Partnerships with families
20th April to 24th April 2020

Dear Families,

As a part of the continuous improvement required by the National Quality Standard, this week we are:

* comparing the way educators support children to build and maintain sensitive and responsive relationships against the Government’s exceeding measures in this area. If you’d like more information about the practices required to achieve exceeding please let me know
* reviewing our Bike Safety Policy and Technology Usage Policy. Summaries follow:

**Bike Safety Policy**

* Issues services may consider if planning bike tracks or using existing tracks include:
	+ using different texture materials so children experience different vibration and sounds
	+ including road features which reinforce road safety eg line markings, pedestrian crossings, stop and give way signs, traffic lights
	+ including features like petrol stations, bus stops and gardens to encourage role play
* The Nominated Supervisor (NS) will ensure bikes are suitable for the ages of children, comply with AS/NSZ 1927, and are regularly inspected and maintained
* Before children can ride bikes:
	+ the NS will conduct a risk assessment and eliminate or minimise risk to children
	+ the NS will induct educators and staff in the safe use of bikes
	+ educators will teach children how to ride the bikes and the bike safety rules

The bike safety rules include:

* all bikes are ridden in one direction only
* all children wear properly fitting helmets that comply with AS/NSZ 2063
* no child can ride a bike if an educator is not supervising

**Technology Usage Policy**

* IT devices at the service (eg computers, laptops, iPads, tablets, Smart Boards, TVs and DVD players) may only be used for work related activities eg children’s play and projects
* Children will only access IT devices when directly supervised by educators
* Technology will not be used as a substitute for interactions and collaborative learning
* All screen content viewed by children at the service must:
* be suitable to the needs and development levels of each child watching
* hold the interests of the children watching
* be rated 'G' if relevant
* The time children spend watching content on IT devices at the service will be consistent with the Federal Government’s Get Up and Grow Guidelines
	+ birth to 2 years zero time per day (very short viewings for educational purposes is okay)
	+ 2-5 years no more than one hour per day
* Educators must not access personal IT devices (eg smart phones, iPads, tablets) while interacting with children or contributing to service ratios
* Action will be taken against educators who use computers inappropriately or for illegal purposes

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

Nominated Supervisor