

The Kinder Garden



Determining Educational Leader Policy

Aim

The Approved Provider of The Kinder Garden must appoint an Educational Leader in accordance with the National Regulations.

Legislative Requirements

Education and Care Services National Regulation 2011
Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010
National Quality Standards 2011

Who is affected by this policy?

Staff
Families
Children
Management

Implementation

Regulation 118 of the Education and Care Services National Regulations requires that *"The approved provider of an education and care service must designate, in writing, a suitably qualified in experienced educator, coordinator or other individual as educational leader at the service to lead the development and implementation of educational programs in the service"*.

The approved provider will determine who the Educational Leader will be, considering the relative strengths and needs of educators; the qualifications; experience and personal qualities of educators who might take on the role; and the setting context, size of the setting and type of service.

The Educational Leader should have a thorough understanding of the Early Years Learning Framework and/or My Time, Our Place – Framework for School Age Care to be able to guide other educators in their planning, reflection and implementation practices.

The Educational Leader should consider what strategies might be needed to improve the educational program in the Service.

The Educational Leader will (at a minimum):

- Have knowledge of theories of learning and development, curriculum approaches and the relative strengths and weaknesses of each approach;
- Provide motivation for the team, focusing on achievement and high quality experiences and programs for each child and their individual learning styles;
- Guide change and work with others in planning for and implementing change, taking responsibility for the documentation and inclusion in the service's Quality Improvement Plan;
- Have the ability to create and execute ambitious goals and clarity of purpose around curriculum planning;
- Have the ability and confidence to facilitate formal and informal meetings that occur throughout the day along with any related documentation and minutes;

- Monitor programs, educator performance, identify changes and work with the service's team to implement improvements; and
- Seek relevant training regarding approved learning frameworks and programming related topics to support colleagues in this important area.

As much as administrative and management leadership is important, curriculum and pedagogy is a central purpose of the Educational Leader. The Educational Leader will facilitate a shared approach to children's learning and curriculum, based on strong relationships. The Educational Leader will collaborate with our team of educators to:

- Guide professional conversations;
- Air ideas and feelings about what is possible;
- Provide current and relevant information to the team of educators reading the approved learning frameworks and programming practices;
- Share thinking behind practice by posing questions to reflect on: stop, think, change;
- Encourage the team of educators to try different techniques, critically analyse this process and share the experience with each other so perspective and experience can be shared;
- Support other educators facing challenges by talking more about what we do and why we do it;
- Identify strengths and professional learning opportunities;
- Give feedback to the nominated supervisor to further support educators;
- Building on current knowledge and skills in achieving the very best outcomes for children.

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

Review

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

Reviewed: January 2018

Date for next review: January 2019