

Interactions with Children Policy



Policy Relevant to:	All Team members, Educators & families
Last Reviewed:	May 2025
Next Review:	May 2027
ECS National Law:	S165, S166, S168, S169
ECS National Regulations:	r73, r84, r115, r177A, r118, r123, r126, r145, r155, r156, r157, r168, r170
NQS:	5.1, 5.1.1, 5.1.2, 5.2, 5.2.1, 6.1, 6.1.1, 6.1.2, 6.1.3,

The Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) and My Time Our Place (MTOP) identifies secure, respectful, and reciprocal relationships with children as one of the principles that underpin practice. Within an early childhood community, many different relationships are negotiated with and between children, educators, and families. The way in which these relationships are established and maintained, and the way in which they remain visible impact on how the early childhood community functions as a whole. Relationships directly affect how children form their own identity, whether or not they feel safe and supported, and ultimately, their sense of belonging.

Purpose

Adventure Patch aims to build positive and respectful relationships with children, families and educators through collaboration and interactions, which is reflective of our Service philosophy and the *Early Years Learning Framework* (EYLF V2.0, 2022).

Adventure Patch aims to ensure that all educators form positive, warm, nourishing and supportive relationships with children that make them feel safe, supported in our service and provide a nurturing environment with respect for culture, rights, community and the individual.

Implementation

Under the *Education and Care Services National Regulations*, Adventure Patch will ensure that policies and procedures are in place for interactions with children (Reg.168) and take reasonable steps to ensure those policies and procedures are followed.

In order to build and maintain positive and respectful relationships with children, families and educators, of our services will adhere to our statement of philosophy, our Code of Conduct and the ECA Code of Ethics. We aim to provide a child safe culture where our values and practices that guide the attitudes and behaviour of all educators and team members are guided by the implementation of the Child Safe Standards and Child Safe Organisations.

Interactions with Children

Children need positive relationships and interactions with educators that are trusting and responsive to their individual needs. Through these experiences and interactions children

will develop a positive understanding of themselves and feel a sense of belonging. We promote a respectful, child safe culture where children's concerns are always responded to, and children feel empowered to participate in decisions and provide feedback to educators and staff. Staff and educators will refer to the Child Protection Policy and Child Protection Policy *when dealing with inappropriate interactions and reporting.*

Adventure Patch will:

- Encourage positive relationships and interactions between educators and children that are trusting and responsive to their individual needs. Through these experiences and interactions, children will develop a positive understanding of themselves and feel a sense of belonging.
- Encourage each child to express themselves and to support the development of self-reliance and self-esteem through the use of professional and respectful language, level and tone of voice, maintenance of eye contact and body language.
- Provide each child with positive guidance and encouragement toward acceptable behaviour.
- Support each child to have the opportunity to interact and develop respectful and positive relationships with their peers.
- Promote a respectful, child safe culture where children concerns are always responded to, and children feel empowered to participate in decisions and provide feedback to educators and staff.
- Consider family and cultural values, age, physical and intellectual development and abilities of each child.
- Ensure our educators and team members will not show preferential behaviour or treatment towards any child.

Related Policies

Behaviour Guidance Policy Child Protection Policy Code of Conduct Arrival and Departure Policy Enrolment Policy Orientation Policy Privacy and Confidentiality Policy	Social Media Policy Staffing Arrangement Policy Supervision Policy Child Protection Policy Complaints & Grievances Policy (Families) Governance Policy & Procedure Behaviour Guidance Procedure
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Sources

- Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority. (2014).
- Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority. (2023). [Guide to the National Quality Framework](#).
- Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority. (2023). [Policy and Procedure Guidelines- Interactions with Children](#)
- Australian Human Rights Commission. Child Safe Organisations. <https://humanrights.gov.au/our-work/childrens-rights/projects/child-safe-organisations>
- Child Australia Cultural Connections Booklet. (2017).
- Early Childhood Australia Code of Ethics. (2016).

Australian Government Department of Education (2022). [Belonging, Being and Becoming: The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia](#). V2.0.

Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010. (Amended 2023)

[Education and Care Services National Regulations](#). (Amended 2023)

NSW Department of Education. (2021). [Implementing the Child Safe Standards: A guide for early childhood education and outside school hours care services](#).

Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (Cth).

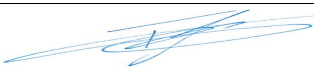
Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework (2011) Melbourne Graduate School of Education *Evidence Paper Practice Principle 5: Respectful relationships and responsive engagement*

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/childhood/providers/edcare/respectrelns.pdf>

Review History

Policy Reviewed By:	Scott Norris	DCEO	May 2025
POLICY REVIEWED	May 2025	NEXT REVIEW DATE	May 2027
Modifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minor maintenance Checked hyperlinks Updated laws and regulations 		
POLICY REVIEWED	PREVIOUS MODIFICATIONS	NEXT REVIEW DATE	
July 2023	January 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Added preferential behaviour or treatment of a child July 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> policy maintenance - no major changes to policy hyperlinks checked and repaired as required added related policies list added sources list 		

Signed

CEO:	
Manager:	S. Norris