



Child Interaction Policy

RATIONALE

We believe that all interactions between children and staff enhances the children's self esteem and social and emotional wellbeing. We aim to provide an environment that reflects respectfulness and sensitivity towards individual needs to help children to learn and to feel safe and secure.

Educators will ensure that children are guided toward positive and responsible behaviour. Children will be introduced to the idea of belonging to a community and the associated reciprocal rights and responsibilities necessary for active community participation. Child management strategies will not include physical, emotional punishment or humiliation. Children will be encouraged to manage their own behavior and will be shown how to communicate effectively to resolve conflict. Our focus will always be to help a child to recognize their self worth. The values of the child's family will be respected.

PROCEDURES

- Each child is welcomed and farewelled each day they attend the preschool
- Each child's personal space is respected.
- Children are never isolated for any reasons other than illness or accident.
- The environment will be set up to provide children with play choices based on interests and intentional teaching. Rules will be established with children and there will be ongoing explanations and discussions about their importance for safety. Staff will be consistent about rules and consult each other for support when dealing with children's issues.
- Educators will spend time listening to children so they have the opportunity to express themselves and their opinions and so they become aware that their ideas are valued.
- Children will be supported physically and emotionally in learning experiences so they will feel successful. Educators will help children become aware of connections, similarities and differences between people in a respectful way.
- Staff will maintain a sense of humour and interact with children in ways that help them feel important, secure and cared about by staff.

Staff will follow the guidelines from the DECD document 'Protective Practices for Staff in their Interactions with students' (refer Staff Handbook)

'Protective practices for staff in their interactions with children and young people provides clear advice to adults for the establishment of positive, caring and respectful relationships with children and young people in education and care settings. The main intent of this document is to safeguard the emotional and physical wellbeing of children and young people by promoting in adults an enhanced understanding of appropriate relationship boundaries.'

National Quality Standard 5.1, 5.2

Regulation 168 (2) (j) Related Key Regulations: 155, 156