Behaviour Guidance Policy



Policy Relevant to:	All Team members, Educators & families	
Last Reviewed:	September 2023	
Next Review:	March 2025	
NQF:	12, 84, 147, 155, 156, 168, 174, 175	
NQS:	2.1.1, 2.2.1, 5.1, 5.1.1, 5.1.2, 5.2, 5.2.1, 5.2.2, 5.1, 7.1, 7.1.2	

The right for children to receive positive guidance and encouragement in a supportive and respectful environment is promoted within Education and Care Services National Regulations. Children learn to face a variety of challenges throughout their lives and through this develop not only self-regulation, but positive dispositions such as resilience and perseverance. Learning the difference between acceptable and unacceptable behaviour assists children to regulate their own behaviours in different social and emotional environments when interacting with peers and adults.

Purpose

Adventure Patch aims to create positive relationships with children and young people making them feel safe, secure and supported within our services. We will ensure children and young people are treated with respect, consistency, fairly and equitably as they are supported to develop the skills and knowledge required to behave in a socially and culturally acceptable manner.

Supporting children and young people to develop socially acceptable behaviour is a primary goal for educators and families. This is embedded in fundamental documents including the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF), The Education and Care Services National Regulations and the National Quality Standards (NQS).

Definitions

Behaviour guidance- this term is used to reflect current thinking about the most positive and effective ways to help children and young people gain understanding and learn skills that will help them to manage their own behaviour. Using appropriate behaviour guidance, educators aim to support each child regulate their own behaviour, respond appropriately to the behaviour of others and communicate effectively to resolve conflicts.

Cool down- this is an example of appropriate discipline or behaviour guidance. A cool down period is when a child is having a difficult moment, they are encouraged to find a space, near an educator, to 'cool down' and regain self-control. This strategy can be used as an opportunity for educators to support children to regulate their own behaviour. [ACEQA, 2020]

Self-regulation- The ability to manage energy states, emotions, behaviour and attention: the ability to return to a balanced, calm and constant state of being. Self-regulation is a key factor for mental health, wellbeing and learning (KidsMatter, Early Childhood, 2014).

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Inclusion- taking into account all children's social, cultural and linguistic diversity (including learning styles, abilities, disabilities, gender, family circumstance and geographic location) in curriculum decision-making processes. (EYLF)

Implementation

The behaviour and guidance strategies used by team members and educators at Adventure Patch services are designed to provide children and young people with the opportunity to expand their experiences of life in a productive, safe environment that allows individuals the right to safety, tolerance, self-expression, cultural identity, dignity and the worth of the individual.

Educators understand that as children and young people grow and develop, self-regulation becomes an important aspect of social and emotional development as they begin to understand how their actions affect others.

We believe in providing clear, consistent guidelines for children's behaviour as part of a caring and trusting relationship with children and families to help them feel secure and self-confident. Children benefit from knowing that their environment is stable and that a competent adult is taking care of them.

There are three key aspects to promoting positive behaviour:

- 1. Creating a quality learning environment that is positive and supportive and provides developmentally appropriate experiences and resources.
- 2. Implementing guidance strategies for building skills and strengthening positive behaviour based on age-appropriate behaviour expectations.
- 3. Employing strategies for guiding children's behaviour resulting in decreasing undesired behaviours.

Relevant policies

Emergency and Evacuation Policy Interactions with Children Policy Medical Conditions Policy Providing a safe Environment for children policy Supervision Policy Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness Policy Enrolment Policy Orientation Policy

Sources

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www.acecqa.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-06/inappropriate-discipline.pdf

Australian Government Department of Education <u>Belonging, Being and Becoming: The Early Years Learning</u> Framework for Australia.V2.0, 2022

Australian Government Department of Education. Inclusion Support Program https://www.education.gov.au/child-care-package/inclusion-support-program



Department of Education NSW Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) Early Childhood

https://pbl.schools.nsw.gov.au/resources/early-childhood.html

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Early Childhood Australia Code of Ethics. (2016).

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NAPCAN: www.napcan.org.au

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Review History

Policy Reviewed By:	Scott Norris	DCEO	September 2023
POLICY REVIEWED	September 2023	NEXT REVIEW DATE	March 2025
Modifications	 policy maintenance - no major changes to policy hyperlinks checked and repaired as required added 		
POLICY REVIEWED	PREVIOUS MODIFICATIONS		NEXT REVIEW DATE
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Signed

CEO:	
Manager:	S. Norris