

The Kinder Garden



Priority of Access Policy

Aim

When enrolling children, The Kinder Garden will allocate places according to the Australian Government's *Priority of Access Guidelines*.

Legislative Requirements

Education and Care Services National Regulation 2011
Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010
National Quality Standards 2011
A New Tax System (Family Assistance) Act 1999

Who is affected by this policy?

Children
Staff
Parents
Management

Implementation

Children enrolled at The Kinder Garden will be given Priority of Access in accordance to the guidelines set by the Australian Government's Department of Social Services.

They set out the following three levels of priority, which the education and care service must follow when filling vacant places:

- **Priority 1:** a child at risk of serious abuse or neglect
- **Priority 2:** a child of a single parent who satisfies, or of parents who both satisfy, the work/training/study test under section 14 of the *A New Tax System (Family Assistance) Act 1999*
- **Priority 3:** any other child

Within these main categories, priority should also be given to the following children:

- Children in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families
- Children in families which include a disabled person
- Children in families which include an individual whose adjusted taxable income does not exceed the lower income threshold (updated annually by the Australian Government) or whose partner are on income support
- Children in families from a non-English speaking background
- Children in socially isolated families
- Children of single parents

On enrolment, parents will be notified of their priority and advised that if the service has no vacancies and their child's position is a priority 3 under the Priority of Access Guideline, it may be required that their child leave or reduce their days in order for the service to provide a place for a higher priority child.

The Approved Provider/Nominated Supervisor will ensure that this policy is maintained and implemented at all times.

Sources

Education and Care Services National Regulation 2011
Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010
Guide to the National Quality Standard 2011
Children's and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998
Child Care Services Handbook 2013-2014

Review

The policy will be reviewed annually. Review will be conducted by management, employees, parents and any interested parties.

Reviewed: January 2017

Date for next review: January 2018