

Governance Policy

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QA6	6.1.1	Engagement with the service - Families are supported from enrolment to be involved in the service and contribute to service decisions
	6.1.2	Parent views are respected - The expertise, culture, values and beliefs of families are respected and families share in decision-making about their child's learning and wellbeing.

QA7	7.1.1	Service philosophy and purpose - A statement of philosophy guides all aspects of the service's operations.
	7.1.2	Management systems - Systems are in place to manage risk and enable the effective management and operation of a quality service.
	7.1.3	Roles and responsibilities - Roles and responsibilities are clearly defined, and understood, and support effective decision-making and operation of the service.
	7.2.1	Continuous improvement - There is an effective self-assessment and quality improvement process in place.

National Regulations

Reg	168	Education and care services must have policies and procedures
	177	Prescribed enrolment and other documents to be kept by approved provider
	181	Confidentiality of records kept by approved provider
	181-184	Confidentiality and storage of records

Aim

Our service will meet its legal and financial obligations by implementing appropriate governance practices that support our aim to provide high quality child care that meets the objectives and principles of the National Quality Framework, the National Quality Standard and the Early Years Learning Framework.

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Related Policies

Privacy and Confidentiality Policy
National Quality Framework Policy
Record Keeping and Retention Policy
Staff Arrangements Policy

Implementation

Service Structure

Our service has the following organisational structure.

The Approved Provider is: South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools (SACCS)

- The approved provider has a range of responsibilities prescribed in the Education and Care Services National Law and Regulations, including keeping accurate records and retaining them for specified timeframes.

Our approved provider is also responsible for:

- ensuring the financial viability of the service
- overseeing control and accountability systems
- supporting the Nominated Supervisor / responsible person/Certified Supervisors in their role and providing resources as appropriate for the effective running of the service.

Our Nominated Supervisor is: Mr Kerry White

The Nominated Supervisor is responsible for the day to day management of our service and has a range of responsibilities prescribed in the national law and regulations.

Our Certified Supervisors are: Ms Joanne Allen, Mrs Moira Allen and Ms Minxi Chen

Our Educational Leader is: Mr Kerry White

Commitment to good governance

Our service has adopted the following eight ASX Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations, which we recognise as suitable for our business

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Lay solid foundations for management and oversight.

Management Principles

To ensure our working relationships are characterised by open and respectful communication, accountability and trust our service adheres to the following management principles.

A. Management by Agreement

Nominated Supervisors and educators agree to produce outcomes together. Educators agree on their accountabilities and to work according to existing procedures and policies. Nominated Supervisors agree to provide educators with training, resources and support.

B. Management by Exception

Once a system is in place or the Nominated Supervisor and educators have agreed upon a course of action, the educator is accountable for identifying and reporting whenever something significant occurs that isn't part of the plan.

C. Clearly Defined Reporting Relationships

Everyone in the Service has only one primary manager. This reduces confusion and increase accountability and transparency.

Information, requests, or delegations that would cause our educators/staff to take action or change the course of their actions will only come from the person to whom they report.

Our reporting relationships are:

- The Nominated Supervisor reports to the Approved Provider.
- The Certified Supervisor in day to day charge of the service reports to the Nominated Supervisor.

D. Guidelines for Effective Delegation

Our service will:

- identify the work/result to delegate and to whom Educators/staff will not delegate responsibilities for which they are accountable or work/results that have been delegated to them with their agreement or work/results attached to someone else's position (unless that person has agreed).
- put the delegation in writing with a clear due date
- discuss the delegation with the educator/staff member whenever possible
- get the educator/staff member's agreement, for example through signed job descriptions, signed delegation agreements.

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The person who delegates remains accountable for making sure the right result is achieved.

E. Guidelines for Effective Regulation

Regulating work means monitoring, reviewing, and adjusting it to get the right result.

Our service will:

- regularly review the work process
- give quick, clear, and direct feedback and instruction that is timely and specific
- communicate in writing
- avoid under-regulating, over-regulating and unnecessary meetings.

1. Structure the board/partnership/association/management team to add value

To comply with these principles to the best of our ability and to ensure we can discuss issues and (potential) changes to policies, procedures or the regulatory environment, we will schedule regular communication between all members of our management team through meetings, phone communication including SMS messaging, a communication book, written communication such as letters, notices, and electronic communication including email.

2. Promote ethical and responsible decision-making

Our service will make decisions which are consistent with our policies, our obligations and requirements under the national education and care law and regulations, our approved learning framework (EYLF) and the ethical standards in our code of conduct.

3. Safeguard integrity in financial reporting

Our financial records will be completed by the Bursar and reviewed by an independent auditor.

4. Make timely and balanced disclosure

Unless there is a risk to the health, safety or wellbeing of a child enrolled at the service, our service will provide at least 14 days notice before making any change to a policy/procedure that may have a significant impact on our provision of education and care or a family’s ability to utilise our service, including making any change that will affect the fees charged or the way fees are collected.

Our service will also:

- advise the regulatory authority of any required notifications including any change to the person designated as the Nominated Supervisor no later than 14 days after the change
- develop a Quality Improvement Plan that is completed regularly, available on request and ready for submission to the Regulatory Authority when requested.

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5. Respect the rights of shareholders, parents, children

Our service will support and encourage the involvement of parents and families by:

- developing and implementing plans to ensure regular communication with families including advice about events, activities and policy updates
- enabling them to have access and provide input to reviews of policies and procedures
- providing space for private consultations
- providing and displaying a range of information about relevant issues
- ensuring we follow all policies and procedures including the Parental interaction and Involvement Policy and Privacy and Confidentiality Policy.

Our service will respect the rights of children by ensuring:

- the Nominated Supervisor complies with their responsibilities under the national law and regulations
- we follow our policies and procedures including the Relationships with Children Policy, Child Protection Policy and Privacy and Confidentiality Policy.
- our children are provided with the experiences and learning which allows them to develop their identities, wellbeing and social connection.

6. Recognise and manage risk

Our service will take every reasonable precaution to protect children from harm and any hazard likely to cause injury. We will follow service policies including those covering Workplace Health and Safety, Child Protection, Excursions and the Delivery and Collection of Children and complete regular risk assessments and safety checks.

7. Remunerate fairly and responsibly

Sources

Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011

National Quality Standard

Early Years Learning Framework

Family Assistance Law

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Review

The policy will be reviewed annually.

The review will be conducted by:

- Management
- Employees
- Families
- Interested Parties

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