

ARMIDALE OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE

Interactions with Children Policy

Related documentation Policies: Regulations/ Standards: Related procedures: References:	Code of Conduct, Interactions with Children. Providing a Child Safe Environment, Positive Behaviour management Policy, Safe Use of Digital Technologies and Online Environments Education and Care Regulations 73,84, 115, 117A, 155, 156, 6, 166, 168, 169, NQS: Areas 1, 5 & 6 Confidentiality, Management of Records, Photo and Camera Belonging, Being and Becoming: The Early Years Learning Frameworks for Australia. Early Childhood Australia Code of Ethics, SNAICC www.snaicc.org.au , Gowrie NSW Inclusion Agency & K.U Children's Services Inclusion Support Agency ACECQA Research & Resources
Date Effective:	November 2025
Date for review	November 2028
Purpose	We recognise the importance of respectful and positive relationships that children have with each other and with Educators, and we encourage a child-centred approach that promotes self-expression, self-reliance and self-esteem, and maintains each child's dignity and rights. We are committed to meeting our regulatory requirements in relation to interactions with children.
Responsibility	Directors, Management, Nominated Supervisors and Educators

Key information:

Armidale Out of School Hours Care will provide an environment that reflects the principles of *My Time, Our Place* where the development of secure and reciprocal relationships with children are fostered and encouraged and genuine respect for diversity and a commitment to equity is reflected in our interactions with children.

We will endeavour through our interactions with children to nurture their optimism, happiness and sense of fun and we will aim to recognise and respond to barriers which may impact on children achieving a positive sense of identity.

Management, Nominated Supervisors and Educators will display positive behaviours, while setting clear boundaries regarding safety, respect for others and procedures for creating a caring environment.

Aboriginal, South Sea Islander and Torres Strait Islander Perspectives:

We acknowledge the loss of family, cultural identity, land, language and community of Aboriginal, South Sea Islander and Torres Strait Islander (people) and our Board of Directors, management and staff are committed to providing an inclusive environment as well as culturally appropriate resources into our programmes.

Procedures:

Nominated Supervisors and Educators will:

- Encourage the children to express themselves and their opinions.
- Allows the children to undertake experiences that develop self-reliance and self-esteem
- Maintains at all times the dignity and rights of each child
- Give each child positive guidance and encouragement toward acceptable behaviour
- Have regard to the family and cultural values, age, and physical and intellectual development and abilities of each child at the service
- Ensure children have opportunities to interact and develop respectful and positive relationships with each other and with Educators
- Sensitively manage children who have difficulty conveying their message or managing their emotions
- Ensure children understand what is being communicated to them during interactions and give them sufficient time to respond
- Collaborate with children regarding daily routines including programming of activities and experiences which cater to children's individual needs, interests and abilities.
- Be mindful when taking photographs. Photos should focus on the activities and learning experiences the children are engaged in, rather than simply capturing individual images of the children. Whenever possible, Educators should aim to take photos that do not include the children's faces.

Setting of Guidelines and Rules:

The Nominated Supervisors will:

- Develop a set of boundaries and guidelines that guide the behaviour of children in the service and provide clear expectations and consequences for inappropriate behaviour
- Keep guidelines and rules simple and only have a small number of concise guidelines that children understand
- Ensure that rules and guidelines are readily available within the service
- Ensure that guidelines and rules are clearly enunciated to families and children, along with consequences for inappropriate behaviour
- Ensure that Educators enforce guidelines and rules consistently at all times and that consequences are relevant to individual situations and not demeaning.

Exclusion of Children for Unacceptable Behaviour:

Should a child demonstrate unacceptable behaviour consistently, the Nominated Supervisor will proceed with procedures outlined in the Positive Behaviour Management Policy, which all families have acknowledged and signed at the time of enrolment.