



Smoke Free Environment

QUALITY AREA 2: CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND SAFETY

Introduction

All workplaces have a regulatory and legislative duty of care under to provide a safe, healthy and smoke free environment. Children, educators and families will not be exposed to the harmful effects of second hand smoke while on education and care service premises.

Goals / What are we going to do?

The education and care service has adopted a smoke free environment policy to protect all persons who access the service from the effects of environmental tobacco smoke. The education and care service does not permit the smoking of any substance in any area of the premises.

Strategies / How will it be done?

The philosophy of the education and care service will guide educator interactions and practices by providing a vision, a purpose and meaningful direction regarding goals for children and families.

The Approved Provider will:

- ◁ Ensure that the education and care environment is free from the use of tobacco for the children being cared for and educated.
- ◁ Take precautions to promote the health and wellbeing of children being cared for at the education and care service by protecting them from exposure to tobacco smoke.
- ◁ Designate all areas of the education and care service including the building, outdoor areas and the car park as smoke free zones

The Nominated Supervisor will:

- ◁ Seek to protect children from passive smoking environments during excursions.
- ◁ Ensure that educators receive an induction to the education and care service where they are informed of the Smoke Free Environment Policy.
- ◁ Inform educators who choose to smoke while employed at the education and care service that they are only able to leave the premises during allocated break periods. They must inform the nominated supervisor or colleagues that they are leaving the premises and if

smoking, must not be within view of the education and care service. At such times, educators must sign in and out of the service. When educators return to the service after smoking, they must wash their hands thoroughly and minimise the smell of tobacco on their clothing.

◁ Ensure that during orientation and enrolment visits, families are reminded that the education and care service is a smoke free environment.

◁ Encourage educators and families to dispose of cigarette butts appropriately to ensure the safety of all children.

◁ Ensure there are 'No Smoking' signs displayed in all areas of the education and care service through the WHS checklists. Ensure universal signage is available to indicate a smoke free zone.

Educators will:

◁ Read and follow this policy and abide by the smoke-free legislation for the relevant state or territory, which may prohibit smoking in childcare facilities and within up to 10 metres of a pedestrian entrance to a public building.

◁ Only leave the premises during allocated break periods and after informing the Nominated Supervisor or colleagues that they are leaving. At such times, educators must sign in and out of the service.

◁ Refrain from smoking in view of the service.

◁ Wash their hands thoroughly and minimise the smell of tobacco on their clothing when returning to the service after smoking.

◁ Dispose of any cigarette butts appropriately.

Families will:

◁ Read and follow this policy and abide by the smoke-free legislation for the relevant state or territory, which may prohibit smoking in childcare facilities and within up to 10 metres of a pedestrian entrance to a public building.

◁ Dispose of any cigarette butts appropriately.

Evaluation

The education and care service is a smoke free environment. Educators and families will not expose other adults and children to the effects of passive smoking. The health benefits of smoke free environments will be promoted.

RELATED LEGISLATION

◁ Education and Care Services National Regulations: 82

◁ National Quality Standards/Elements: 2.1, 2.2, 3.1.2, 4.2

STATUTORY LEGISLATION & CONSIDERATIONS

- ◁ Work Health and Safety Act 2011
- ◁ Australian smoke free legislation (state/territory specific) - www.tobaccoinaustralia.org.au/chapter-15-smokefree-environment/15-7-legislation
- ◁ Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010
- ◁ Education and Care Services National Regulations

SOURCES

- ◁ ACECQA's Guide to the National Quality Framework
- ◁ NSW Health – www.health.nsw.gov.au/tobacco/Pages/default.aspx
- ◁ Centre for Community Child Health – www.rch.org.au/ccch
- ◁ Cancer Council Australia – www.cancer.org.au
- ◁ Cancer Council of NSW – www.cancercouncil.com.au

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