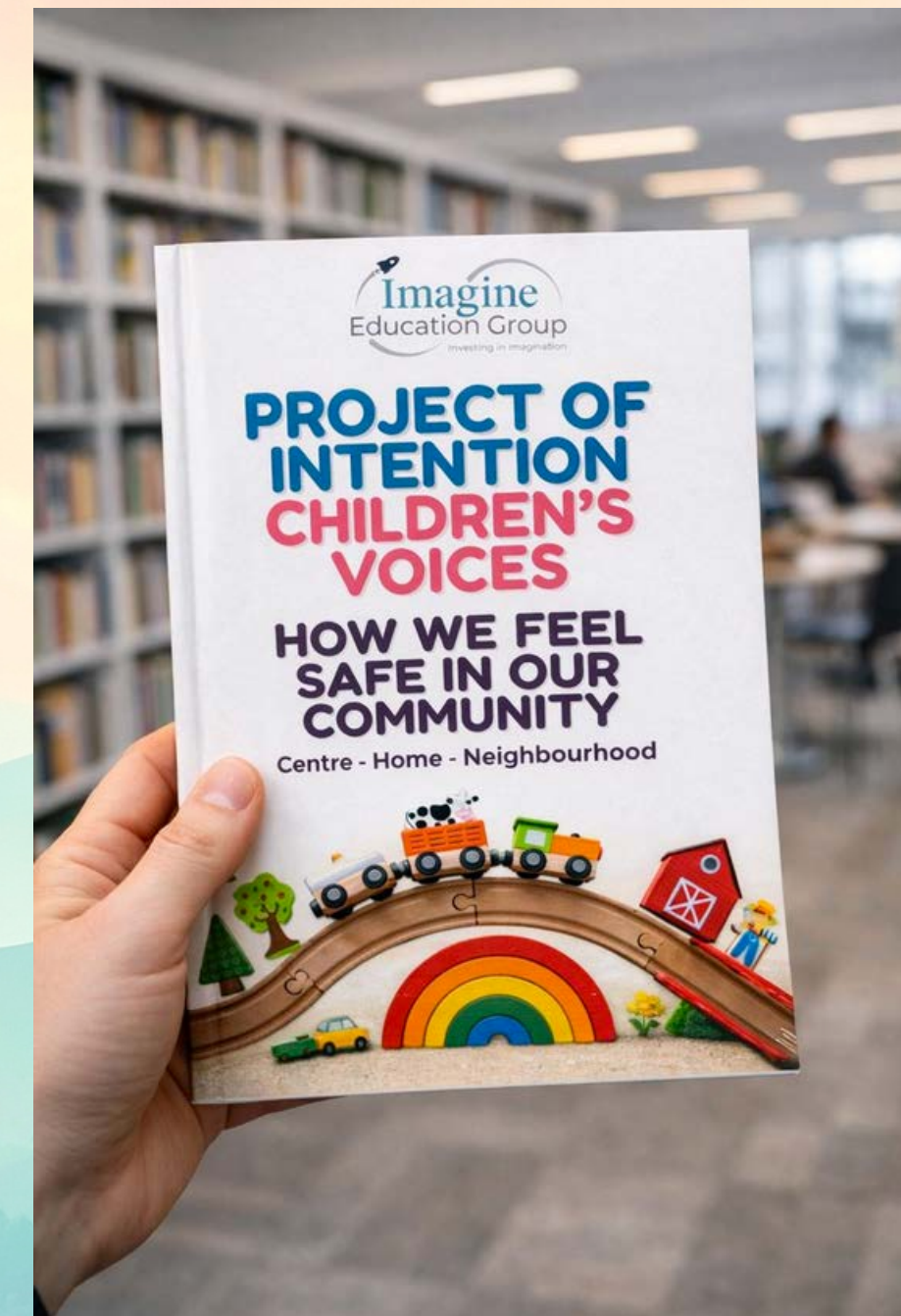
Circle of Security and the Project of Intention

Circle of Security Classroom connects closely with Imagine Education Group's Project of Intention – Children's Voices: How We Feel Safe in Our Community.

Children are more likely to express their voice, emotions, thoughts, and needs when they feel emotionally safe and connected to trusted adults.

Through secure relationships, educators help children build confidence, trust, belonging, and emotional safety — creating environments where children feel safe to participate, communicate, explore, and seek support when needed.

This reflects Imagine Education Group's commitment to ensuring children feel seen, heard, valued, respected, and safe within their learning community.



Circle of Security Classroom reminds us that children do not need perfect educators — they need emotionally available adults who are willing to connect, reflect, repair, and be present. Across Imagine Education Group, educators are continuing to strengthen emotionally safe environments where children, families, and teams feel supported, valued, respected, and connected.

Through relationships, reflection, and emotional safety, we continue building strong circles around every child.



Thank
You