Partnerships with families
6th March to 10th March 2020

Dear Families,

The past couple of weeks have been very challenging for many of us as we adjust to the new reality of life during a coronavirus pandemic. Please let us know if we can help support you in any way or provide information about the financial measures the Government’s implemented to help families. Due to the pandemic, we have temporarily suspended our regular professional development activities as we focus on implementing additional hygiene and social isolation measures to help protect our children, families and staff. We have a new Coronavirus Policy which outlines these measures. If you have not seen the Policy yet please let us know so we can share these measures with you. We are, however, continuing to review our service policies to ensure we don’t fall behind in this important area. This week we’re reviewing our Bush Play Policy and our Death of a Child Policy. Summaries follow:

**Bush Play Policy**

* Educators promote children’s learning through a flexible program of off-site, child-led activities and play which promote children’s confidence, self-esteem and independence
* Program will include some dangerous elements which do not pose an unacceptable risk to children
* Program may take place in all weather conditions which are not hazardous.
* The Nominated Supervisor and educators will consider a range of issues listed in the policy when selecting a suitable site and conducting risk assessments for excursions to the site eg setting clear safety rules and boundaries with children, and educator to child ratios and any additional adults required, delivery and collection arrangements at site, and emergency and evacuation procedures at site
* Consultations with families about Bush Kindy programs will cover relevant issues including delivery and collection arrangements, emergency procedures and clothing requirements
* Excursion to Bush Kindy site must be authorised by parents/guardians

**Death of a Child Policy**

* Contains procedure to follow if a child dies at the service or following incident at service. Educators will apply first aid as appropriate and immediately call an ambulance
* The Nominated Supervisor will:
* call parents/guardians and arrange to meet at hospital
* notify Police
* notify Regulator of serious incident within 24 hours of the death
* notify WHS Regulator as soon as possible

**Delayed Entry and Exit Policy QLD LDC only**

* Children must be at least five years of age by 30 June in the year they attend prep. Parents of children who turn five between 1 and 31 July may apply to enrol in Prep early. The school principal will decide if the child is ready
* Parents may decide their child would benefit from starting Kindergarten later (delayed entry) or by completing a second year of kindergarten (delayed exit)
* Parents are encouraged to meet with our Early Childhood Teacher, school principal and other professionals to discuss any concerns about their child’s school readiness
* If a child delays entry to Kindergarten they must still complete Prep
* There must be written evidence to support a decision to delay exit from an approved kindergarten program

Children refused early entry to Prep can complete a second year of kindergarten without applying for a delayed exit.

There are copies of the policies near the sign in/out sheet. Please take a moment to read them. We value any feedback you may have.

Nominated Supervisor