

2.15 Promoting Protective Behaviours

Policy Statement

We consider our role in the protection of children of utmost importance and therefore take a proactive approach in supporting families and children through promoting protective behaviours to ensure children's ongoing safety, wellbeing and protection.

Procedures

- ❖ Management, Coordinators and educators shall be committed to providing an environment that encourages children's personal safety and promotes the wellbeing of all children at all times.
- ❖ Coordinators and educators support children's personal safety through:
- ❖ Reinforcing protective behaviour strategies such as:
 - 'We all have the right to feel safe all of the time'; and
 - 'Nothing is so awful that we can't talk to someone about it'.
- ❖ Encouraging children to interact and/or physically touch other children in a safe and non-threatening way;
- ❖ Building on children's problem solving, reasoning and communication skills (e.g. brainstorming safe strategies for unsafe situations).
- ❖ Coordinators and educators actively encourage children's personal safety behaviours in all sorts of situations including:
 - Outside in the sun;
 - Using the road while walking or riding;
 - Being cautious and aware of strangers; and
 - Who to go to for help if lost or feeling uncomfortable about an event or person.
- ❖ Coordinators and educators will:
 - Collaborate with families to ensure children's learning about personal safety is culturally appropriate.
 - Liaise with school administration to develop awareness of personal safety programs provided within the school setting.
 - Liaises with management and families to develop and implement strategies for providing opportunities for personal safety programs for children to be included as part of the service program.

Reference:

ACSEA. (2006). employee manual. brisbane: ASCEA.

- Education and Care Services National Law Act, 2010 and Regulations 2011 Family and Child Commission Act 2014

Child Protection Act 1999 and Regulations 2000 Duty of Care

- NQS Area: 2.3.1, 2.3.2, 2.3.4; 4.2.1; 5.1.1, 5.1.3; 5.2.2, 5.2.3; 6.1.2; 6.2.1, 6.2.2; 6.3.1; 7.3.5

Policies: 2.1 – Respect for Children, 2.2 - Statement of Commitment to the Safety and Wellbeing of Children and the Protection of Children from Harm, 2.10 - Reporting Guidelines and Directions for Handling Disclosures and Suspicions of Harm, 3.3 – Educator Practices, 9.3 – Communication with Families, 9.6 – Parent and Community Participation