

We value and pride ourselves on our partnership with families. We believe families are children's first teachers and therefore we embrace parents, guardians and family involvement within our Centre. Participation by parents, guardians and other family members, conveys a positive impression to children. Children feel supported and a sense of belonging and well-being is promoted.

We believe in offering an open-door policy welcoming family to visit the Centre when it is convenient for them.

Purpose

To ensure the best care for children and families, we believe it is important to provide families with the opportunity to visit our facilities and participate in our program at a time that is convenient for them. We acknowledge that families provide a wealth of valuable information and understanding about their child and we foster strong, respectful partnerships between our staff and educators and families. We encourage families to join in on our learning activities and celebrate events and special days with us.

Implementation

We operate with an open-door policy, where families are welcome to visit our Centre anytime during operating hours. There are many opportunities for family involvement, and we communicate these through regular newsletters and our family notice board, We recognise that time is valuable to all families, which is why we accommodate many forms of participation and contribution.

"Children thrive when families and educators work together in partnership to support young children's learning."
(Early Years Learning Framework, p.9)

Management and Educators will ensure:

Ensure the best care for children and families, we believe it is important to provide them with the opportunity to visit our facilities at a time that is appropriate for them.

- Families are always welcome to spend time in the centre and share special moments with their children
- Families are conscious of our open door policy and are welcome to join in learning activities, celebrate events and special days held at the Centre.

Families can:

- Families are always welcome to spend time in the Centre and share special moments with their children
- Visit the Centre at all times. This may include visiting their child who is already enrolled, or as an enquiry prior to enrolment.
- Families are aware of our open-door policy and are welcome to join in learning activities and celebrate events and special days held at the Centre
- Participate in our program by sharing their skills with the children. This may include playing an instrument, telling a story, sharing cultural traditions, cooking experiences, workshops etc.
- Make an appointment with management to discuss their child. This may include evaluating their child's program and providing feedback, raising concerns or setting new goals
- Families are provided with information about special days and events they may want to participate in. For example:
 - Mother's Day
 - Father's Day
 - Grandparents Day
 - Graduation Ceremonies and events
 - Christmas Celebrations
 - Excursions/Incursions
- Donate recyclable material that can be used within our early childhood program.



- Discuss any changes that have occurred in the child’s life, for example, changes in family circumstances, moving to a new house, death of a family member or friend in order for educators to best support all children through difficult times
- Attend any Centre events and celebrations that are organised throughout the year
- Share feedback, ideas and thoughts about the Centre
- Remain informed about what is happening within the Centre through discussions and newsletters

Source: Australian Children’s Education & Care Quality Authority. (2014) Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment. (2009). *Belonging, Being & Becoming: The early years learning framework for Australia*. Early Childhood Australia Code of Ethics. (2016). Guide to the Education and Care Services National Regulations. (2017). Guide to the National Quality Framework. (2017). (Amended 2020). Revised National Quality Standards. (2018).

Date Implemented: 16/04/2012

Review Completed: 7/04/2021

Schedule for Review: 7/04/2022

Authorised by COM: Nov 2020

National Quality Standard – NQS		
Quality Area 6: Partnership with families and community		
6.1	Supportive relationships with families	Respectful relationships with families are developed and maintained and families are supported in their parenting role
6.1.1	Engagement with the service	Families are supported from enrolment to be involved in their service and contribute to service decisions
6.1.2	Parent views are respected	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	Families are supported	Current information is available to families about the service and relevant community services and resources to support parenting and family wellbeing.
6.2	Collaborative partnerships	Collaborative partnerships enhance children’s inclusion, learning and wellbeing.
6.2.3	Community and engagement	The service builds relationships and engages with its community

