



CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Death of a Child Policy

Version Number: 1.0

Version Date: September 2019

Next Review: September 2021

1. Induction

To ensure Educators follow the appropriate protocols in the event of such tragic circumstance as the death of a child.

2. Scope

This Policy applies to all Children's Services operated by Coast Services Group Limited (a wholly owned subsidiary of Coast Community Connections LTD) and our operated employees. This applies to Occasional Care, Out Of School Hours Care, Vacation Care and Services.

3. Policy

The sudden death of a child has the potential to render individuals and groups feeling helpless. The death can create distress and difficulties for many, especially when people have little experience in dealing with it. Educators will be supported when dealing with the death of a child who is in their care.

Procedures and Implementation

In the unlikely event of a death of a child at Coast Community Connections LTD Children's Service the Educator will:

1. Commence resuscitation as appropriate
2. Call the Ambulance service.
3. Keep all children safe.
4. Continue resuscitation until the ambulance arrives.
5. Notify the parent/guardian that a serious incident has happened and advise them to contact the relevant medical agency. This information should be provided in an extremely sensitive manner. ***It is not the role of the service to inform the parent/guardian that their child has died. A doctor is the only person who can determine whether a person has died and be responsible for organising notification to be given to next of kin.***
6. Maintain clear emergency procedures for the other children at the service.
7. Write a detailed report as soon as possible.
8. Ensure counselling is available for all children and Educators.
9. An accident that requires results in the death of a child whilst attending the service, The Nominated Supervisor must immediately notify the Manager, who will then notify the CEO and the following people/authorities
 - 9.1 The Police
 - 9.2 Notify ACECQA
 - 9.3 The approved provider of the service has been informed of the death of a child while attending the children's service as soon as possible.

- 9.4 A parent of the child (by the police, medical authority or CEO), and
- 9.5 The Director – General or representative from Department of Education.

Other related policies and procedures

Injury, Incident, Illness and Accident Policy

Injury, Incident, Illness and Accident Form