



Woolooware Outside School Hours Care

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SUPERVISION POLICY

POLICY STATEMENT

Woolooware Outside School Hours Care believes supervision is one of the key requirements in the prevention of incidents, accidents, and injury throughout the Centre. Educators require the skills to be able to assess potential risks during supervision and be able to implement changes to supervision to avoid incident, accident, or injury. All new and relief educators, along with volunteers, should be informed of potential supervisory risks in the WOSHC environment.

CONSIDERATIONS

Education and Care Services National Regulations – R100, R115, R123, R168

National Quality Standard – 2.2, 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 3.1, 4.1, 4.1.1, 4.2.2, 6.1, 7.1.2, 7.2.1

My Time Our Place: LO. 1, LO. 3

Other Service policies/documentation – Children (Education and Care Services National Law Application) Act 2010, Children’s and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998, United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, Network of Community Activities Factsheet – Supervision, WOSHC Philosophy, Dropping off and Picking Up Policy, Indoor Environment Policy, Outdoor Environment Policy, Educator/Child Ratio Policy, Relief Educator Policy, Child Protection Policy.

PROCEDURES

Parents/guardians must ensure they greet and farewell educators when dropping off or picking up their child/ren so as to make Educators aware of which children are in their care at all times.

If a child is found to be in an area where there is no supervision of an educator, they are considered ‘out of bounds’ and will be redirected to play within the set boundaries.

Educators will follow the procedure by communicating with each other before they leave a group of children to follow up on any child that is “out of bounds”.

Educators will ensure they communicate any changes to supervision routines/placement of educators, as necessary. No educator is to leave their area of supervision without informing another educator.

Educators are never to leave any child or group of children in an area where there is no other supervision for them.

The Nominated Supervisor will ensure throughout each shift that educators are positioned so to adequately supervise children in care.



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When children are playing, Educators must make every effort to be aware of where children are at all times and what they are doing.

Educators will engage with the children whilst supervising but must always be aware of all children in their vicinity.

Work related discussions with fellow educators will be as required, and if needed, followed up at a time when Educators are not allocated to supervise.

The Nominated Supervisor will ensure supervision practices are discussed and reviewed at each Educator Meeting and Committee Meeting. Such discussions will surround the best places for educators' supervision, areas in which children are at potential risk of being unsupervised and recent incidents where supervision could have been improved. A risk assessment will be completed, reviewed, and discussed regularly at Educator Meetings to allow input from all educators. Special focus should be placed on supervision, areas of concern and hiding places for unwelcome persons.

The Nominated Supervisor will ensure educator/child ratios are adequate for the area in which supervision is taking place. Educators who feel they are not able to supervise adequately due to the number of educators/children or the area being supervised should inform the Nominated Supervisor as a matter of policy.

Educators will recognise and discuss regularly the potential for unsupervised actions in the toilets. Children will be required to inform Educators when they need to use the toilet block and must take a buddy with them. Educators will be aware of the amount of time children have been in the toilet block and follow up should this have been an extended amount of time. Children will be required to inform the same educator when they return from the toilets.

Educators will be aware when persons are in the WOSHC vicinity and greet them, asking if they can help. No person should be on the WOSHC premises without being greeted by an Educator.

Programmed activities requiring additional supervision must be highlighted to Educators on arrival at the Centre. These activities should only be planned if this does not compromise the supervision of the other children.

Supervision for excursions will be assessed using a Risk Assessment per activity. These will be visible at the service for parents prior to the activity day. Where children are required to attend any external activities away from the Before and After School Care Environment, they must be signed over to another authorized adult/responsible person. Consent must be granted from parents/guardians before this is to occur.

Changeover of any staffing must include a head count or roll call of the children in the supervision area/service.

The Management Committee will assist in providing funds in the budget for training on supervision practices of educators. Where the environment is making supervision difficult, such issues will be discussed with the Management Committee and a decision reached for the safety of the children.

Outdoor Boundaries

Educators will evaluate each session and make changes to the boundaries if necessary. This may be due to educator/child ratios, number of children, the weather or other environmental conditions.



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Children are only allowed to go to the toilets to wash their hands, get a drink or use the toilet and leave the area once finished. They must have permission from an educator to go to the bathroom and let that educator know when they have returned. Children will be encouraged to go to the bathroom in pairs. Younger children or those with additional needs will go to the toilet area with an older/more responsible child. If the children are seen to be out of bounds, educators will remind them of the boundaries and that it is for their safety that the boundaries are set.

DATE ENDORSED: April 26, 2021

DATE FOR REVIEW AND EVALUATION: April 26, 2023