



St Michael's Collegiate

Set for life

Subject: ELC INTERACTIONS WITH CHILDREN POLICY	Policy No: ELC 08 – Version 1
	Effective: June 2016
	Revised: N/A
Covers: COLLEGIATE ELC	Review Date: June 2017

Interactions with Children

Policy

The services' philosophy will guide the interactions of each educator¹ and other adult associated with the service to:

- Encourage each child to express themselves and their opinions; and
- Support each child to undertake experiences that develop self-reliance and self-esteem; and
- Maintain the dignity and rights of each child at all times; and
- Give each child positive guidance and encouragement toward acceptable behaviour; and
- Have regard to the family and cultural values, age, and physical and intellectual development and abilities of each child being educated and cared for by the service.

The approved provider, the nominated supervisor and educators will support the implementation of *The Early Years Framework for Australia* (2009), *Framework for School Age Care in Australia* (2011) and principles:

1. Secure, respectful and reciprocal relationships
2. Partnerships
3. High expectations and equity
4. Respect for diversity
5. Ongoing learning and reflective practice

Procedure

Educators¹ interactions will, at all times, be responsive to the needs of each child, promoting positive child development.

Educators¹ will role model appropriate interactions and behaviours such as the implementation of the Sun Protection Policy, positive and supportive language and inclusive behaviours.

Staff will interact with each child in an open and expressive manner that is non-intimidating in manner and is supported by appropriate body language, tone of voice, posture and facial expressions.

Educators¹ interactions will offer each child the opportunity to:

- Develop confidence to express themselves and actively build their self-confidence and self-esteem;
- Actively engage in the decision making process in a positive and responsive manner;
- Interact and develop respectful, equitable, responsive and positive relationships with educators and their peers;
- Develop as independent, capable and competent learners;
- Create positive learning opportunities by engaging in a variety of setting such as 1:1 and in small groups;
- Explore their areas of interest and curiosity through play and cooperation;
- Collaborate and problem solve in each area of the curriculum;

- Build confidence, creativity, enthusiasm, persistence, imagination and problem solving enquiry based investigation

Educators¹ will engage with children to:

- Scaffold and extend their understanding and learning via intentional teaching moments;
- Support and nurture each child's sense of security and wellbeing (supported by KidsMatter);
- Provide continuity of experiences for each child
- Offer (and document) a program/curriculum that:
 - values the social and cultural context of each child and their families;
 - includes a balance of both indoor and outdoor experiences; and
 - includes a balance of educator and child initiated experiences;

Relevant Policies and Procedures

- Behaviour Guidance Policy and Procedure
- Child Protection Policy and Procedure
- Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Governance and Management Policy and Procedure
- Safe Environment Policy and Procedure
- Staffing Policy and Procedure

Sources

- *Education and Care Services National Law*
- *Education and Care Services National Regulations* (155, 156, 168)
- National Quality Standard (5)

Review due June 2017

¹ and other adults associated with the service including the approved provider, the nominated supervisor, volunteers and students at the service.