



# CHILDREN'S SERVICES

## Interactions with Children Policy

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### 1. Introduction

Children who experience relationships in a Children's Service's setting that are built on respect, fairness, cooperation and empathy are given the opportunity to develop these qualities themselves. Quality interactions increase their knowledge and understanding of themselves and each other as unique individuals. Developing positive relationships with both peers and Educators is important and children will have the opportunity to do this through various group learning experiences.

### 2. Scope

This Policy applies to all Children's Services operated by Coast Services Group Limited (a wholly owned Coast Community Connections LTD) to our Employees. This applies to Early Childhood Programs, Occasional Care, Out Of School Hours Care and Vacation Care programs and services.

### 3. Policy

Children's Services Educator's interactions with children will be warm, responsive and respectful in order to build trusting relationships.

### 4. Procedures and Implementation

All Children's Services Educators will:

- 4.1 Create a sense of belonging for each child by acknowledging who they are as an individual, where they belong within the context of the service, their family and larger community, identify and respect their strengths, abilities and interests and by allowing them to "be".
- 4.2 Interact with all children in a ways that maintains each child's dignity and rights.
- 4.3 Encourage children to express themselves and build meaningful open interactions that support development of life and learning skills.
- 4.4 Provide an environment that supports collaborations between children and Educators.
- 4.5 Create opportunities for children to be independent and self-reliant.
- 4.6 Support children through periods of change, eg. Transitions to pre-school, school, changing classes, death in the family, birth of a sibling.
- 4.7 Share information with families regularly in a constructive manner about children's interactions.
- 4.8 Participate in professional development to enhance Educator's knowledge and skills for interacting with children.
- 4.9 Ensure that the routines and experiences available to children in care are appropriate and reflect each child's family and cultural values, age, physical and intellectual development.
- 4.10 Recognise, support and provide opportunities to ensure:
  - 4.10.1 The right of all children to maintain their language and culture,
  - 4.10.2 The need to acknowledge different religious and cultural practices,

4.10.3 The right of all children to benefit from quality programs that take into account the cultural, linguistic and religious diversity of the community,

4.10.4 The provision of relevant and appropriate programs and experiences that will ensure each child's cultural heritage is respected.

4.11 Demonstrate inclusive practices.

4.12 Respond to all children in a fair and consistent manner.

4.13 Size of groups will be maintained to allow for inclusive, positive and respectful peer and Educator relationships to develop.

4.14 To adhere to the UN rights of the Child Document which is displayed in each service.

## **5. Other related policies and procedures**

Guiding Positive Behaviours

Child protection policy

## **6. Forms and Records**

Programming

Enrolment forms

Family feedback or suggestions