



## Educational Leader

*Professional standards guide practice, interactions and relationships.*

**Looking at the element in detail** - A service reviewed what the NQF Guide said about element 4.2.2 and understood educators must understand:

- the National Law and Regulations, NQS, EYLF/MTOP, and Service Code of Ethics/Conduct, philosophy, policies and procedures
- attitudes, values and beliefs can impact practice.

Early in the 1980s Dr. Edward de Bono invented the **Six Thinking Hats** method which is a framework to help support the way we think. Each of the six 'hats' focuses on a different style of thinking. The idea is to imagine wearing a particular 'hat' and focusing on that thinking style:

- **White** hat thinking identifies facts and details
- **Black** hat thinking examines problems, what's incorrect, what won't work and why
- **Yellow** hat thinking focuses on the positive aspects of a topic, from logical and practical things to dreams and visions
- **Red** hat thinking is about emotions, feelings and intuition
- **Green** hat thinking is about creativity, imagination and the search for alternatives (lateral thinking)
- **Blue** hat thinking organises our thinking. We reflect on the type of thinking needed ie the best 'hat.' (This is known as metacognition).

Educators can use the Six Thinking Hats to explore their attitudes, values and beliefs, and their understanding of the National Law and Regulations, NQS, EYLF/MTOP etc.

Consider the following example:

Bryson regularly has meltdowns and educators aren't sure how to manage them.

**White hat:** When do the meltdowns happen – what time of day, what activities, what's the environment like, which staff are involved?

**Black hat:** We don't know much about Bryson's home life, we don't have a very strong relationship with his

parents, he only comes in 2 days a week, he may be neurodivergent but we're not sure

**Yellow hat:** Bryson has a lot of strengths and unique talents eg he loves cartoons - the characters, stories and drawing them, we could do a feature wall with some of his drawings, if Bryson's on the Spectrum we can do this – we've successfully supported another child on the ASD spectrum

**Red hat:** I'm scared we're going to fail Bryson. He needs our love and support. I think something's going on at home

**Green hat:** Sometimes Bryson's grandma picks him up. Let's make sure we talk to her and see if we can get some more information. In the meantime, let's try changing some of the sensory stimuli in the environment to see if that makes a difference eg noise, light

**Blue hat:** Let's think some more about how we're reacting to Bryson (red hat), and whether some of our attitudes and beliefs are actually making things worse.

How could you help your educators use the Six Hats framework to guide their professional practice?



### Week 38, 28 November - 2 December 2022 – 4.2.2 Professional standards

## Medical Conditions Policy

Educators and staff will:

- respect the privacy of children and families
- always follow a child's Medical Management, Risk Minimisation and Communication Plans

The Nominated Supervisor will ensure:

- educators, volunteers and parents get a copy of this Policy if their child has a medical condition
- the Policy includes the management of asthma, anaphylaxis and diabetes
- no child attends without prescribed medication (includes epi-pens, asthma puffers)
- the enrolment record includes details of any specific health needs
- each child with a medical condition/health care need has a medical management plan prepared by a doctor, and risk minimisation and communication plans prepared by the service in consultation with families
- risk minimisation plans cover triggers for the condition and actions to reduce/eliminate them
- communication plans ensure staff and volunteers know about this policy, any medical plans, and how parents can update child's information
- medical management plans, risk minimisation plans, and location of medications are displayed in a prominent area (while respecting child's privacy)
- information displayed in foyer mentions child with anaphylaxis attends if relevant (no names)

Families will update the service if/when their child's medication or health plans change.

Do you have any feedback or comments about these policies? Please include below.

Educator's Name	Educator's Signature