

# Interactions with children

| National Quality Standard<br>Education and Care Services<br>National Law and National<br>Regulations | Associated department policy, procedure or guideline | Reference document(s) and/or<br>advice from a recognised<br>authority |
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| NQS: 51, 5.2   | Leading and operating                                | ACECQA information sheets:  |
| Law Section: 166   | department preschool guidelines                      | Relationships with children   |
| Regulations: 155, 156  | Code of Conduct policy                               | [PDF 2.3 MB]  |
|  | Student Behaviour policy                             | Supporting children to     regulate their own                         |
|  | Student Behaviour policy Anti-Racism policy          | behaviour [PDF 1,018 KB]  |
|  |  | Inappropriate discipline     [PDF 573 KB]                             |
|  |  | ACECQA's policy and   |
|  |  | procedures guidelines –<br>Interactions with children [PDF            |
|  |  | 201 KB]   |

### Responsibilities

| School principal | The principal as nominated supervisor, educational leader and responsible person holds primary responsibility for the preschool. |
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|                  | The principal is responsible for ensuring:   |
|                  | • the preschool is compliant with legislative standards related to this procedure at all times                                   |
|                  | • all staff involved in the preschool are familiar with and implement this procedure   |



|                             | <ul> <li>all procedures are current and reviewed as part of a continuous cycle of self-<br/>assessment.</li> <li>These tasks may be delegated to other members of the preschool team, but the</li> </ul>    |
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|                             | responsibility sits with the principal.   |
| Preschool<br>supervisor     | The preschool supervisor supports the principal in their role and is responsible for leading the review of this procedure through a process of self-assessment and critical reflection. This could include: |
|                             | • analysing complaints, incidents or issues and the implications for updates to this procedure  |
|                             | • reflecting on how this procedure is informed by stakeholder feedback and relevant expert authorities  |
|                             | • planning and discussing ways to engage with families and communities, including how changes are communicated  |
|                             | • developing strategies to induct all staff when procedures are updated to ensure practice is embedded.   |
| Preschool<br>teacher(s) and | Preschool teachers and educators are responsible for working with the preschool leadership team to ensure:  |
| educator(s)                 | • all staff in the preschool and daily practices comply with this procedure   |
|                             | • this procedure is stored in a way that it is accessible to all staff, families, visitors and volunteers   |
|                             | • they are actively involved in the review of this procedure, as required, or at least annually   |
|                             | details of this procedure's review are documented.  |

#### Procedure

| Introduction | No preschool child will be subjected to any form of corporal punishment or discipline |
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that is unreasonable in the circumstances.

All teachers, educators, visitors, and volunteers will:

- maintain the dignity and rights of each child when interacting with them. For instance, children's rights are upheld by asking permission before taking children's photo, working positively through challenging moments, acknowledging children's feelings, respecting and valuing children's culture.
- support each child to develop warm, trusting, respectful relationships with other children and with adults. For example, greeting each child individually, actively listening and responding to children's ideas and feelings, acknowledging when children have achieved something, being truthful and honest with children, modelling appropriate manners and polite language.
- encourage each child to express themselves and their opinions, engaging them in sustained conversations about things that interest them. This is achieved, for example, through active listening, encouraging children to contribute their ideas and opinions, responding positively when children share their feelings, engaging in co-learning with children about things that interest them, following up on children's ideas for learning.
- respond to each child's strengths, abilities, interests, and play, to support curriculum decision making. For example, focusing on the strengths that children bring to the preschool, building on abilities over time, promoting home language and ways of being and doing, developing curriculum that is child-centred and child-led.

provide regular opportunities for children to engage in meaningful play
 program
 experiences that promote positive interactions and build relationships. This is achieved, for example, through play spaces that provide for social play, ensuring the preschool provides spaces for independent as well as group experiences, supporting cooperative play through the provision of provocations, promoting leadership in child-led activities.

 provide support and guidance for every child to respect individual differences and regard for each family's cultural values. For example, Djanangmum preschool provides artefacts and other resources that value cultural heritage, include



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|  | <ul> <li>resources that include people of diverse ability, culture, and orientation, promote equality and fairness in the ways children are responded to, recognise and engage with a variety of cultural celebrations.</li> <li>support children to manage their own behaviour and to develop self-regulation. For example, supporting children to negotiate, listening and responding when children are experiencing high levels of emotion, providing children with time to reflect and adjust to expectations, explicitly teaching, prompting and praising expected behaviours in a positive and gentle way, providing visual cues, using positive language.</li> </ul>   |
| Implementing the<br>child safe<br>standards –<br>Responding to a<br>disclosure of<br>abuse | <ul> <li>If a child discloses abuse to a staff member, they will respond appropriately and in a supportive manner. The <u>Department of Communities and Justice</u> provides this advice:</li> <li>respond to a disclosure by being calm and listening carefully and nonjudgmentally</li> <li>let the child tell their story freely and in their own way</li> <li>acknowledge how difficult it may have been to disclose and reassure the child that it was the right thing to do</li> <li>do not interview or gather evidence, as this is the responsibility of specially trained caseworkers and police officers</li> <li>immediately after the disclosure write down and date the comments and statements made by the child using their exact words</li> <li>record any observations about the child's mood or demeanour</li> <li>report this information to the principal.</li> </ul> |



## Record of procedure's review

| Record of procedure's review   |  |
|--|--|
| Date of review and who was involved  |  |
| 2/9/2022, Emily Roalfe   |  |
| Key changes made and reason/s why  |  |
| Update from old template to new template. Minor changes as needed.             |  |
| Record of communication of significant changes to relevant stakeholders        |  |
| Communicated with core staff 2/9/2022 with printed policy to review in detail. |  |

Families informed using story park platform, printed copy on sign on table.

| Date of review   | 27/10/2023   |
|--|--|
| Who was<br>involved  | Emily Roalfe, Educators, families  |
| Key changes<br>made and reason<br>why  | Update to reflect the child safe standards.<br>Update to new template  |
| Record of<br>communication<br>of significant<br>changes to<br>relevant<br>stakeholders | Principal:27/10/23<br>Staff:27/10/23<br>Parents:27/10/23<br>Please note, parents must be notified at least 14 days prior to a change that may have<br>a significant impact on their service's provision of education and care or a family's<br>ability to use the service. |



## Casino Public School – Djanangmum Preschool Localised Procedure

#### Record of procedure's review

| Date of review   | 12/9/24   |
|--|---|
| Who was<br>involved  | Emily Roalfe, Educators and Families through storypark, foyer display and verbal conversation   |
| Key changes<br>made and reason<br>why  | No changes, yearly revision to ensure compliance and best practice  |
| Record of<br>communication<br>of significant<br>changes to<br>relevant<br>stakeholders | Principal: 12/9/24 -email<br>Staff: 12/9/24 - email<br>Parents: 12/9/24 – storypark and foyer display<br>Please note, parents must be notified at least 14 days prior to a change that may have<br>a significant impact on their service's provision of education and care or a family's<br>ability to use the service. |

Copy and paste the last 4 rows to the bottom of the table each time a new review is completed.