

National Quality Framework Policy

Aim

Our service participates in the National Quality Framework (NQF). The service aims is to provide the highest quality education and care available across all areas.

Related Policies

Enrolment Policy

Educators Orientation Policy

Who is affected by this policy?

Educators

Families

Child

Management

Visitors

Implementation

Our Service participates in and values the National Quality Framework (NQF), including the National Quality Standard (NQS), the My Time Our Place Framework for School Age Care and the National Regulations – an Australian Government initiative linked to the funding of the Child Care Benefit for parents. This is conducted through the Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA) and the state licensing department through scheduled site assessment visits and where appropriate, spontaneous visits.

The NQS provides standards of quality practices for care provided in our Service as well as guidance and support from the Service's self evaluation through our Quality Improvement Plan (QIP). The system also allows educators to continually improve practices by identifying the quality aspects of care the Service is already providing and assisting the Service in developing goals for further improvement through our QIP. The Service is required to review the QIP at least annually and submit the most recent QIP to the regulatory authority on request.

The QIP will be kept on the premises at all times and made available on request to the parents of any child who is enrolled at our Service or seeking to be enrolled.

The Service will ensure that all educators and management are informed about current practices and requirements in the NQF process by attending appropriate in-service/training, accessing any other publications and information about the accreditation process that may be of benefit – including those published by ACECQA.

Educators will involve parents, families and management in each stage to seek their input and views into practices and care in our Service – this includes having parent input into policy reviews, parent meetings and providing updates in newsletters about the Service's current stage in the process.

The seven Standards under the NQS are –

1. Educational program and practice
2. Children's health and safety
3. Physical environment
4. Staffing arrangements
5. Relationships with children
6. Collaborative partnerships with families and communities

7. Governance and Leadership

The Rating System

The NQS is accompanied by a national quality rating and assessment process that promotes transparency and accountability and assists parents to make informed choices about the quality of education and care at a service. Our service will display the rating received for each quality area and the overall rating.

The Ratings are as follows –

- Excellent
- Exceeding National Quality Standard
- Meeting National Quality Standard
- Working towards National Quality Standard
- Significant improvement required.

We will access regular updates on the ACECQA website – www.acecqa.gov.au



Sources

National Quality Standard

My Time, Our Place Framework for School Age Care

Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011

Reviewed: 1st May 2019

Date for next review: 1st May 2020