

**NUMDAJI KWEI CHILDREN'S  
CENTRE  
(CO-OPERATIVE LTD)**

(Pronounced Num-a-jee Kwy)

# ***Policy Handbook***



**N**umdaji **K**wei **C**hildren's **C**entre

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## **Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre Governance and Management**

Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre is a registered Co-operative. The Centre is governed by a Board of Management which comprises of 6 parent representatives who meet monthly to discuss the running of the centre. A current membership list is displayed in the foyer.

The Director of the Centre reports to the Board of Management and is the responsible nominated supervisor and is in charge of the day to day and management of the Centre.

Each month a staff member attends the Board meeting as a staff representative.

All co-operative members are welcomed to attend Board of Management meetings.

All minutes are displayed for co-operative members to view.

Elections for Board members occur at the Annual General Meeting.

The centre adheres to rules and regulations from the following organisations:

Education and Care Services National Regulations 2012

Education and Care Services National Law Act 2012.

Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority

Consumer Affairs

DET

Children's Services Modern Award 2010

### **Rules (Constitution) of the Co-operative**

A copy of the Rules of the Co-operative is available from the office. The Rules set out the regulations which govern the operations of the organisation as a registered co-operative. They provide important information on the procedures for elections to the Board of Management, General Meetings and other procedures for major decision-making within the Cooperative.

### **Determining the Responsible Person Present.**

The Centre Director holds the title of Nominated Supervisor and is the responsible person in charge when at the service.

The Second-in-Charge is also a Nominated Supervisor and in the event of the Director being absent the 2IC becomes the responsible person in charge.

The Nominated Supervisor will appoint a day to day responsible person in charge in their absence and the absence of the 2IC.

During opening and closing where the Director & 2IC is not at the centre the most experienced and qualified educator on the late shift (9:03am – 6:00pm) will be appointed as the responsible person. A record of the responsible person is also kept in the office within the sign in and out folder.

A notice in the foyer will have the name of the current person in charge of the centre.

Please contact the coordinator or a member of the board (via the office) with any queries regarding employment and training of staff.

### **Confidentiality of Records**

Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre respects the privacy of families, staff and students. Information about individual children and their families is only discussed with centre personal and any relevant government bodies. All discussions relating to individual children and their families by educators or board members will be on a confidential and professional basis.

All personal written information is stored in a locked filing cabinet in the office. All centre computers can only be accessed by staff with passwords.

**All records are kept in accordance with Education and Care Services National Regulations and Education and Care Services National Law Act 2012.**

Date: Feb 2022

Review: Jan 2023

Sourced – Education and Care Services National Regulations, Education and Care Services National Law Act 2012.

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## **Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre Enrolment and Orientation Policy**

Before children are placed on the Centre's waiting list, parents must come and visit the Centre to ensure it's the right setting for their child.

Once a child has received a position at the centre parents will meet with the Director to receive all the relevant documentation through an enrolment pack, as well as discussing any special requirement their child may require. All forms must be completed and returned before their child can start at the centre.

The centre requires the family to attend 3 orientation visits prior to the child starting, this involves a parent and child spending time in the room for ½ an hour to 1 hour. However, families are welcome to visit more often prior to commencement if this helps them to feel more comfortable with the room, the staff, and the routines.

During these visits educators and parents will discuss the child's interest, needs and room routines.

Orientation visits are arranged with room Educators and made at times suitable to the family and the centre. There is no fee for orientation visits.

Two full weeks notice is required when a child finishes at the centre or wishes to make changes to their permanent days. This must be provided to the centre in writing.

Date: Feb 2022

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Sourced: Education and Care Services National Regulations, Education and Care Services National Law Act 2012.

## Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre Fee Payment Policy

All new families are to provide the Centre with a parent and child customer reference number and date of birth. This will be added to the computer system and assist the Centre with receive the families CCR.

Each week families will receive an invoice from the Centre, the parents must pay this invoice within the fortnight. If parents wish to pay monthly, they may do so but must be paid a month in advance not a month behind.

Parents can pay their fees by Direct Deposit

Parents will be charged a late fee if they are later then 6.00pm to collect their child please refer to late fee policy for further information

### **IMPORTANT**

It is important that your fee payments are up to date. If fees remain unpaid after 2 weeks a reminder notice will be issued to parents. Parents then have 5 business days to make payments or negotiate a payment agreement with the Director. If neither option is acted upon, the child's place will be cancelled. A debt collection agency will be employed to recover outstanding fees.

### **Absences & Holidays**

- Fees are charged for any holidays or sick days that your child is absent.
- CCR applies for up to 42 allowable absent days.
- Fees are charged for all public holidays.
- Fees will not be charged when the Centre closes for approximately 3-4 weeks over the Christmas holiday period. Families are notified in November of the exact dates of closure.
- Parents who wish to give two weeks-notice to the centre, must be advised that if their child does not attend during this time, they will be charged full fee and placed as cessation. The centre cannot claim CCR after your child's last physical day in care.

The FAO can provide further details for families regarding absences and fee assistance.

### **Enrolment / Maintenance Levy**

Each family will be charged an enrolment fee of \$50.00 at the conclusion of each year. The \$50.00 deposit will then be used as your maintenance levy. All new families will be charged a maintenance levy of \$50.00 to be paid at the commencement of care. If a parent attends a working bee, they will receive their \$50.00 back through the fees

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## Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre Delivery and Collection of Children

### **Delivery**

The centre opens at 7.45am, all children must be signed in by a parent or authorised nominee and left in the care of an educator.

### **Collection**

Educators will ensure that children only leave the centre with:

- A parent
- An authorised nominee named on the enrolment form
- Or a person authorised by the parent or authorised nominee named on the enrolment form

In an emergency/ emergency evacuation, children may be removed from the centre by educators or emergency services.

The child may be removed from the centre for an excursion only with written permission from parents.

Any parent prohibited by a court order from having contact with the child, will not be allowed in the centre

### **Policy and Procedure for Children at the Centre after 6.00 p.m.**

The Centre closes each night at 6.00 p.m. If a child is still at the Centre at closing time, the two late-shift staff are to remain.

A fee of \$2.00 per minute is charged to families for a child being collected after 6.00 p.m.

- At **6.10 p.m.** educators are to phone parents.
- If no response try again at **6.15 p.m.**

#### **If educators are unable to contact parents then:**

- At **6.20 p.m.** staff are to phone the emergency contacts as per the child's enrolment form.

#### **If there is no response:**

- Educators are to continue phoning parents and emergency contacts at five minute intervals.
- Educators are to record and initial the times of each call and the number called.
- At **6.45 p.m.** educators are to contact the director and a board member.
- At **7.00 p.m.** if parents or emergency contacts have not responded, educators are to contact Mill Park Police on 9407 3333.
- The police worker must present I.D. and complete their name and signature in the attendance book.
- Educators must attach a notice to the outside of the door (if requested by the police officer) in the event that parents arrive after the police have collected the child. The note should inform parents that their child is now with the police and a contact phone number of the police station.

Date: Feb 2022

Review: Jan 2023

*Sourced – Department of Education & Training*

## **Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre Code of Conduct for Families**

The Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre Code of Conduct establishes the acceptable behaviours and responsibilities expected of all families.

- All families of Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre are to respect the privacy of all educators.
- Families are to speak appropriately at all times when in the presence of children, educators and other families.
- All families of Numdaji Kwei must respect and treat all children, educators and families equally and not discriminate in any way.
- No bullying or aggressive behaviour will be tolerated at the Centre in any way.
- All families must follow the Conflict and Grievance policy when addressing any issues or concerns at the Centre.
- All Centre policies must be followed by families.

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Review: Jan 2023



## **Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre Refusal and Acceptance of Authorisations**

There will be circumstances at the centre where written or verbal authorisation will be required by educators from the children's parents/ authorised nominee stated on child's enrolment form.

Medications – All prescription medication (excluding Action Plan Medicines) must be written on the medication form by a parent or medical authorised nominee as stated on enrolment form.

If a child becomes unwell while in care a parent or medical authorised nominee may give verbal authorisation over the phone for Panadol to be administered. Two staff must witness the verbal authorisation.

Collection- Parent or authorised nominee must sign in and out on the iPad with the Qik Kids System. Parents or authorised nominees must be entering their own mobile number with their own pin to sign the child out.

A parent may give verbal authorisation in regards to collection of the child.

Excursions – Written authorisation must be obtained on an excursion permission form from the child's parent or person authorised to give permission on the child's enrolment form. Verbal authorisations will not be allowed under any circumstances.

In the event of an emergency the centre will be guided in their actions by emergency services.

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Sourced: Children Services Regulations & Act 2012, ACECQA

**Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre  
Conflict and Grievance Procedure for Families**

**Concerns and complaints**

It is important to have an effective line of communication between families and staff, the following procedures for handling concerns, grievances or issues aim to promote a positive and systematic approach to resolving family grievances.

- If a parent has a concern they are encouraged to make a suitable time to discuss it with the staff member/s concerned;
- Staff are to notify the Director of the parent request to discuss concerns;
- The Director will make arrangements for the parties concerned to discuss the issues with a view to reaching a mutually acceptable resolution. A time line for the issue to be resolved will be discussed;
- If the issue requires the Director to become involved a meeting can be scheduled for further discussion;
- If a resolution is not reached, parents can also contact the approved provider. Details are displayed in the centre foyer.
- The grievance will be discussed by the Board of Management;
- The board of management will discuss the outcomes with the staff and parents involved.
- Any parent complaint alleging that the safety, health and wellbeing of a child was or is being compromised, will be notified to the DET by the Director.

All family concerns are to be documented.

Minutes are to be taken at all meetings with all outcomes or further discussion topics noted.

Date: Feb 2022

Review: Jan 2023

Sourced –Education and Care Services National Regulations

## Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre Behaviour Guidance Policy

Respect for children and families is a high priority at Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre and the Centre acknowledges and supports the diverse child rearing practices of families.

At Numdaji Kwei, educators guide children's behavior to ensure that they do not harm themselves, other children or adults, or damage the environment.

Children are seen as individuals and educators guide the children's behavior accordingly.

### **They do this with positive encouragement, directing the child toward acceptable behaviours, for example:**

- Suggest and remind them of alternative acceptable behavior;
- Communicate with the child and allow them to express what the acceptable behavior is.
- Re-direct children to other activities;
- Talk with the children about feelings and consequences;
- Reinforce limits and praise co-operative behaviour;
- Focus on the inappropriate behaviour and not on the individual
- Use positive responses.

Behaviour guidance and management strategies are framed in positive language to enhance the child's self esteem, encouraging children to believe that acceptance does not depend upon their behaviour.

### **The environment is arranged to minimise challenging behaviours, for example;**

- Providing adequate toys/equipment and stimulating experiences;
- Supervising activities adequately;
- Providing developmentally appropriate activities;
- Providing a balance of quiet and active spaces for both indoor and outdoor play.

The older children are involved in the development of guidelines within their group, as children who are actively involved in rule setting are more likely to understand what acceptable behaviour is.

Parents are encouraged to provide suggestions for guidance strategies for their child and to discuss their child's behaviour with staff at any time.

The Centre utilises the skills of Community Childcare's Inclusion Support Program (ISP) to support staff, children and their families and provide suggestions for strategies and program modification.

Educators attend regular training to reinforce effective and respectful behaviour guidance techniques.

Tip sheets and books that are available and/or displayed in the parent library promote positive behavior guidance of children.

Parenting sessions are also made available to parents via support groups in the Northern Region. Notices of these sessions are posted on the community board and in the training calendar provided by the City of Whittlesea, which is also displayed.

*Date: Feb 2022*

*Review: Jan 2023*

*Sourced – City of Whittlesea & Community Childcare*

## How to recognise child abuse

Behavioural or physical signs which assist in recognising child abuse are known as indicators. **The presence of a single indicator does not necessarily indicate that a child has been abused.** The repeated occurrence of one indicator or the presence of several indicators raises the possibility that a child may be experiencing abuse.

A child's behaviour is likely to be affected if he/she is under stress. There can be many causes of stress, including child abuse, and it is important to find out specifically what maybe causing the stress.

### Promoting the Child Safe standards is paramount

#### Child Grooming

Child Grooming is befriending and establishing an emotional connection with a child, and sometimes the family, to lower the child's inhibitions with the objective of sexual abuse.

#### Child Grooming Indicators include:

- Spending special time with a child
- Giving gifts to a child
- Showing special favours to one child but not others
- Allowing the child to step out of boundaries or rules
- Testing and breaking professional boundaries

#### Physical abuse

##### *Unexplained Physical indicators include:*

- Bruises, burns, sprains, dislocations, bites, cuts;
- Fractured bones, especially in an infant where a fracture is unlikely to occur accidentally;

##### *Behavioural indicators include:*

- Showing wariness or distrust of adults;
- Wearing long sleeved clothing on hot days (to hide bruising or other injuries);
- Demonstrating fear of parents and of going home;
- Being excessively friendly to strangers; and
- Being very passive and compliant.

#### Sexual abuse

##### *Physical indicators include:*

Sexual abuse is not usually identified through physical indicators. Often the first sign is when a child tells someone they trust that they have been sexually abused. However, the presence of a sexually transmitted disease or vaginal or anal bleeding may indicate sexual abuse.

##### *Behavioural indicators include:*

- A child telling someone that sexual abuse has occurred;
- Complaining of headaches or stomach pains;
- Displaying sexual behaviour or knowledge which is unusual for the child's age;
- Experiencing difficulties in sleeping;
- Showing behaviour such as frequent rocking, sucking and biting;
- Having difficulties in relating to adults and peers;
- Inconsistent or improbable explanations for physical indicators
- Fear of specific person

## **Neglect**

### ***Physical indicators include:***

- Frequent hunger;
- Malnutrition;
- Poor hygiene;
- Inappropriate clothing eg. summer clothes in winter;
- Left unsupervised for long periods;
- Medical needs not attended to;
- Abandoned by parents.

### ***Behavioural indicators include:***

- Stealing food;
- Staying at daycare outside day care hours;
- Often being tired, falling asleep at unusual times of the day;
- Displaying an aggressive behaviour.

## **Family Violence**

### **Behaviour towards a family member that may include:**

- Physical violence or threats of violence
- Verbal abuse, including threats
- Emotional or psychological abuse
- Sexual Abuse
- Financial and Social Abuse

A child's exposure to family violence constitutes child abuse

## **Racial, Cultural, Religious**

- This is conduct that demonstrates contempt, ridicule, hatred or negativity towards a child because of their race, culture or religion -whether it be overt or covert.

Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre promotes the following principles:

- **Promoting the cultural safety of children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds by:**
  - ✓ A zero tolerance to discrimination
  - ✓ Respect, include and welcome families from a range of backgrounds
  - ✓ Recognising times of importance to different cultures (Calendar of Events)
  - ✓ Physical environment has positive images of a range of cultures (decoration/art work)
  - ✓ Employing staff that represent our local community
  - ✓ Actively talking to families about how they would like to be involved
  - ✓ Asking about the best way to provide information to children and families
- **Promoting the cultural safety of Aboriginal Children by:**
  - ✓ Creating a physical environment that is respectful of Aboriginal culture through symbols and images that surround the centre this includes Acknowledgement of country, posters, children's resources- including books, programs and through the centre philosophy.

- **Promoting the safety of children with disability by:**
- ✓ Acknowledging that children with disability are particularly vulnerable and ensure your risk assessment process considers their needs
- ✓ A zero tolerance to discrimination actively welcomes all children
- ✓ Making sure the environment does not pose access difficulties
- ✓ Being responsive to families regarding specific measures that may be required to ensure the safe participation of a child with disability
- ✓ Supporting our staff, other children and their families to understand and be inclusive of people with disability
- ✓ Encourage participation and feedback from children with a disability and their families

### **Procedures for Reporting Abuse**

***All staff must ensure that child/family respect and confidentiality is maintained at all times.***

#### ***Childcare co-worker and any other personnel***

If you are presented with any of the above mentioned indicators it is to be referred directly to your room leader or person in charge.

If you have any concerns or issues relating to individual children and this subject, discuss them with your room leader or the person in charge.

#### ***Childcare team leaders***

If presented with, or attention has been drawn to a child with any of the above mentioned indicators:

- The date, time and description of the indicator are to be placed on the child's records and the record is to be checked for any other reports of indicators;
- The director is to be informed, at which time she/he will request the child's records.

#### ***The director***

- Will check the child's records for any other reports or indicators;
- Will discuss the written observations maintained on the child with the childcare team leader;
- Will determine from the above two procedures whether to continue to observe for a further period or report the matter to the Child Protection or Child First.

When reporting an incident of child abuse based on **reasonable grounds**, the director must make contact with the Department of Education and Training and speak with a child protection service worker.

The following details must be provided at the time of making a report:

- The child's name, age, address and present location;
- The reasons for the report (as factual and specific as possible);
- The names of professionals or agencies known to be involved with the family;
- The best time to find the family at home;
- Whether the family knows a report is being made.

Seek assistance/advice from the Child Protection Unit on family support/management  
The board of management must be informed of the report.

## **Reportable Conduct Scheme**

Any reports made against employees, volunteers and contractors where allegations of sexual offences, sexual misconduct, physical violence, behavior that causes significant emotional or psychological harm, and significant neglect the following steps must be taken:

- Notifying the Centre Director as soon as allegations are made. If Centre Director is not available, 2IC must be notified.
- Centre Director will then investigate and notify the Commission for Children and Young People within 3 days of any allegations.
- All employees and volunteers that the allegations are made about will be stood down until investigation is complete and outcome is established.
- If allegations are against Centre Director/2IC educators and volunteers must notify the Board of Management who will then investigate and notify the Commission for Children and Young People within 3 days of any allegations.
- Educators and volunteers are at any time able to make their own report to the Commission for Children and Young People if they feel they have not been heard and allegations are not being investigated.

## **Assessing Potential staff**

When recruiting potential staff, Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre interview potential staff with a panel of people that include the centre director, second in charge and a board representative. Throughout the interview process panel members ask a series of questions that will gauge their motivation, experience/qualifications, communication skills and values.

Reference checks are undertaken by a panel member as well as a working with children check obtained from the successful candidate prior to commencing their work at the centre.

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Review: Jan 2023

Sourced – Child Protection Services, A guide for creating a child safe organization, Child Wise, Commission for Children and Young People (CCYP)

# Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre

## Healthy Eating and Active Play Policy

### Purpose

Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre recognises the role that good nutrition plays in promoting health and wellbeing in all children.

### This policy confirms our commitment to:

- Encourage children to make healthy food and drink choices
- Promote the importance of a healthy lifestyle, which includes being physically active.

As a health promoting service we will promote healthy eating and active play to children, educators, staff and families through learning, policies, creating a safe and healthy physical and social environment and developing community links and partnerships.

### HEALTHY EATING

The Centre employs a full time cook who also assists as needed in the children's rooms and prepares 3 meals daily:

Morning snack: 9.30 – 10.00 a.m.

Lunch: 11.00-11.30 a.m.

Afternoon tea: 3.30 - 3.45p.m.

Parents are not required to provide any meals for their child/ren as all meals are cooked and prepared by the centre. Educators, staff, families and children are active participants in the development and implementation of the whole service Health and Wellbeing policy and are provided with information about policy requirements.

The Centre is registered with the City of Whittlesea as a food premises. A certificate is displayed. The centre adheres to a comprehensive Food Safety Program (available from the office) which is independently audited each year and submitted to the council.

We value the opportunities that mealtimes provide for children's learning, socialising and experimenting.

### Healthy physical environment

- Children are offered a variety of new foods regularly including different colours, textures, flavours and aromas.
- Children are encouraged to taste all foods offered to them, however never forced to finish their meals. Seconds are offered to all children.
- An alternative option can be provided for a child that has refused both courses offered.
- The weekly menu is displayed on a board near the kitchen. Please speak to our cook or to educators with any suggestions. We would welcome your favourite recipes and any culturally diverse family favourite menu ideas.
- Water is made available for the children at all meal times and during the day.
- A water jug and cups are provided for children both indoors and outdoors in the 2-3 room and 3-5 room. The 0-2 room provides drink bottles/sippy cups for the children to access during the day.
- Milk is also available at morning tea.
- Sweetened drinks including fruit juices are not offered to children.
- Fruit and vegetables are served daily.
- Menus do not promote foods that are high in fat, salt or sugar. 'Sometimes' foods such as chips, chocolates, lollies, muesli and fruit bars are not provided in any meals or snacks at the centre.
- Cooking and food experiences provided in the service focus on healthy food options and promote fruit and vegetables.
- Foods are provided which are culturally appropriate, varied and meet the children's developmental needs.
- Staff and educators are supported by having healthy food options in the staff room, for staff meetings and for professional learning.



- The service seeks to ensure any sponsorship, advertisements or marketing of food and drinks are consistent with the service's healthy eating policy. Fundraising activities reflect the healthy eating policy and promote healthy lifestyle messages.

### **Healthy social environment**

- Breastfeeding at the service is welcomed and an appropriate comfortable space is provided for mothers to breastfeed or express milk.
- Educators and families recognise they are role models and are encouraged to bring foods and drinks in line with the service's healthy eating policy.
- Healthy body image and an enjoyment of eating are encouraged by the service.
- Food practices from diverse cultural backgrounds and traditional beliefs are respected and valued within this service.
- Children are encouraged to approach mealtimes as relaxed and enjoyable occasions.
- Educators sit with the children during mealtimes and encourage discussion about food and health. Children are encouraged to feed themselves as appropriate and assistance is given when required. Children are able to eat at their own pace.

### **Learning and skills**

- Educators and staff involve children in healthy food experiences through growing, cooking and shopping.
- Opportunities to learn about food and healthy eating are embedded in the educational program.
- Educators are supported to access a range of resources to increase their capacity to promote healthy eating initiatives for children.

### **Engaging children, educators, staff and families**

- Educators, staff, children and families are seen as key partners in promoting and supporting healthy eating initiatives in the service
- Please feel free to introduce yourself to the cook and discuss any special dietary requirements that your child may have. The director should be advised of any food allergies or specific dietary requirements that need to be catered for.
- Parents will be informed of their child's meals and quantities via discussion with staff and daily communication. Parents are encouraged to read the information attached to the menu notice board relating to healthy eating habits for young children.

### **Community partnerships**

- The service works with local health professionals, services and other organisations to support educators and staff to deliver and promote healthy eating initiatives.

### **Celebrations**

Sharing our birthdays is just one of our many ways we promote a sense of community and identity within our childhood setting.

One way that you can choose to celebrate your child's birthday is with a birthday cake. Have your choice of a carrot cake, Banana Cake or Apple Cake. Simply complete a 'Request for Birthday Cake Form' and then pay \$5.00 to the Office that will go towards the cake. A birthday cake request form is located near the kitchen. Please hand the form and money to the office. Families are welcome to join and contribute to the festivities, if children have siblings in another room we would love for them to join in too.

Be sure to check your child's portfolio to see and read about the festivities. We would also love to hear about any cultural festivities you may celebrate at home. Why not share it by completing a 'Partnership with families' form.

We do ask that you not provide lollies/sweets as these may not be appropriate for other children in the group.

- The Centre minimises the risk of anaphylaxis by not allowing any food brought into the centre from home. If you require any further information, please refer to our Anaphylaxis policy.

Nutrition and physical activity go hand in hand, in the health and welfare of all children.

## **PHYSICAL ACTIVITY**

The centre will ensure to promote physical activity in a number of ways:

### **Healthy physical environment**

- Children and families are encouraged to walk or ride to the centre
- The centre provides space for children to leave bikes if they ride/active travel equipment.

### **Healthy social environment**

As role models, educators, staff and families are encouraged to actively engage with children in active play and physical activity.

### **Learning and skills**

- Educators and staff involve children in planning for active play and physical activity experiences both indoors and outdoors.
- Child-initiated and adult-guided active play and physical activity experiences, which challenge and encourage children to explore, extend and test limits, are planned and provided on a daily basis as part of the educational plan.
- Staff routinely identify opportunities to engage children, educate and promote appropriate physical activity skills and active play.
- Educators are supported to access resources, tools and professional learning to enhance their knowledge and capacity to engage in adult-guided active play and physical activity with children.
- Educators will promote the importance of physical movement during discussion with the children.
- Music and movement is incorporated as part of the daily program in the rooms through age appropriate experiences.
- Road safety information is discussed with children in formal and informal discussions.

### **Engaging children, educators, staff and families**

- Educators, staff, children and families are key partners in developing a healthy and active physical environment.
- Educators and staff engage children in developing active play initiatives through discussions and idea sharing.
- Posters and books around the centre will promote physical activity for all the children.
- Information on physical movement will be provided to the families that utilise the service.
- Parents are provided with the opportunity to provide feedback about the program including physical activity experiences/physical environment

### **Community partnerships**

The service works with local health professionals, services and other organisations to increase educator and staff capacity to support children's physical development and active play initiatives. Information about community physical activity opportunities is made available to families through discussions, newsletters and visual displays, for example; promote information about local community clubs and walking groups.

*Date: Feb 2022*

*Review: Jan 2023*

*Sourced: Better Health Victoria [www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au](http://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au)*

*National Physical Activity Recommendations for Children (0-5 years)*

*Healthy Together Achievement Program*

## Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre Food Safety and Hygiene Policy

In order to ensure that food safety and hygiene practices are met throughout the centre:

- A cook holds a Food Safety Supervisor Certificate and staff hold Food Handlers Certificate.
- Staff will be given opportunities to undergo regular training on food safety and hygiene practices.
- Staff undergo Food Handlers Course.

All staff will adhere to the following procedures:

### **Personal Hygiene**

Personal hygiene is vital. Healthy people carry germs, therefore a care provider can spread germs from their body to the food they are preparing. It is therefore important to

**WASH YOUR HANDS** after:

- Using a handkerchief or touching your nose, mouth, ears, hair etc;
- Handling garbage;
- Touching nappies (despite wearing disposable gloves for nappies, washing hands is still necessary);
- Going to the toilet;
- Before and after preparing food.

You should not prepare any food if you are ill, and cuts should be covered with a blue coloured waterproof dressings as well as a glove.

### **When serving or preparing food**

- Ensure hair is tied back and hair clips and pins are minimal and secure;
- Jewellery is kept to a minimum as it can act as a reservoir for food borne pathogens or it may fall in the food;
- If Acrylic, gel, nail polish or any other type of artificial fingernails are worn then gloves must be worn at all times when serving food.
- Food handlers do not eat over unprotected food or while serving the food;
- Food is not blown on to cool it down for the children.

Hand washing is the easiest and most effective way to reduce the incidence of cross contamination and the transmission of infectious disease.

### **How to wash hands**

- Use warm running water and liquid soap;
- Wash palms and backs of hands;
- Wash between fingers;
- Wash under nails;
- Rinse hands well under running water;
- Dry hands with paper towel.

Most experts recommend each step of hand washing should take 10 seconds to be effective. Help children with their counting while washing their hands, as the more fun you make it, the longer they will stay interested and more effective the process.

Washing children's hands is as important as washing your own. Children must wash their hands:

- After using the bathroom;
- Before meals and snacks;
- After wiping their nose;
- After playing outside.

## **The staff will follow the following food safety procedures:**

Before starting any food preparation **WASH YOUR HANDS**

### **Surfaces**

- Wipe trolleys down before any food preparation begins;
- Use detergent and hot water to remove dirt from the surface;
- Rinse trolleys with hot water;
- Sanitise;
- Allow to dry.

### **Handling food**

- Wash fresh fruits and vegetables thoroughly, more than once before consumption;
- Use tongs or disposable gloves when handling food, and remember that using gloves is not a substitute for washing your hands;
- Inspect all utensils before use. Ensure they are visually clean and make sure children do not touch or play with them;
- DO NOT use utensils that fall on the floor; replace them with clean ones.

### **Cooked food**

- Never leave cooked food out for more than two hours;
- Cover cooked food with lids, foil or plastic to prevent contamination;
- Serve cooked food as soon as possible to retain core temperature;
- Ensure children use individual plates, cups and cutlery;
- Encourage children not to share;
- Use separate utensils for serving each dish of the meal;
- Any leftover food is to be disposed of.

### **Cleaning cloths**

- Wash dishcloths thoroughly every day and allow to dry;
- Use separate cloths for cleaning tables, trolleys, and the floor.

### **When cooking with children:**

Children love to cook. Cooking is a safe and enjoyable activity for children in childcare provided a few simple precautions are taken:

- Tie up long hair and encourage children not to play with hair, noses, ears etc;
- Wash all hands before starting;

### **Bottle safety for children under 12 months**

- Any leftover milk is to be thrown out and the bottle to be rinsed and washed in hot soapy water.
- Parents are advised to bring in a bottle with the correct measured water and formula in a separate container for staff to prepare.
- Cow's milk and soy milk is provided by the centre.
- Do not heat bottles of milk/ formula in the microwave as it creates hot spots in the milk.
- Always check the temperature of the milk before giving to the child.

### **Expressed Breast Milk (EBM)**

Only frozen EBM is allowed and defrosted in the fridge each day.

*Date: Jan 2022*

*Review: Feb 2023*

*Sourced – Environmental Health Department, City of Whittlesea*

## Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre Clothing policy

Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre is committed to ensuring all children have a day filled with learning and enjoyment. To do this, children need to feel physically comfortable.

Building healthy self-esteem is created partly through children being given the opportunities to dress and undress themselves with educators on hand to provide assistance when needed.

The following actions are taken to ensure that children are appropriately dressed indoors and outdoors and that opportunities for the children to work on building their self-esteem.

- Educators follow the sun protection policy when preparing children for outside play;
- Educators are patient with children while dressing and undressing and provide assistance and encouragement;
- Educators are respectful of cultural differences and preferences by all families;
- The Centre has a variety of clothing available for the children in the event of a weather change, toileting accident or messy play activities;
- Appropriate protection is provided for messy play experiences and long sleeve and sleeveless art smocks are provided;
- Educators follow the SIDS and Kids information (National SIDS Council of Australia) in relation to dressing for sleep;
- Educators discuss with families weather appropriate clothing to be provided for their child and information in term newsletters will be provided;
- Educators discuss the weather and appropriate clothing required in different weather situations with the children;
- All children are to wear sturdy enclosed toe shoes.

Date: Feb 2022

Review: Jan 2023

Sourced –, *Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre Sun Protection Policy, Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre Safe Comfortable Sleep/Rest Policy*

## Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre Dental Care Policy

The Centre is committed to good oral health and promotes healthy eating.

The dental care policy aims to:

- Raise awareness of the importance of dental care;
- Provide an environment for children to learn about dental care;
- Provide a set of guidelines and expectations to be followed by staff and management.

As a health promoting service we will promote the oral health of children, educators, staff and families through learning, policies, creating a safe and healthy physical and social environment and developing community links and partnerships.

### **Definition**

**Oral health:** Eating, speaking and socialising without discomfort or embarrassment.

### **Application**

- Educators, staff, families and children are active participants in the development and implementation of the whole service oral health policy and in oral health initiatives.

### **Educators and management are expected to:**

- Encourage and support the principles of healthy eating;
- Provide a weekly menu appropriate to children's growth and developmental needs;
- Provide a varied menu that considers cultural needs;
- Meet special dietary requirements with appropriate consultation with parents;
- Ensure water is readily available at all times;
- A dental and hygiene program is conducted at centre;
- Ensure families have the opportunity to contribute ideas to the weekly menu;
- Ensure that baby bottles only contain expressed milk, infant formula, milk or water;
- Ensure that babies are supervised during feeding times;
- Fresh fruit is served daily;
- Sometimes foods and drinks are only provided at some special occasions throughout the year – based on the yearly Events Calendar.
- If lollies or chocolates are provided by families for children as part of birthday celebrations, send them home for parents to offer them at their own discretion;
- Provide information to parents regarding the importance of good dental care;
- Initiate discussions and provide opportunities for children to learn about food, oral health and nutrition;
- As role models, educators and staff are encouraged to bring foods and drinks that are in line with the service's healthy eating and oral health policies;
- Educators are supported to access a range of resources to increase their capacity to promote oral health initiatives for children.

The service works with local health professionals, services and other organisations to support educators and staff to deliver and promote oral health initiatives.

*Date: Feb 2022*

*Review: Jan 2023*

*Sourced – Dental Health Services, Victoria - [www.dhvs.org.au](http://www.dhvs.org.au) and [Healthy Together Achievement Program](#)*

## **Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre Sun Smart Policy**

Educators and parents will work co-operatively to ensure the children, educators and visitors at the Centre receive a healthy balance of ultraviolet (UV) radiation. Little exposure to UV can lead to low Vitamin D levels, Vitamin D is essential for healthy bones, muscles and general health. Exposure to high UV levels can potentially cause skin damage.

The policy will apply throughout the year, however particular emphasis will be placed on Sun Smart strategies from the beginning of September to the end of April. It will also be implemented outside these dates when UV levels reach 3 and above.

### **Environment**

The centre provides large shaded areas through trees, shade sails and undercover areas.

Educators will reinforce the Sun Smart strategies daily by:

- Checking the SunSmart UV Alert Indicator before going outdoors. Particular care should be taken between September and end of April (10am-3pm) as UV levels reach their peak.
- Applying 30+ or higher, broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen to children and recording each application when UV is 3 or above.
- Applying sunscreen to children 20 minutes before going outside and reapplied every two hours if outdoors.
- Encouraging children from the age of 3 to apply their own sunscreen.
- Ensuring long sleeves and pants are worn if a child is not able to wear sunscreen if UV levels are 3 or above
- Ensuring children wear hats when UV levels are 3 or above
- Setting up activities in the shade when UV levels are 3 or above
- Collaborating with parents with regards to Sun Smart clothing for their children.
- Discussing sun smart practices with children, including encouraging self-application of sunscreen under supervision with the children (age appropriate).
- Encourage children to wear sunglasses while outside. (Optional)
- Parents may supply their own brand of 30+sunscreen or higher as desired
- Baby Room educators have an individually tailored checklist that includes Checking the temperature of the ground/fence/equipment prior to taking babies out to ensure it is safe to crawl on and use.

### **Personal protection**

The following rules apply to all educators attending the Centre:

- Staff will act as role models by wearing protective hats and clothing, using 30+ or higher sunscreen when UV levels are 3 or above. Educators may supply their own brand of sunscreen as desired.

Date: Feb 2022

Review: Jan 2023

Sourced – SunSmart Vic: [www.Sunsmart.com.au](http://www.Sunsmart.com.au)

## Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre Water Safety

Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre recognises the benefits gained by children engaged in safe water play activities. The centre believes that water play can be used to create a calm and relaxing experience, whilst fostering all areas of learning.

The safety and supervision of children when participating in water play is essential.

### **Centre Procedures:**

- The outdoor areas are checked each morning to ensure that no pools of water have formed on sandpit covers or equipment.
- Educators ensure water troughs or containers for water play are supervised by educators and are emptied onto garden areas after use.
- Encourage children to safely explore the properties of water while discussing water safety with children.
- Buckets used for general cleaning in the centre are emptied immediately after use. No buckets are left in play areas.
- Water containers and troughs are stored in a manner to prevent the inadvertent collection of water through natural causes such as rain.
- No boiling or hot drinks will be taken into the rooms.

At all times staff will be aware of the children's safety and health when playing with water.

Date: Feb 2022

Review: Jan 2023

Sourced: Kidsalive [www.kidsalive.com.au](http://www.kidsalive.com.au).



## **Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre Interactions with Children Policy**

At Numdaji Kwei we respect the importance of a child's sense of belonging, being and becoming. The educators build and maintain relationships with children through responsive and respectful interactions.

Educators create an inclusive environment in a way that:

- Encourages 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.
- Gives each child positive guidance and encouragement towards acceptable behaviour.
- Has regard to the family and cultural values, age and physical and intellectual development and abilities of each child being educated and cared for by the service.

### **Relationships in groups**

Educators will assist children's social development and peer relationships by:

- Role modeling positive interactions between themselves, and the children.
- Making children feel safe and secure in their environment.
- Allowing children to share ideas and make decision in group settings.
- Providing a program that promotes social interactions.
- The children are given guidance towards positive behaviours.
- Providing opportunities for group interactions that promote respectful and positive interactions between children and also children and educators.
- Promoting a program that allows for large and small group experiences/opportunities.

Date: Feb 2022

Review: Jan 2023

Sourced: Education and Care Services National Regulations, Early Years Learning Framework, Centre Philosophy

## Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre Inclusion Policy

Supporting children and their families in long day care programs provides many opportunities and challenges – for the child, the parents, other children in the group and staff. An inclusive philosophy welcomes any child – regardless of their family structure or circumstances, their ethnicity, gender, ability, health or religion – into the Centre and the planning and programs reflect and stimulate a child's abilities in all areas.

Inclusion is about creating a sense of belonging for all children, families and staff where diverse identities, experiences, skills and interests can be expressed and offered an opportunity to develop.

An 'abc' approach is a useful starting point when adopting an inclusive approach.

**Access for all children**

**Benefits to the child, the family and the service**

**Collaboration** – open communication between parents, staff, Inclusion Support Programs, specialists and other support services.

**Access** for all children is an integral component to ensure inclusion in early childhood programs. The program will support children's identification with the cultural and linguistic heritage of their families. The program will support all children with additional needs, and cater to all individual children.

**Benefits** of an inclusive centre are:

- To the child and their family– the Centre provides additional resources and learning opportunities and can serve as a link between parents and other support services. All children will be encouraged to maintain and develop their first language.
- To the other children in the group – they begin to extend their awareness and understanding of other children.
- To the program and educators – additional resources and ideas can be accessed and implemented in the program; extend educators knowledge through further development of their skills to plan effective programs for children with varying abilities, cultures, skills and interests; staff enhance their communication strategies with children and parents.

**Collaboration** with parents is vital in meeting the needs of each child and their family. An inclusive approach encourages and supports parent involvement in identifying and setting goals, program development and evaluation. Parents are the central component in the communication network between the Centre educators, Inclusion Support Programs, specialists and other support services.

Educators and families need to work together to fully understand the Centre's procedures, program expectations and child rearing practices in order to support each other in fostering the optimal development of each child.

*Date: Feb 2022*

*Review: Jan 2023*

*Sourced – Free Kindergarten Association (FKA)*

## **Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre Safe and Comfortable Sleep and Rest Policy**

Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre is dedicated to providing a safe and secure environment for all children during sleep/rest routines.

The staff respect the individual needs and routines of all children, and attempt to adhere to such routines as closely as possible.

When children are placed to sleep they should be made to feel comfortable. Clothing which may be too hot for the child during sleep should be removed. If the child is stressed and determined not to remove warmer clothing for sleep then they may not need to be covered with a blanket.

The centre follows the recommendation from the SIDS foundation.

### **To provide children with a safe and comfortable sleep environment:**

- Children's individual routines and needs are followed;
- Cots that meet Australian Safety Standards are used;
- Mattresses used are the correct size for the cot and not lifted or elevated;
- Individual linen is provided for the children and washed at the centre;
- Children are dressed in appropriate clothing for sleep time including times when they are being wrapped;
- A lightweight wrap either muslin or a light cotton sheet is used and children are wrapped from below the neck to avoid covering their faces;
- Children's faces remain uncovered at all times;
- Children are loosely wrapped to allow for hip flexion and chest wall expansion;
- Children are not overdressed when wrapped;
- Wrapping is discontinued when children can roll from their back to their tummy, as wrapping can prevent the child from turning back again;
- All bedclothes are securely tucked in and not loose;
- Children are placed on their back in the cot with their feet at the bottom of the cot;
- No pillows, doonas, cot bumpers or soft toys are placed in the cot with sleeping children;
- Comfort items may be offered and removed once the child is asleep once the child is over 7 months old;
- No soft toys are placed in the cot for children under 7 months;
- Children who sleep in a cot will be checked in 5 minute intervals;
- Children with comfort items are supervised until they fall asleep;
- Sleeping children are never left unsupervised;
- Quiet sleep music is provided to create a calm relaxed environment;
- Staff adapt to children's needs by providing opportunities for rest or sleep at different times of the day;
- Providing a safe and comfortable environment also applies to children who do not sleep, with a selection of quiet activities available for non-sleeping children;
- Staff and parents regularly discuss children's sleep routines and share any new information;
- Management ensures that current information on safe sleeping is available for parents;
- Management provides the opportunity for further professional development on issues relating to safe sleeping.

Date: Feb 2022

Review: Jan 2023

Sourced – SIDS and Kids.

## **Numdaji Kwei Children Centre Providing a Safe Child Environment Policy**

Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre is dedicated to providing a safe environment for all children, staff, families and visitors.

The Centre's front door is coded so only staff and families that know the code will be able to enter, any other visitors must ring the doorbell.

The Centre employs permanent/casual qualified staff, who all hold current working with children checks, level 2 first aid, anaphylaxis training, and emergency asthma training. Educators also have training in child protection.

Educators ensure that rooms are setup in a warm and inviting manner whilst providing children with space to move around the room safely.

Educators conduct daily safety checks of both the indoor and outdoor areas.  
All equipment at the centre is age appropriate and child friendly.  
All broken equipment is removed and reported to the director.

Educators maintain a high level of supervision whilst engaging in positive interactions with all the children.

All chemicals and medication at the Centre is stored away from children's reach.

The centre is cleaned nightly by a contract cleaner and the gardens are maintained by a contract gardener.

The Centre's maintenance is conducted by RMIT and outside resources.

All visitors will sign in and out via Visitor Registry folder.

All visitors and workmen are supervised while inside the centre at all times.

Anyone working directly with the children must have a working with children's check.

All staff's Working with Children's Check will be checked annually.

Date: Feb 2022

Review: Jan 2023

Sourced – Education and Care Services National Regulations, Occupational Health and Safety – Workcover, Vic

## **Numdaji Kwei Children Centre Environmental Sustainability Policy**

Sustainability relates to the connection of economic, social, institutional and environmental aspects of human society, as well as the non-human environment.

At Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre we understand the importance of sustainability in early childhood education and having it be a part of our curriculum. Listed below are the Sustainable Practices the centre will follow during work hours to help promote and contribute to a sustainable future.

### **Recycling:**

- Using recycled water to water garden
- Recycling paper and rubbish
- Reusing yoghurt containers for storing art & craft supplies/resources
- Using the recycle bins in rooms
- Using recycled paper for drawing

### **Gardening:**

- Give food scraps to worms/centre pets
- Maintaining compost bin
- Maintaining worm farm

### **Energy Conservation:**

- Turn off lights and switches when not in use
- Using wash line in warmer months to dry clothes instead of dryer

### **Water Conservation:**

- Teach and educate children on water saving using half flush and turning taps off

### **Natural Resources & Equipment:**

- Caring for centre pets
- Re-using natural materials for e.g. boxes, blocks
- Use natural materials in artwork
- Donate shredded paper to local dog shelter

### **Educators will:**

- Incorporate recycling as part of everyday practice.
- Role model sustainable practices.
- Role model energy and water conservation practices of turning off lights, air conditioning, fans and heaters when a room is not in use, emptying water play containers onto garden areas.
- Use the concept of "reduce, re-use and recycle" to build lifelong attitudes towards sustainable practices.
- Use a worm farm/compost bin to reduce food waste in the service as well as giving appropriate food scraps to help feed service pets.
- Discuss and educate the children about sustainable practices.
- Provide information to families on sustainable practices that are implemented at the service.
- Share ideas between educators, children and families about sustainable ideas and practice. This will be done through meetings, newsletters and conversations.
- Incorporate celebrations of environmental awareness into the program for e.g. world environment day, national recycling week.

Date: Feb 2022

Review: Jan 2023

Sourced – Sustainability Practices in Childcare – Aussie Childcare Network,  
Environmental Education in Early Childhood (Victoria) (EEEC), Sustainability Victoria

## **Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre Supervision**

Staff at Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre maintain a high level of supervision both indoors and outdoors.

### **When supervising the children at the centre, educators:**

- Maintain educator/ child ratios indoors and outdoors;
- Position themselves to ensure they can effectively supervise the children;
- Interact with the children – enhance their play, be involved in their ideas;
- Work together to set up outside activities that are safe, inviting and stimulating and ensure there is enough equipment to engage all children;
- Position themselves around the room evenly, at different points around the playground, remembering that outside play is not a social time for staff and that staff standing together cannot effectively supervise such a large area;
- Reinforce and encourage appropriate behaviour;
- Use an appropriate tone of voice and positive language with the children. Meet individual needs as required, provide special activities, let a child help, remember that a hug is worth a lot to a distressed child;
- Make the routines part of the children's learning;
- Maintain good communication between educators.

Date: Feb 2022

Review: Jan 2023

Sourced – Education and Care Services National Regulations

## **Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre Occupational Health and Safety Policy**

Numdaji Kwei takes occupational health and safety (OH&S) of employees, volunteers, visitors, members of the public very seriously, therefore is committed to providing and maintaining, so far as is reasonably practicable, a working environment that is safe and without risk to health. The Centre will invoke the following step to help:

- Reduce and prevent: hazards in our service environment;
- Accidents, injuries and reportable incidents;
- To maintain a safe environment for children, staff and visitors;
- To inform staff and other adults of the Centre's OH&S procedures;
- To meet the requirements of federal, state and local government authorities and follow the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 2004.

### **To ensure a safe workplace Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre has the following systems in place:**

- A pro-active risk management approach to OH&S is in place which includes the identification of hazards, the assessment of risks and the elimination or hazards.
- The Centre ensures effective OH&S information, instruction, training and supervision is provided to all employees and students to increase their personal understanding of workplace hazards and the need to follow safe work practices, and to facilitate the identification of unsafe work practices.
- The centre closes annually for 3 weeks during the Christmas period, employees are required to take accrued leave at this time. Annual leave ensures staff are both rested physically and mentally.
- Accident Register- The Director or in the case of their absence the second in charge must be informed immediately of any injury occurring to any person on the premises. Staff are required to complete details in the employee accident register, located in the office, for any injury sustained on the premises.
- Policies in place for dealing with toxic chemicals and potential dangerous chemicals.
- The appointment of an Occupational Health and Safety Officer.

### **Expectations of employees**

- Follow all Centre health and safety policies and procedures;
- Apply due diligence in all aspects of their work to ensure a safe environment;
- Report any potential hazards promptly;
- Report any accidents or injury or near/potential accidents promptly;
- Be aware of emergency procedures;
- Follow management system procedures for the handling, use, storage and transport of equipment and materials and potentially hazardous chemicals;
- Promote safe work practices and encourage fellow workers to do likewise;
- Actively participate in and provide feedback on OH&S issues;
- Attend OH&S training sessions as required; and
- Inform all relief staff, students, volunteers, visitors and parents of the above expectations.

A hazard can be defined as a dangerous situation which can affect the worker and the work and can also affect significant others who use or visit our service.

Date: Feb 2022

Review: Jan 2023

Sourced – Work Safe Victoria

## **Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre**

### **Storage, Handling and Use of Toxic Products and Potentially Dangerous Chemicals**

The Centre applies due diligence at all times to maintain a safe and healthy service environment and thereby protects all those involved in the service from any potentially adverse health and safety effects.

#### **Storage**

- All undiluted chemicals are stored in a child restricted area;
- Material Data Sheets are stored in the laundry with chemicals;
- To inform all staff, relief staff, students and volunteers of toxic products used and where they are stored;
- To minimise the use of toxic products where possible and to substitute the existing product with a less or non-toxic replacement where possible;
- To correctly train staff and other relevant people in handling, using, identifying and storing toxic products at the Centre;
- Clearly and correctly label all bottles and containers holding chemicals.

#### **Handling**

- Marked measuring cups for chemicals are provided to ensure correct levels are used;
- Gloves are worn when handling toxic products and are provided for staff;
- Unpowdered gloves are supplied for staff allergic to powdered gloves;
- Toxic products are not sprayed on or near children or adults;
- Toys are washed with warm water and detergent and rinsed clean;
- Windows are opened regularly to air the rooms, rather than using aerosol air fresheners;
- The nappy bin is removed at rest time and at the end of the day in all rooms to minimise smell and eliminate the use of aerosol sprays.

Date: Feb 2022

Review: Jan 2023

Sourced – *Worksafe Victoria*



## **Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre Emergency Evacuation Policy and Procedures**

This document is to be read in conjunction with RMIT University's Emergency Response Manual available from the director's office.

The centre has identified the following emergencies to be relevant to this service through a risk assessment that will require evacuation or lockdown:

- Fire
- Chemical Leak
- Gas Leak
- Bomb Threat inside and outside
- Human Threat
- Storm
- Earthquake

Evacuation and Lockdown drills are practiced and documented every three months to ensure children and educators are well prepared in the event of an emergency evacuation or lockdown.

Full evacuation and lockdown procedures are displayed at each exit of the building. Exits are clearly signed with exit lights, maps of the building indicating the nearest exit point are displayed in each room and in the main foyer.

### **Rooms are equipped with the following evacuation/lockdown equipment:**

- An emergency exit map mounted on the wall
- Emergency evacuation procedure at each exit
- Whistle
- Emergency Bag
- Emergency Cot in babies' room only
- Emergency ropes

In the event of an emergency the following procedures must take place:

### **EVACUATION**

In the event of either fire, chemical leak inside, bomb threat inside educators must adhere to the following directions.

Any member of staff is responsible to notify all staff if they identify a fire, chemical leak inside or bomb threat inside. The following evacuation procedures will be immediately implemented.

### **Nominated supervisor/ certified supervisor in charge**

- Take mobile phone and Ipad.
- Ensure the building is evacuated in a safe manner and ensure all staff are accounted for.
- Call 000 and wait for further instruction from emergency services.
- Notify parents.

### **Babies room**

1. Place children in evacuation cot.
2. Collect evacuation bag, sign in book and anaphylaxis medication.
3. Exit children, staff, parents, students and visitors to assemble area.
4. Ensure all children are accounted for by marking them off the sign in sheet.
5. Wait at assemble area for instructions from emergency services.

### **Toddlers Room**

1. Collect evacuation bag, sign in book and anaphylaxis medication.

2. Exit children, staff, parents, students and visitors to assemble area.
3. Ensure all children are accounted for by marking them off the sign in sheet.
4. Wait at assemble area for instructions from emergency services.

### **Kinder Room**

1. Collect evacuation bag, anaphylaxis and asthma medication.
2. Exit children, staff, parents, students and visitors to assemble area.
3. Ensure all children are accounted for by checking Ipad.
4. Wait at assemble area for instructions from emergency services.

### **LOCK DOWN PROCEDURE**

In the event the centre needs to go into lock down due to fire, chemical leak outside, bomb threat outside, human threat, gas leak, storm and earthquake, the following procedures will take place:

- The nominated supervisor or certified supervisor in charge will call “lock down”.
- All children, staff, parents, students and visitors will gather into the hallway between the toddlers and kinder room.
- All doors and windows will be locked by staff.
- Call 000 and wait for further instructions from emergency services.
- Security at RMIT will be notified.
- Supplies will be used from the laundry.
- Staff toilet will be used for the children.
- Parents notified.

*Date: Feb 2022*

*Review: Jan 2023*

Sourced – RMIT University- Evacuation Procedures. Education and Care Services  
National Regulations

## **Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre Dealing with Infectious Diseases**

Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre is committed to the health, safety and welfare of all families, children and staff.

The centre requires all parents to inform the service if their child has an infectious disease. The centre will then advise parents of the exclusion period listed in Staying Healthy in Childcare, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition.

If a child displays any signs or symptoms of an infectious disease while in care, the Centre will request the child be collected and cleared by a medical practitioner.

All parents/authorised nominees will be notified of any communal diseases going around at the Centre through a fact sheet being displayed about the infectious disease on the foyer door and room doors.

The centre will take appropriate steps to make sure the centre is cleaned as required by Staying Healthy in Childcare, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition.

Any child that is not immunized will be required to follow the exclusion period as stated in Staying Healthy in Childcare, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition.

Any staff member that may be affected by the infectious disease due to immunisation and pregnancy will be required to follow the exclusion periods as stated in Staying Healthy in Childcare, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition.

In the event of an outbreak the centre will notify the Health Department from the City of Whittlesea, and will seek their advice on the steps to take to help control the outbreak. A registry of infectious diseases are recorded by centre Director & 2IC in a Diary in the office.

All families are required to give the Centre updated immunisation status.

Date: Feb 2022

Review: Jan 2023

Sourced –Education and Care Services National Regulations, Staying Healthy in Childcare- Fifth Edition.

## **Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre Dealing with Medical Conditions Policy**

Some children attending the service may have a medical condition including allergies, asthma, anaphylaxis, diabetes.

Before a child with a medical condition can start at the Centre certain steps must take place to ensure the safety of the child while in the care of the Centre.

Parents must provide an up to date action plan or management plan depending on the child's medical condition. Parents must also provide all medication written on these plans. Educators will follow the plan in the event an incident occurs.

A child without an action plan or management plan and the required medication will be unable to attend the centre until this is provided.

Parents and the Director will sit down and write a risk minimisation plan for the child that all staff will follow to help limit the risk and triggers to the child while in care.

The Centre will follow its anaphylaxis and asthma policy at all times.

The Centre will not allow families to bring any food into the Centre to reduce the risk to any child who is allergic or is anaphylactic to foods.

All staff members, students and volunteers will be informed by the Director of the child's medical condition and the child's action plan.

All rooms will have the child's action plan displayed with up to date photo so the child is easily recognised. All staff will be notified of where the child's medication is stored.

If a child develops a medical condition while in care, then the emergency services will be called immediately and first aid will be administered. Parents must provide an action plan or management plan and medication before returning to the Centre. The parent/s and director will meet and develop a risk minimisation plan.

If a child develops a medical condition outside the Centre, then the parents must provide an action plan and medication before returning to the Centre. The parent/s and Director will meet and develop a risk minimisation plan.

Communication between families and the centre are open and ongoing in relation to the child's medical conditions and will be reviewed annually.

Families are to communicate any changes that arise to these plans to the Director as they occur.

Date: Feb 2022

Review: Jan 2023

Sourced –Education and Care Services National Regulations.

## **Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre Asthma Policy**

Asthma is a chronic health condition affecting approximately 1 in 9 children. It is one of the most common reasons for childhood admissions to hospital. Community education and correct asthma management will assist to minimise the impact of asthma.

### **This Asthma Policy aims to:**

- Provide the necessary strategies to ensure the health and safety of all persons with asthma involved with the Children's Service
- Provide an environment in which children with asthma can participate in all activities to their full extent of their capabilities
- Provide a clear set of guidelines and expectations to be followed with regard to the management of asthma.

### **The centre will:**

- Provide all staff with a copy of the Asthma Policy and brief them on asthma procedures upon their appointment to the Children's Service.
- Provide parents with a copy of the Asthma Policy upon enrolment.
- Provide all staff with Emergency Asthma Training (valid for three years)
- Ensure that at least one staff member who has completed accredited asthma training is on duty whenever children are being cared for or educated.
- Identify children with asthma during enrolment process.
- Ensure an Asthma Action Plan and risk minimisation is received from parents/guardians before the child commences
- The Asthma Action plan is displayed in the room the child is in.
- Ensure that all staff are informed of the children with asthma in their care.
- Ensure that the First Aid Kit contains a blue reliever puffer (e.g. Asmol or Ventolin), a spacer device, concise written instructions on Asthma First Aid procedure and 70% alcohol swabs.
- Encourage open communication between parents/ guardians and staff regarding the status and impact of a child's asthma.
- Promptly communicate any concerns to parents should it be considered that a child's asthma is limiting his/her ability to participate fully in all activities.
- Where necessary, modify activities in accordance with a child's needs and abilities.
- Administer emergency asthma medication if required according to the child's written Asthma Action Plan.
- If a child suffers an asthma attack for the first time the asthma emergency procedure should be followed immediately and call 000.
- Ensure that children with asthma are treated the same as all other children.

### **Parents**

- Notify the Director, in writing of any changes to the Asthma Action Plan during the year.
- Ensure that their child has the appropriate asthma medication including reliever and spacer at all time.
- Communicate all relevant information and concerns to staff as the need arises e.g. if asthma symptoms were present last night.

Date: Feb 2022

Review: Jan 2023

Sourced: The Asthma Foundation, Victoria

## **Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre Anaphylaxis Policy**

Anaphylaxis is a severe and life threatening allergic reaction. Up to two per cent of the general population and up to five per cent of children are at risk. The most common cause in children are eggs, peanuts, tree nuts, cow's milk, bee or other insect stings and some medications.

This reaction can happen within minutes from when the child is exposed to these allergens, but this can be treated quickly and effectively by using an adrenaline auto injector called an EpiPen.

We at Numdaji Kwei feel that all children should have the right to play in a safe and caring environment catering for all children's needs including children at risk of anaphylaxis.

### **Centre goal**

- To make sure the community and educators have a strong awareness about allergies and anaphylaxis within the service.
- To minimise the risk of an anaphylactic reaction occurring while the child is in care.
- To ensure that educators are able to respond appropriately to an anaphylaxis reaction by providing the right treatment and correctly administering an EpiPen.

### **Centre procedure:**

- Centre to ensure that every child starting at the centre with allergies and anaphylaxis has an action plan and risk minimisation plan done on them, so the educators are clear on the action needed if the child was to have a reaction while in care.
- Ensure that the children only eat the food that is supplied by the centre.
- Ensure that all educators and relief staff are aware of the symptoms of an anaphylaxis reaction, the child at risk of anaphylaxis, the child's allergy, and the action plan and where the EpiPen is on the premises.
- If the relief staff do not have anaphylaxis training, then the centre will ensure that a permanent staff member will be placed in that room.
- The centre will ensure that no child who has been prescribed an EpiPen is allowed to attend the service without the EpiPen on site.
- The centre will do its best to have no food from home brought into the centre that can cause an anaphylaxis reaction to that child.
- Ensure that the EpiPen is stored in a location that is known to all educators and relievers and that is easily accessible to staff (not locked away) inaccessible to children, and away from direct heat.

### **Staff responsibility for child at risk of anaphylaxis while in care.**

- Educators are to make sure that the anaphylaxis plan is placed in a spot where all educators can see.

- Educators are to follow the action plan straight away in the event of an allergic reaction which may progress to anaphylaxis.
- In the event that a child who has not been diagnosed as allergic but who appears to be having an anaphylactic reaction the following must happen:
  - Call an ambulance immediately by dialing 000
  - Commence first aid measures
  - Contact the parent/guardian
  - Contact the emergency contact if the parents cannot be reached
- The educators are to regularly check the expiry date on the EpiPen for each child.
- Educators will practice in house EpiPen training every four months as well as yearly refreshers through accredited first aid.

Date: Feb 2022

Review: Jan 2023

Sourced – Accredited First Aid, Department of Education and Training

## **Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre Administration of Medication**

For educators to administer medication certain procedures must be followed.

### **Educators must ensure:**

- That a written request for medication to be administered has come from the parent or authorised medical nominee. The exemption to this is during a medical emergency affecting the child, when a parent or medical nominee may give verbal permission by phone for the centre to administer medication to the child. (Regulation 93). This request must be witnessed by two staff members. This must then be followed up with written authorisation from the legal guardian.
- The equipment or medication required to carry out the procedures of a management / action plan are at the centre.
- The medication is administered from its original container bearing the original label and instructions including dosage and before the expiry or use by date.
- All medication details are to be checked by two staff before any medication is administered to a child.

Despite receiving a guardians request to administer medication the centre must always exercise a duty of care to the child. The administration of medication is done at the centre discretion.

Each child's room has a medication book; certain detail must be recorded in this book before medication can be administered.

### **Before administering medication educators must ensure that the following details are recorded into the medication book by the child's guardians:**

- The name of the child;
- The request or permission to administer- this is done by signing the medication book;
- The name of the medication;
- The date the medication was last administered;
- The time the medication was last administered;
- The date and time or the circumstances under which the medication should be next administered- guardians must be aware that writing "if necessary" is not acceptable, a clear circumstance must be noted i.e. "if temperature exceeds 38.6 degrees";
- If the same medication is required to be administered more than once during the day, a new medication record must be completed, writing 9 a.m. & 3 p.m. in the same section of medication book is not acceptable, also writing " " is not acceptable, the full name of medication must be written again.
- The dosage of the medication to be administered- this must be the same or less then the instructions on the medication;
- The method of administration
- Once the medication book has been completed parents must advise educators to check the information;
- Medication is to be placed in the fridge if required, or the medication baskets. Do not leave medication in your child's bag, this includes nappy rash creams;
- Please ensure you notify educators of your request for medication for your child.
- The Centre offers families who wish for educators to administer/apply non prescribed nappy cream, eczema cream & insect repellents a 'Long Term Authorisation Form' that can be applied throughout the year when symptoms appear.

### **Educators must then ensure to fill out the following details when medication has been administered to the child:**

- The dosage that was administered to the child;



- The date the medication was administered;
- The time the medication was administered;
- The method of administration
- The full name and signature of the person who administered the medication i.e. Joan Jones, J Jones is not acceptable;
- The full name and signature of the person who checked all details of the medication administered i.e. Mark Van Ronson, M Ronson is not acceptable.

**Educators must follow these procedures at all times.**

**In the event that an emergency occurs all decisions will be at the call of  
Emergency Services eg: 000, Ambulance, Hospital.**

Date: Feb 2022

Review: Jan 2023

Sourced- Education and Care Services National Regulations.

## **Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness Policy**

At Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre the below mentioned procedures are to be followed by all educators in the event of a child becoming:

- (a) injured;
- (b) ill; or
- (c) suffers a trauma.

### **Injury, Incident or Trauma**

If a child becomes injured while in care appropriate First Aid will be applied by a first aider and notify the Centre Director or 2IC. An incident report will be written up for parents to sign. Any facial/ head injuries that occur educators will notify parents via phone. All notifications will be made to parents as soon as practicable as and not later than 24 hours. In some cases, parents will be requested to collect and monitor their child as a safety precaution.

### **Serious Injury, Incident or Trauma**

In the event of a serious injury, incident or trauma to a child while being educated or cared for at a service the centre will seek appropriate medical treatment. This may involve parents taking the child to a medical practitioner or the centre requesting support from emergency services (parents will be contacted as soon as practicable). The centre will notify DET within 24 hours of any serious injury, incident or trauma taking place. All appropriate documentation will be completed as soon as practicable.

### **Illness and your child**

The health of the children is a major concern of educators and families who use the Centre.

If a child displays the following symptoms while in care- fever, vomiting, diarrhea, headache or appear lethargic before attending the care, the centre would advise parents to keep their child home, as children do not benefit from a busy day interacting with other children and educators if they are unwell and require rest.

### **If a child becomes ill while in care**

Educators will promptly contact parents to collect their child if they become unwell during the day, so please remember to inform the director or educators should any of your contact telephone numbers change.

The service will also complete an Illness Record for parents to sign when they collect their child.

Date: Feb 2022

Review: Jan 2023

Sourced: Staying Healthy in Childcare 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, Education and Care Services National Regulations

## **Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre Administration of First Aid Policy**

The centre will ensure that all first aid administered is by a qualified first aider by ensuring all educators have the following qualifications:

- Approved level 2 first aid
- Approved anaphylaxis management training
- Approved emergency asthma management training.

In the event of an injury, incident or trauma the child's wellbeing is to be attended to immediately through the appropriate first aid.

The nominated supervisor or certified supervisor in charge will oversee all serious incidents, illness or trauma.

First aid kits will be suitably equipped and easily recognised where children are present at the centre.

The parent of a child who has obtained an injury, incident or trauma is notified as soon as practicable and no later than 24 hours. The service will also ensure that an Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness Record is completed.

Date: Feb 2022

Review: Jan 2023

Sourced: Education and Care Services National Regulations, Accredited First Aid

## **Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre Excursions Policy**

Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre will hold excursions on RMIT grounds allowing the children to benefit and learn from the community that surrounds them. The educators will do a site visit at the excursion destination before any excursion and make sure that a risk assessment is carried out before the implementation of any excursion takes place.

The Centre will make sure that the following information is covered in the risk assessment

- Identify any risk that excursions may pose to the safety and health or wellbeing of any child being taken on the excursion
- Risk assessment will identify how the risks will be managed and minimized
- What is the proposed route and destination to the excursion?
- Any water hazards
- Any risks associated with water based activities
- Transport required to and from the proposed destination for the excursion
- Number of adults and children involved in the excursion
- Given the risk posed by the excursion, the number of educators or other responsible adults that is appropriate to provide supervision and whether any adult with specialized skills are required including lifesaving skills
- The proposed activities
- The proposed duration of the excursion
- Any items that need to be taken on the excursion, phone, emergency contact numbers, first aid kit, children's medication.

### **AUTHORISATION FOR THE EXCURSION**

The Centre's Nominated supervisor will ensure that written consent is given by the parents or authorised nominee as stated on the child's enrolment form prior to the excursion day.

Permission forms must have the following information

- Child's name
- The reason the child is to be taken outside the premises
- The date the child is to be taken on the excursion (unless the authorisation is for a regular outing)
- A description of the proposed destination for the excursion
- The method of transport to be used for the excursion
- The proposed activities to be undertaken by the child during the excursion
- The period the child will be away from the premises
- The anticipated number of children likely to be attending the excursion
- The anticipated ratio of educators attending the excursion to the anticipated number of children attending the excursion
- The anticipated number of staff members and any other adults who will accompany and supervise the children on the excursion
- That a risk assessment has been prepared and available at the service
- If the excursion is a regular outing the authorization is only required to be obtained once in a 12-month period.

Date: Feb 2022

Review: Jan 2023

Sourced: Education and Care Services National Regulations, ACECQA

## **Participation of Volunteers and Students**

All volunteers and students that attend the centre require a current Volunteer Working with Children Check.

At no stage will Educators leave students or volunteers alone with the children.

All students and volunteers are to act in a responsible manner following the Centre's Staff Code of Conduct.

Students will be supported and mentored by the Director and Educators to gain knowledge and experience while on placement.

Students and volunteers are not to speak to children's parents in regards to their child's welfare.

The centre will notify parents of any students or volunteers at the centre. Students will display an information sheet outlining their name with a photo, course details and placements dates.

Volunteers and students will sign the staff sign in sheet on arrival and departure.

All students and volunteers will provide their full name, address, date of birth and an emergency contact while on placement.

All students will participate in an induction process before commencing placement.

During this time students will be shown a student handbook read.

Date: Feb 2022

Review Jan 2023

Sourced: Education and Care Services National Regulations

## Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre Tobacco Control Policy

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre provides a total smoke free environment. The Centre acknowledges it has a duty of care to provide a safe and healthy environment to all stakeholders and educating them on the importance of healthy living.

### **Rationale**

From **13 April 2015** the amended *Tobacco Act 1987 (Vic)* bans smoking within the grounds of, and within four metres of an entrance to, all childcare centres, kindergartens and preschools while they are being used to provide a children's service.

### **Smokefree areas**

Smoking is banned under the *Tobacco Act 1987 (Vic)* within the grounds of Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre and also within four metres of all entrances (pedestrian access points) to the premises, while they are being used to provide a children's service.

The smoke free status of our childcare centre will be clearly signed at entrances to, and within the service grounds. This policy will be promoted throughout our service community e.g. through the service newsletter, family communication etc.

### **POLICY & PROCEDURE**

The Centre does not permit anyone to smoke any substance within 10 meters of the Centre. This includes inside the building and the back yards. The centre will not allow smoking at any events they hold- whether the event is at the centre or held at an offsite venue.

#### ***Children Education:***

Educators and staff to build on opportunistic learning moments with children through the educational programs and intentional teaching they implement.

#### ***Educator and Family Education:***

Support families and educators to be active participants in the development, implementation and review of this policy and be provided with information about policy expectations.

Provide information to educators, staff and families about the health benefits of living smoke free lives. Encourage families and educators to role model smoke free behaviours. Families from culturally linguistic backgrounds are provided with this information to suit their needs.

Educators are supported to access resources, tools and professional learning to enhance their knowledge and capacity to provide opportunistic learning about tobacco education and prevention initiatives.

#### ***Community Connections:***

Develop community links and partnerships with initiatives that have a similar outlook on health and wellbeing.

Date: Feb 2022

Review: Jan 2023

Sourced:

- Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004
- NCAC



- National Quality Standards 2003
- Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010
- Education and Care Services Regulations 2011

## **Numdaji Kwei Children's Centre Covid-19 Policy**

Due to the recent Pandemic of Covid-19, Numdaji Kwei has put in a number of new procedures that all families and staff are to abide by in order to help keep a safer environment for all stakeholders.

### **Arrivals**

- On arrival only 1 parent/caregiver is to enter the centre and must remain in the foyer to sign in and drop off at child's room door and be as quick as possible.
- We ask that all parents use the Hand Sanitiser provided in the front foyer before entering the rest of the building.
- Children's temperature's will be checked on arrival before parents leave following Government advice. Any child 37.5 and above will not be allowed to stay at the centre as per the guidelines from the Department of Health and Human Services.
- Staff will take children to wash their hands once they enter the room.
- All adults are to stay 1.5 meters away from each other.
- If parents wish to talk to educators about particular concerns, they may do this through phone calls to limit contact.

### **Pick Ups**

- During pick up only 1 parent/caregiver is to enter the centre and must remain in the foyer to sign out and pick up child at child's room door.
- We ask that all parents use the Hand Sanitiser provided in the front foyer when entering the building to pick up child/children.

### **Sick Children**

We ask that all parents do not bring their children in if they have any of the following symptoms:

- runny nose
- fever (37.5 or above)
- dry cough
- tiredness
- sore throat
- shortness of breath

If your child shows any signs or symptoms from the Covid-19 list, they will be sent home and you will be asked to provide a medical clearance letter before returning. We also ask that if any parent shows any signs or symptoms that they do not enter the building under any circumstances.

Date: Feb 2022

Review: Jan 2023

Sourced: Department of Health and Human Services