



ACTIVE AND OUTDOOR PLAY POLICY

National Quality Standards:

Area 1 - Educational program and practice

Standard 1.1 - Program

Elements:

1.1.2: Child-centred

Each child's current knowledge, strengths, ideas, culture, abilities and interests are the foundation of the program.

1.1.3 - Program learning opportunities

All aspects of the program, including routines, are organised in ways that maximise opportunities for each child's learning.

Standard 1.2 - Practice

Elements:

1.2.2 - Responsive teaching and scaffolding

Educators respond to children's ideas and play and extend children's learning through open-ended questions, interactions and feedback.

Standard 1.3 - Assessment and planning

Elements:

1.3.1 - Assessment and planning cycle

Each child's learning and development is assessed or evaluated as part of an ongoing cycle of observation, analysing learning, documentation, planning, implementation and reflection.

Area 2 - Children's health and safety

Standard 2.1 - Health

Elements:

2.1.3: Healthy lifestyle

Healthy eating and physical activity are promoted and appropriate for each child.

Standard 2.2 - Safety

Elements:

2.2.1: Supervision



At all times, reasonable precautions and adequate supervision ensure children are protected from harm and hazard.

Area 3 - Physical environment

Standard 3.1 - Design

Elements:

3.1.1: Fit for purpose

Outdoor and indoor spaces, buildings, fixtures and fittings are suitable for their purpose, including supporting the access of every child.

3.1.2: Upkeep

Premises, furniture and equipment are safe, clean and well maintained.

Standard 3.2 - Use

Elements:

3.2.1: Inclusive environment

Outdoor and indoor spaces are organised and adapted to support every child's participation and to engage every child in quality experiences in both built and natural environments.

Area 6 - Collaborative partnerships with families and communities

Standard 6.1 - Supportive relationships with families

Elements:

6.2.2: Access and participation

Effective partnerships support children's access, inclusion and participation in the program.

6.2.3: Community engagement

The service builds relationships and engages with its community.

Children (Education and Care Services) National Regulations (2011 SI 653):

Reg. 108	Space requirements—outdoor space
Reg. 113	Outdoor space—natural environment
Reg. 114	Outdoor space - shade
Reg. 115	Premises designed to facilitate supervision

Related Policies:

- Extracurricular activities
- Administration of first aid
- Sun safe policy



Policy Statement:

The children will have access to outdoor spaces for both active and passive play, and organised activities. Adventure OSHC will provide the opportunity for children to engage in active play in the outdoor space available in the school grounds.

Active play will be offered to the children every afternoon in the school's outdoor areas (weather permitting). Play will include structured activities, group games, the use of play equipment and the exploration of the natural environment.

Purpose:

To ensure all children have the right to access adequate, safe and engaging outdoor environments that promote active play.

Scope:

This Policy applies to children, families, Educators and staff, and management.

Implementation:

Adventure OSHC will:

- Liaise with the school to ensure consistency of rules and behaviour in the outdoor spaces.
- Review the active play program with the children.
- Provide an active play program that is reflective of the children's needs and interests.
- Ensure risk assessments are completed regularly for the outdoor areas used.

Educators will:

- Provide the Approved Provider (Adventure OSHC) with feedback on the active play program regularly.
- Conduct regular head counts of children during outdoor play.
- Ensure that outdoor play is conducted in areas that include adequate shade.
- Communicate with additional staff members regarding the whereabouts of the children.
- Ensure a First Aid kit and children's medication is taken to any outdoor play areas being used.
- Assist in the efficient collection of the children by their families during outdoor play.
- Complete safety checks of the outdoor space prior to the children playing in that area, including the toilet facilities.
- Ensure they are aware of which children are using the toilets and accompany them towards this area if it is far from the care environment and ratios allow.
- Leave the outdoor area clean and tidy after the session.

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- Always demonstrate respect for the outdoor environment to set a good example for the children. Facilitate regular discussions with the children about the natural environment.
- Encourage every child to participate in outdoor play.

Children will:

- Wear sun protection in line with Adventure OSHC Sun Safe Policy.
- Always follow school rules, which will be consistent with Adventure OSHC expectations.
- Provide input into the active play program through planning and reflection sessions.
- Assist to create the Adventure OSHC expectations and follow team member's directions.
- Move between the indoor and outdoor care environments safely.
- Children will be provided with the opportunity to move between these two spaces during the afternoon sessions. Educators will monitor the children's transition between indoor and outdoor play and will encourage the children to spend a designated amount of time indoors or outdoors, rather than merely moving between the spaces constantly.
- Contribute to the maintenance of the school playground by collecting food wrappers/litter that have been left during the day prior to leaving the oval and outdoor spaces.
- Inform an Educator when they wish to use the toilet facilities.

Families will:

- Provide feedback to the Service team members on the active play program.
- Allow time to collect their children from various play areas.

Sources:

- Education and Care Services National Regulations (2011 SI 653)
- National Quality Standards
- Care for Kids - Physical activity guidelines in after school hours care

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