



South Turrumurra Out of School Hours Care

Turrumurra Public School Kissing Point Rd
Turrumurra 2074 NSW (02) 9144 4769



Interactions with Children

Policy

Children have the right to be themselves, be accepted for who they are, their beliefs and where they come from. Children have the right to be provided with opportunities for rest, play and a wide variety of leisure activities. At South Turrumurra OOSH we value the importance of educators creating nurturing, equitable, secure and safe relationships with children. We believe that through these relationships we can help children to reach their full potential and develop a positive sense of self.

Legislative Requirements & Related Policies

Education and Care Services National Regulations 155, 156, 168(2)(j), Section 166

South Turrumurra OOSH – Behaviour management policy

South Turrumurra OOSH – Creating a child safe environment policy

South Turrumurra OOSH – Child protection policy

My Time, Our Place learning frame work

National Quality Standards 5.1, 5.2- elements 5.1.1, 5.1.2, 5.2.1, 5.2.2

United Nations ‘Rights of the Child’

ECA Code of Ethics

Procedure

In accordance with national regulations 155 and 156, South Turrumurra OOSH will take reasonable steps to provide care in a way that:

- Encourages the children to express themselves and their opinions
- Allows children to undertake experiences that develop self-reliance and self-esteem
- Maintains the dignity and rights of each child
- Gives each child positive guidance and encouragement
- Positively role models appropriate behaviours
- Regards each child’s family and cultural values, age and physical and intellectual development.



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South Turrumurra OOSH will provide opportunities for children to interact and develop respectful and positive relationships with each other and staff members of, and volunteers at, the service.

The role and responsibility of the educator

When supporting children's needs and abilities, educators will:

- Interact with all children with respect, courtesy and understanding through maintaining a positive attitude in all interactions.
- Interact with all children equally regardless of race, cultural background, religion, sex or ability. All interactions between educators and children will reflect this.
- Encourage confidence and learning through the use of positive behaviour guidance strategies and not through shouting, threats of corporal punishment or refusing basic needs such as food.
- Respect children's ideas by listening carefully, showing interest and allowing them the freedom to voice their opinions, concerns and ideas without stigma or bias.
- Provide opportunities to develop respectful and positive relationships through interactions with peers, educators and visitors.
- Ensure that physical contact is appropriate in interactions where it is required, for example applying first aid, comforting a child or for the safety of a child.
 - Educators will define and role model personal space to children.
 - Educators will identify when interactions with a child are inappropriate and refer to South Turrumurra OOSH's 'Child protection' and 'Providing a child safe environment' Policies.
- When communicating with children, educators will:
 - Ensure they communicate at the child's level and use encouraging body language, facial expressions and tone of voice.
 - Approach children in a sensitive manner when they are having difficulty communicating and regulating their emotions and aid in providing strategies to create an inclusive environment.
 - Try to engage with all children, learning each child's likes, dislikes and interests.
- Ensure a collaborative approach is taken when considering and creating routines and programs. Ensure that children's ideas and interests are reflected in the services routine and programs.

A Positive Environment

- South Turrumurra OOSH identifies that children are separate to their behaviour and that mis-behaviour is a symptom of circumstances.
- The environment of the service promotes collaboration between children, staff and families, and creates a sense of security for all.
- The environment is set up in a way to promote meaningful interactions through play and leisure in both small and large groups.
- Rules and consequences of the services are created collaboratively with staff, children and families to promote continuity and equal expectations.
 - Rules and consequences are devised with the common goal of creating respectful and safe interactions and relationships between families, children and staff.
 - All educators are role models in demonstrating respectful and safe interactions and relationships, by following the service rules.



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- All consequences will be relevant to the situation and non-demeaning. Where inappropriate behaviour is observed Educators will support children by using a behaviour guidance approach and develop strategies for better solutions in future occurrences. Educators will use respectful language and tone when speaking to children, families and each other.
- South Turrumurra OOSH will continue to collaborate with Turrumurra Public School and families to ensure a continuity of expectations and consequences.
- To develop a positive environment, educators will use positive reinforcement techniques to promote appropriate behaviour.
- Educators will employ conflict resolution skills to help children develop their own conflict resolution skills and self-regulation.
- South Turrumurra OOSH will provide training and resources to support educators in developing positive behaviour management and conflict resolution skills.

The role and responsibility of the children

- Children will be encouraged to role model respectful and inclusive behaviour to their peers.
- Children are encouraged to express their identity and culture and collaborate on routines and programs with staff and peers.
- Children are expected to respect OOSH environments and equipment as well as Educators and each other, including their need for rest, relaxation and solitude.
- Children understand that all emotions are ok but not all behaviour is ok. Children will be supported to regulate their own emotions and behaviour so that they can collaborate with the OOSH community.

Dealing with inappropriate behaviour

- Refer to South Turrumurra OOSH - Behaviour Management Policy.