Enrolment Policy

NQS

QA2  2.1.1 Each child’s health needs are supported.
     2.1.4 Steps are taken to control the spread of infectious diseases and to manage injuries and illness, in accordance with recognised guidelines.
     2.2.1 Healthy eating is promoted and food and drinks provided by the service are nutritious and appropriate for each child.
     2.3.1 Children are adequately supervised at all times.
     2.3  Each child is protected.
     2.3.2 Every reasonable precaution is taken to protect children from harm and any hazard likely to cause injury.
     2.3.3 Plans to effectively manage incidents and emergencies are developed in consultation with relevant authorities, practised and implemented.

QA6  6.1 Respectful supportive relationships with families are developed and maintained.
     6.1.1 There is an effective enrolment and orientation process for families.
     6.2 Families are supported in their parenting role and their values and beliefs about child rearing are respected.

National Regulations

Regs  77  Health, hygiene and safe food practices
       78  Food and beverages
       79  Service providing food and beverages
       80  Weekly menu
       88  Infectious diseases
       90  Medical conditions policy
       91  Medical Conditions Policy to be Provided to Parents
       92  Medication record
       93  Administration of medication
       96  Self-administration of medication
       97  Emergency and evacuation procedures
       99  Children leaving the education and care service premises
      100  Risk assessment must be conducted before excursion
      101  Conduct of risk assessment for excursion
      102  Authorisation for excursions
      157  Access for parents
      160  Child enrolment records to be kept by approved provider and family day care educator
      161  Authorisations to be kept in enrolment record
      162  Health information to be kept in enrolment record
      168  Education and care service must have policies and procedures
      173  Prescribed information is to be displayed

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My Time, Our Place

| LO1 | Children feel safe, secure, and supported |

Aim
To ensure that each child’s enrolment is completed as per our legal requirements. Additionally, we aim to ensure that each child and family receives an enrolment and orientation process that meets their needs, allowing the family and child to feel safe and secure in the level of care that we provide.

Related Policies
- Additional Needs Policy
- Administration of Authorised Medication Policy
- Child Protection Policy
- Excursion Policy
- Food, Nutrition and Beverage Policy
- Health, Hygiene and Safe Food Policy
- HIV AIDS Policy
- Immunisation and Disease Prevention Policy
- Infectious Diseases Policy
- Medical Conditions Policy
- Orientation for Children Policy
- Privacy and Confidentiality Policy
- Record Keeping and Retention Policy
- Relationships with Children Policy
- Rest, Relaxation and Clothing Policy
- Unenrolled Children Policy

Who is affected by this policy?
- Children
- Families
- Educators

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Implementation

Our service accepts enrolments of children who attend primary school. The December/January Vacation Care program accepts children starting primary school the following/that year.

Enrolments will be accepted providing:

- The maximum daily attendance does not exceed the approved number of places of the service (BSC 120, ASC 120 and Vacation Care 120).
- Child-educator ratios are maintained across the service.
- A vacancy is available. (Please see Priority of Access Guidelines below.)

Priority of Access Guidelines:

Children who are enrolled at the service or whose families are seeking a place at the service will be given Priority of Access in accordance with the guidelines that have been established by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

Below are the Priority of Access levels which the Service must follow when filling vacancies.

1. A child in Out of Home Care
2. A child at risk of serious abuse or neglect.
3. A child of a single parent/guardian who satisfies, or of parents/guardians who both satisfy the work/training/study test under Section 14 of the A New Tax System (Family Assistance) Act 1999.
4. Any other child.

Within these four categories priority is also given to the following children:

- Children in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families.
- Children in families which include a disabled person.
- Children in families from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.
- Children in socially isolated families.
- Children of single parents/guardian.

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Upon enrolment families will be notified of their priority and advised that if the service has no vacancies and their child’s position is a priority 4 under the Priority of Access Guidelines, it may be required that their child leave or reduce their days in order to make a place for a higher priority child.

Outside school hours care is primarily for school children. Our service may ask a child not yet in school to leave if a child who is in school applies for a place.

Enrolment:

All students who enrol at CPS will also enrol in the OSHC service. When a family has indicated their interest in using our service, the following **will** occur:

- Families are given a copy of the Parent Handbook to read and are invited to ask questions.
- Any matters that are sensitive of nature, such as discussing a child’s medical needs, Court Orders, parenting plans or parenting orders, will be discussed privately with the Nominated Supervisor.
- Families need to contact the Family Assistance Office (Servicelink) to have their eligibility for Child Care Benefit assessed.

When a family has indicated their interest in using our service, the following **may** occur:

- A tour of our service. During this tour, the educator conducting the tour will give the family information about the service including, but not limited to, programming methods, meals, incursions, excursions, inclusion, fees, policies, procedures, our status as a Sun Smart service, regulations for our state and the licensing and assessment process, signing in and out procedure, the National Quality Framework, routines, educator qualifications and introduction to the educators. Families are also invited to ask any questions they may have.

- Discussions are held between office staff and families regarding availability of days, a start date and tailoring an orientation process to suit the needs of the family and child. Families are informed of the Priority of Access Policy, and have their position assessed as to how they place within this system.

- Discuss their child with us so we can accommodate their needs in the service from the first day they start with us. Should a child use English as a second language, or speak another language at home, we request that families provide us with some key words in the languages the child speaks at this time so that educators can learn the words.

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As per our Orientation for Children Policy, families will be invited to bring their child into the service at a time that suits them so the child and family can familiarise themselves with the environment.

Before the child begins their first day with us, the service must have all required documentation for the child. The child will not be accepted into the service without this being completed.

On the child’s first day:

- The child and their family are welcomed for the first day.

Other information about our service’s enrolment includes:

- We will try and accommodate families so that children from the same family can attend our service. This will be carried out in line with our obligations under the Priority of Access Policy.

- We encourage all families to consider immunising their children. Please see our Immunisation Policy for further information.

- In accordance with the National Law and Regulations, our educators will support each child to manage their own behaviour, respond appropriately to the behaviour of other children and communicate effectively to resolve conflicts. We will also work with each child’s family to support any children with diagnosed behaviour and social difficulties. However, a child’s enrolment at our service may be terminated if the nominated supervisor decides the child’s behaviour threatens the safety, health or well being of any other child at the service.

Information and Authorisations to be kept in the Enrolment Record

Our Record Keeping and Retention Policy outlines the information and authorisations that we will include in all child enrolment records.

Sources

Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004

Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008
The Child Wellbeing and Safety Act 2005
Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2007
Children, Youth and Families Act 2005
Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011
National Quality Standard
A New Tax System (Family Assistance) Act 1999
My Time, Our Place Framework for School Age Care

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Review

The policy will be reviewed annually by the Out of School Hours Care subcommittee of School Council.

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