



NARNIA EARLY LEARNING

ACN 002 919 584

(Administered by St. Philip's Christian Education Foundation Ltd.)

ENROLMENT AND ORIENTATION POLICY NARNIA YOUNG PARENTS EARLY LEARNING CENTRE - WARATAH

Introduction:

Enrolment and orientation procedures form the foundation for strong relationships between families and early education and care settings and promote a quality experience of education and care for children.

Aim:

- Enrolment and orientation processes are planned and implemented.
- Documentation, including authorisations, are completed during the enrolment and orientation process.
- A thoughtful process is planned in consultation with families, to welcome a child and family to the education and care service.

Explanation:

Narnia Young Parents Early Learning Centre Waratah has 2 learning areas. Lucy's Room (0-2 years) and The Great Woods (2-5 years).

Implementation:

Pre-enrolment orientation

Narnia Young Parents Early Learning Centre Waratah welcomes visits from prospective families and children. Narnia Young Parents Early Learning Centre also caters for families attending Dale Young Parents School as well as the Hub Short Courses. The Nominated Supervisor (Centre Director) or Administration Officer may provide the visiting family with a tour of the service environment and information that may include:

- service philosophy;
- approaches to documentation, curriculum and planning;
- introduction to educators and staff;
- the physical environment;
- administrative matters, cost and fee payment methods;
- how to provide feedback.

Next steps

Following a pre-enrolment orientation and consideration of access guidelines and availability of a position, the child/ren may be offered a position at the centre. Positions are filled in accordance with Priority of Access Guidelines.

The family will be asked to accept the offer of the position **in writing**.

Enrolment

The Administration officer will conduct an enrolment process following the acceptance of an offer. An enrolment package will be given to the family and will include:

- An enrolment form-that includes authorisations;
- Current fee structure and payment details including CCS information;
- Access to policies including, but not limited to, those required under Regulation 168;

During the enrolment interview a process of orientation will be planned in collaboration with families to provide the best possible start for the child at the service.

Families will provide the following, prior to the agreed start date for the child:

- A completed enrolment form including authorisations;
- Current Immunisation records;

- Birth Certificate;
- Current contact information for parents and emergency contacts;
- Information on children's additional needs (including medical conditions, health and developmental concerns).
- Court Orders, Parenting Orders or Plans. Court Orders relating to child's residence or contact with a parent or other person.
- The child and one parent's Centrelink CRN including evidence of application for CCS/ACCS
- The primary CRN holder will be required to sign a complying written agreement (CWA) on enrolment.

This information will be kept at the service premises in accordance with service policies and the *Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011*.

Prior to formally commencing at the service:

1. Prior to the child's first day educators and staff will familiarise themselves with information about the child from the enrolment information provided. They will ensure they are aware of any medical conditions and how to manage them if required.
2. The Nominated Supervisor (Centre Director) or Administration Officer will inform the educators and staff of the intended time for any pre-commencement orientation visits.
3. A family member will remain on the premises during these orientation visits. The family must sign the visitors book/register on arrival and when they leave. The child cannot be left at the service until they have formally commenced at the service and are therefore not included in the ratios.
4. During the orientation process educators and staff will interact with the child and actively encourage them to engage in the service program and activities. They will also be available to the family to answer any questions they may have, whilst ensuring they are not compromising the supervision of other children or required ratios.

Upon commencement

On the child's first day of attendance educators and staff will welcome the family and the child, ensuring that there is a space ready for the child's belongings. Educators will reassure the family and assist with separation if required. Throughout the day, educators welcome phone contact with the family to let them know how their child is settling.

When first placing your children in childcare, we understand that parents may feel anxious about leaving their child in the care of someone else. The staff at Narnia YP Early Learning Centre are here to help and support the parents and children throughout this time.

Parents are also invited to an information afternoon which explains the program, philosophy, the child's requirements and tips for settling children into the environment.

Families who start mid-year particularly or where children are having difficulty separating are encouraged to gradually settle their children into the Centre. Often children will settle into a new environment easier if they start with short stays, and build up to whole days. This can be done in a number of ways.

We are flexible and happy to tailor the settling in process to the needs of the child and parents.

Our orientation procedures enable children and parents to become familiar with the Centre staff, and to discuss the child's individual needs and routines.

Parents are welcome to telephone during the day to check on their child's progress.

Evaluation

Successful orientation and enrolment procedures promote smooth transitions between home and service.

This policy links to the following:

National Quality Standards: 4.2, 6.1.1, 6.1.2, 6.1.3, 7.3

Education and Care Service National Regulations 2011: 160-162, 177, 183

Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010

Privacy Act 1988

Health Records and Information Privacy Act 2002 (NSW)

Family Assistance Law: www.dss.gov.au