

CHILDREN SERVICES

COUNCIL POLICY NO. 119

1. POLICY

Gannawarra Shire Council, Children's Services provide long day care, family day care and a kindergarten program to children in our community.

Gannawarra Shire Council will be guided by the National Quality Standards which aims to promote:

- the safety, health and wellbeing of children
- a focus on achieving outcomes for children through high-quality educational programs
- families' understanding of what distinguishes a quality service.

In order to meet the National Quality Standards, Gannawarra Shire Council Children's Services will:

- Provide an educational program and practice that is stimulating, engaging and enhances children's learning and development.
- Safeguard and promote every child's health and wellbeing with whom there is a service responsibility.
- Provide a physical environment that is safe, suitable and provides a rich and diverse range of experiences which promote children's learning and development.
- Provide staffing arrangements that create a safe and predictable environment for children and support warm, respectful relationships.
- Develop and maintain responsive and respectful relationships with children that promote children's sense of security and belonging and free them to explore the environment and engage in learning.
- Support sensitive and responsive relationship building with other children and adults to promote children's sense of security and belonging.
- Develop and maintain collaborative relationships with families to achieve quality outcomes for children.

A range of procedures have been developed and performance measures identified to support meeting the National Quality Standards. These will form part of the Children's Services Quality Improvement Plan which will be reviewed as needed, but at least every three years.

2. POLICY REVIEW

Council will review this policy as required but always within two years after a general election of the Council.

At the time it was developed, this policy was compliant with the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

3. FURTHER INFORMATION

Members of the public may inspect all policies at the Gannawarra Shire Council's Kerang and Cohuna office or online at www.gannawarra.vic.gov.au

Any enquiries in relation to this policy should be directed to the Director Community Wellbeing on (03) 5450 933

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