

Family Involvement Policy



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Date Approved	January 2024	Date for Review	May 2024
Warning - Ensure you are using the latest version of this policy.			
DCC Network/All Organisation Information/DCC Policies/Quality Area 6 – Collaborative Partnerships with Families and Communities			

1. Policy Statement

Our guiding philosophy recognises that it takes a village to raise a child, and that families are to be respected as the foundations of the children’s learning. Families and communities are to be informed and involved. We recognise that family is the most powerful influence on children’s learning and development; therefore, it is crucial that children’s experiences in their family and their families perspective on the child are taken into account and that educators operate in partnership with parents.

We aim to provide an environment where there is a strong emphasis on family and service communication to allow consistency and continuity between the home and the service environment. By encouraging family members to be involved in the service, we aim to provide a service that best meets the needs of our community.

2. Rationale

As an organisation we aim to work in partnership with the families who choose our services. We aim to empower our families in their role and will provide them with support as they participate in decisions affecting their child. We recognise that families have the primary responsibility for the upbringing and development of their child.

3. Definitions

Nil

4. Guidelines

Parents and other members of the child’s family are important members of the children’s service community. They are welcomed and invited to become involved, and they are collaborators with professionals and the child in the provisions made for children.

a) Informal Parent Involvement

Families are involved in the day-to-day operations of the service in a number of ways. Educators warmly welcome children and families to the service and encourage families to spend time with their child and the group when possible. Families are encouraged to share information about their child daily.

The organisation engages in open, two-way communication with families and communities about its child safety approach and relevant information is accessible.

Several special events are planned during the year, where families are encouraged to attend. Family involvement in excursions may also be sought depending on the type of excursion. We encourage and invite families with a special interest or skill to share their knowledge or

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experience with the children, and this is sought at the point of enrolment. Examples may include music or artistic talent, sporting skills, storytelling, occupation, hobby; the list is endless. In this situation, a risk assessment to be conducted to define if a WWCC is required.

Families contribute to their child's learning completing the Family Profile of the child and providing feedback via Storypark. Educators value parent's comments and provide feedback for parents through the information contained in the child's learning stories on StoryPark.

b) Formal Parent Involvement

As a community-based organisation, governed by a Board, our Vision, Philosophy and Policies are all determined by the Board who are the representatives of the families who use our service.

Families and communities are informed about the organisation's operations and governance through newsletters, StoryPark and via the Board.

Please see Board Responsibilities for more information about the Board's role. The Board enables families to have input into the direct running of the centre.

5. Relevant Legislation, Regulations and Standards

Legislation	
Education and Care Services National Regulation	
157	Access for parents
National Quality Standards	
6.1.1	Families are supported from enrolment to be involved in the service and contribute to service decisions.
6.1.2	The expertise, culture, values and beliefs of families are respected and families share in decision-making about their child's learning and wellbeing.
6.1.3	Current information is available to families about the service and relevant community services and resources to support parenting and family wellbeing.
6.2.1	Continuity of learning and transitions for each child are supported by sharing information and clarifying responsibilities.
6.2.2	Effective partnerships support children's access, inclusion and participation in the program.
6.2.3	The service builds relationships and engages with its community.
Child Safe Standards	
3	Families and communities are informed and involved
Early Years Learning Framework Learning Outcomes	
Early Years Learning Framework Principles	
	Secure, respectful, and reciprocal relationships

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	Partnerships
Early Years Learning Framework Practices	
	Holistic, integrated, and interconnected approaches

6. Related Documents

Doc #	Attachments

Doc #	Intersections with other key documents

7. Document Control

Doc #	Doc Title	Version	Approved	Next Review
NQS6.42	Family Involvement Policy	1	September 2018	September 2020
NQS6.42	Family Involvement Policy	2	May 2021	May 2024
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