

Yarram Early Learning Identification and Visibility

Quality Area 2: Children's Health and Safety

PURPOSE

This policy aims to clearly define:

- Ways in which the Nature Program participants are clearly visible to teachers, educators, and volunteers. To ensure they are also clearly identifiable to other users of our chosen sites in order to protect the safety of all participants.
- Communicate to onlookers and users of the Nature Program sites about the Nature Program.

POLICY STATEMENT

VALUES

Yarram Early Learning Incorporated is committed to:

- Providing a safe and healthy environment for children, staff and volunteers participating in the nature Program.
- Being respectful of the community space that the Nature Program site offers, while ensuring the safety of participants at all times in response to external influences and risks.
- Being respectful that members of the public who may be interested in the Nature Program but ensuring that the program is not interrupted by other site users.

SCOPE

This policy applies to children, parents/guardians, staff, Committee Members, authorised persons, volunteers, and students on placement working at Yarram Early Learning.

BACKGROUND AND LEGISLATION

BACKGROUND

Yarram Early Learning's Nature Program is conducted in various sites in the Yarram District which are enjoyed by members of the public and allows dogs to be walked off lead in designated areas. It is important that children, teachers, educators, and volunteers participating in the Nature Program are easily identified to each other and site users as a discrete group. It is also critical that children participating in the program are clearly visible to all teachers, educators, and volunteers.

LEGISLATION AND STANDARDS

Relevant legislation may include but is not limited to:

- Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011.
- Education and Care Services National Law 2010.
- National Quality Standards, including Quality Area 2 – Children's Health and Safety and Quality Area 3 – Physical Environment.

- Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004.
- Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2007.

SOURCES AND RELATED POLICIES

SERVICE POLICIES

- Nature Program Delivery & Collection of Children Policy (Nature Program specific).
- Nature Program Extreme Weather Policy (Nature Program specific).
- Nature Program Protective Clothing Policy (Nature Program specific).
- Nature Program Emergency Evacuation Policy (Nature Program specific).
- Nature Program Snake Awareness Policy (Nature Program specific).
- Nature Program Dog Awareness Policy (Nature Program specific).
- Incident, Injury, Trauma & Illness Policy.
- Supervision of Children Policy.
- Excursion & Incursion Policy.
- Clothing Policy.
- Sun Protection Policy.
- Water Safety Policy.
- Occupational Health & Safety Policy.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF DIFFERENT STAKEHOLDERS

The Approved Provider and Nominated Supervisor are responsible for:

- Ensuring staff are appropriately trained in procedures for dealing with onlookers, dogs etc.

Responsible Person and Educators are responsible for:

- Ensuring all children have the Yarram Early Learning logo on either their orange safety vest or on their wet weather clothing.
- Requesting, in as diplomatic a fashion as possible, that interested onlookers move on so as not to disturb the Nature Program underway, if necessary.
- Identifying owners of dogs off lead and encourage the owner to put the dog on a lead. Where the dog on lead comes into the Nature Program area, activating the procedures in the dog awareness policy.

Parents/guardians are responsible for:

- Reading and being familiar with the policy.
- Bringing relevant issues to the attention of either the teachers, educators, or administration staff.

EVALUATION

In order to assess whether the values and purposes of the policy have been achieved, the Nominated Supervisor, Responsible Person will:

- Regularly seek feedback from everyone affected by the policy regarding its effectiveness.
- Monitor the implementation, compliance, complaints, and incidents in relation to this policy.

- Keep the policy up to date with current legislation, research, policy, and best practice.

Revise the policy and procedures as part of the service's policy review cycle, or as required.

- Notify parents/guardians at least 14 days before making any changes to this policy or its procedures.

AUTHORISATION

This policy was adopted by the Yarram Early Learning Incorporated in April 2021.

Reviewed by committee – August 2023

To be reviewed - August 2025