



Woolooware Outside School Hours Care

(02) 9523 9971
34 Wills Road, Woolooware, 2230
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COVID-19 POLICY

POLICY STATEMENT

This policy has been developed to protect children, educators and their families during the COVID-19 pandemic and reduce the spread. Woolooware Outside School Hours Care (WOSHC) highly encourages families to keep their children home where possible and encourages children to ONLY attend when families are unable to keep their children home and cannot arrange alternate care. WOSHC will remain operational unless directed otherwise by health authorities or regulatory bodies and families will be notified of changes to access via SkoolBag, Email and through our website. Educators will continue to follow all other policies and procedures including but not limited to "Illness and infectious disease policy and procedure" and "Work health and safety policy and procedure" which outlines our usual day to day hygiene practices and illness and infectious disease control measures. Our current COVID-19 Risk Assessment will also remain in place and these measures will continue to be followed.

WHO CAN NOT ENTER OUR SITE

- Any persons who have tested positive for COVID-19.
- Any persons who have been instructed to self-isolate.
- Unwell persons including children parents/carers and staff. This includes anyone with flu like symptoms such as fever, sore throat, coughing, sneezing and shortness of breath.
- Anyone who has returned from overseas travel within the last 14 days.

Encouraged not to enter site:

Staff and parents/carers who have any autoimmune disease, are over 65 years of age, Indigenous and Torres strait islander persons over 50 years of age, have asthma or respiratory problems or other health concerns are encouraged not to enter premises.

PRIORITY OF ACCESS

As stated, families are highly encouraged to follow government advice and keep their children home where possible. Our service will remain operational and accessible to all children unless advised otherwise by health officials or regulatory bodies and our priority of access will be as follows:

- Essential workers
- Vulnerable or disadvantaged children
- Already enrolled children (**fees are still required to be up to date to access care**)
- New enrolments

Waitlists will be created when required and priority of access will apply.

MAINTAINING SOCIAL DISTANCING AND MAXIMUM CHILDREN IN CARE

Our service aims to maintain social distancing where practical, ensuring that the 1.5m rule is being maintained between children and educators.



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Regular discussions are occurring and will continue to occur regarding safe distancing and the reasons behind this. Clusters of children will be encouraged to move a safe distance apart and educators will work together to reinforce this. Three (3) chairs are now provided per craft/eating table (as opposed to the usual 4-6) to allow for a distance to be kept during activities.

DROP OFF AND PICK UP

Please do not enter the school gates if you fall under the persons who cannot enter our site as stated above. Please ensure an authorised contact is dropping off and picking up each session. Doors will remain fully open so there is no reason to touch anything upon entering the school gates other than the sanitizer pump, tap to wash your hands and iPad. Please make a conscious effort NOT to touch any other resources. Upon arrival, sanitizer is available at the parent desk and soap, water and paper towels in the bathrooms. Please either use the sanitizer or wash your hands immediately. Please encourage your child(ren) to wash their hands immediately upon arrival.

FEES AND ENTITLEMENTS

The Government has released a new relief package for childcare services from the 6th April 2020. This package is to ensure services can remain open and provide childcare to essential workers. During the life of this package families will not be charged any gap fees for care and priority of access will apply to essential workers. To clarify, free childcare applies to ALL families regardless of your current working status although **priority of access will apply**. We still urge families to keep their children at home where possible to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and for the safety of those who are attending and the safety of our educators. Please ensure you are actively paying off any debts on your account. Our policies and procedures around fees being up to date still apply. Any children wishing to re-enroll with existing debt must clear their account prior to making any further bookings under this new relief package.

Please follow the link below for further information regarding the relief package

https://docs.education.gov.au/node/53380?fbclid=IwAR2G1I53rShTmnwtCD4vQJ4SkFJp46TT_3Q9j7w0_0eAq0geTyr7ttLYuI0

HYGIENE AND RISK MANAGEMENT

The COVID-19 Risk assessment communicated is still in effective and will remain effective until further notice. This risk assessment outlines additional measures to maintain hygiene during this pandemic. Our usual hygiene practices are exceptionally high and will still remain effective whilst following these additional measures.

FURTHER SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

In recognition that children, along with their families and the broader community, are feeling the impact of the significant social disruption and health concerns associated with COVID-19, a number of resources are available specifically designed to support for children.



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Emerging Minds have published a new resources for [supporting children during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#), which includes a video, fact sheets and tips about what you can expect and how you can help children cope.

The Raising Children Network have published an article on [Coronavirus and children in Australia](#), which includes health information and guidance about talking with children about COVID-19.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Please visit the [Australian Government Department of Health](#) for the latest health advice.

The **Australian Government Department of Health** has also released a collection of [COVID-19 resources](#) for the general public.

Please contact the 24/7 **National Coronavirus Health Information Line** on 1800 020 080 which provides health and situation information on the outbreak.

If you need help with translation services while seeking help, you can contact the **Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS National)** on 131 450 or [tisnational.gov.au](https://www.tisnational.gov.au).

Date Endorsed: March 12, 2020

Date for Review/Evaluation: 6 monthly