Room Leader and Educators Catch Up Week 30b

Services have previously advised they needed some catch up weeks, so we developed a 40 week email cycle with some catch up weeks every 10 weeks. This week we are summarising some of the important information from weeks 26-30. Make sure you understand the concepts below and revisit any weeks and activities where necessary. Completing the activities reinforces the learning, and ensures your curriculum and practices are on track to get exceeding.

Week 26 Element 2.1.1 Wellbeing and comfort
The core of this Standard's exceeding themes is "All educators consistently meet each child's needs for sleep, rest and relaxation individually and in groups, taking into consideration information from children, families and the community. All educators can explain how children's changing activity needs are considered in the program design and the guidelines that underpin their practice."

We discussed how wellbeing and comfort includes children's physical, mental and spiritual needs, and involves active and restful experiences that support each child's health, nutrition, sleep, rest and relaxation.

Week 27 Element 6.2.2 Access and participation
The core of this element's exceeding theme is "All educators participate in robust debate to ensure all children are supported and included no matter their ability, background or health requirements. The service assists families to make connections with community services and agencies and all educators continually critically reflect to ensure they are creating a culture of inclusion and identifying new ways to support all children and families."

We discussed how educators must understand each child's strengths, needs and circumstances, work with families to support children's access, and understand how their own beliefs and values could impact each child's participation.

Week 28 Element 2.2.3 Child protection
The core of this element's exceeding theme is "All educators act on and can discuss their responsibilities under current child protection laws, regularly reflect on practices to support children's safety and make identified changes, and actively raise awareness of child protection issues with families and community members in a culturally sensitive manner."

We discussed how all employees must be aware of their legal responsibilities, roles and responsibilities to identify and respond to every child at risk of harm, abuse or neglect.

Week 29 Element 2.1.2 Health practices
The core of this element's exceeding theme is "All educators hygiene practices, and manage and support children's health and medical needs in line with recognised best practice which they can discuss. All educators reflect on health and illness-related incidents, and help to implement identified changes. All educators build partnerships with families and community members/organisations to enhance children's health outcomes."

We discussed this involves modelling and implementing effective ways to manage illnesses, injuries, infection control and hygiene procedures, risk management approaches and safe food practices.

Week 30 Element 4.1.1 Organisation of educators
The core of this element's exceeding theme is "all educators can explain how educators are purposefully organised to ensure continuity for children and a high quality learning environment, taking into account each educator's qualifications, strengths and priorities. All educators encourage families and community members to provide feedback about the organisation of educators, and reflect together on possible changes to improve staff continuity."

We discussed how the effective organisation of educators supports meaningful learning, safety and wellbeing outcomes.

Reflection

1. **Element 2.1.1 Wellbeing and comfort**
   Reflect on the split of active and restful activities and experiences eg 50/50, 75/25. Do you think this split needs adjusting? Why or why not?

2. **Element 6.2.2 Access and participation**
   A child breaks their leg outside the service and needs to use a wheelchair for 6-8 weeks. Should you welcome the child back to the service during this time? Why or why not? What steps might you take?

3. **Element 2.2.3 Child protection**
   A child turns up with bruises, and when questioned mum says the child has muscle weakness that leads to ongoing scrapes and bruises. What would you do and why?

4. **Element 2.1.2 Health practices**
   How have Service infection control, hygiene and risk management practices changed in light of COVID? Which of these are practices which strengthen outcomes and should continue indefinitely?

5. **Element 4.1.1 Organisation of educators**
   How does the organisation of educators at the Service support flexible play in indoor and outdoor spaces? How could this be improved?

Week 30b 3 to 7 October 2022– **Catch-up week**

2

Transport Policy

Children will not be transported unless parents authorise this. The Policy outlines what the Authorisation must include.

The Nominated Supervisor or educators will complete a risk assessment before children are transported unless it is 'regular transportation' (circumstances are substantially the same) and a risk assessment has been completed within the last 12 months. Policy outlines what the risk assessment must include.

The Nominated Supervisor will:

- nominate the driver (service operated vehicles), lead educator and person responsible for checking vehicle at end of trip
- update risk assessments and obtain new authorisations if circumstances change
- ensure drivers meet the fitness and licensing requirements outlined in Policy
- ensure child restraints/booster seats in vehicles meet Australian standards
- follow recognised service schedules and organise an annual mechanical inspection, or sight evidence vehicle has had mechanical inspection within the last 12 months

The Nominated Supervisor and staff will:

- ensure and all children are appropriately restrained as required by Australian laws and outlined in Policy
- complete a risk assessment and implement measures to remove or control the risks posed by any car park on the premises.

To ensure children's safety educators will:

- implement the Transport Procedure or Transport Procedure Excursions when transporting children to and from destinations
- closely supervise children when outside the service near roads
- regularly integrate learning about road safety into the curriculum.

Do you have any feedback or comments about this policy? Please include below.

Educator's Name	Educator's Signature	Educator's Name	Educator's Signature

Week 30b 3 to 7 October 2022– **Catch-up week**

Checklist

Why are you doing the checklist?

The practices identified in the checklist are what the assessor needs to see you do so they can check you're 'meeting the NQS' in relation to Element 2.1.2 Health practices and procedures, 2.2.1 Supervision and Element 3.1.2 Upkeep. If there's something on the checklist that you're not doing, then you need to either adjust your practice to do it, or ask for help and training to do what's on the checklist ie work with your educational leader or room leader who should teach/coach you how to do it.

The checklist keys to use.

E = **Embedded** I do that **ALL** the time

K = I **know** I need to do that, but I don't do it all the time

T = Please **teach** me how to do it or improve my understanding of why I need to do it.

Name Educator 1	
Name Educator 2	
Name Educator 3	
Name Educator 4	
Name Educator 5	

Outdoor Safety

	ED1	ED2	ED3	ED4	ED5
Layout					
Can children and adults move freely around the outdoor environment?					
Is there clear access from outdoor areas to toilets and hand basins?					
Is there clear access to all outdoor play areas?					
Can children and adults move freely around the outdoor environment?					
Equipment and Facilities					
Are the equipment and resources placed in areas where the children can play safely?					
Is the sandpit full?					
Is the climbing equipment, swings and large furniture stable and/or weighed down?					
Are all steps stable and non-slippery?					
Are paths in good repair and not a trip hazard?					
Are outside areas checked for hazards and dangerous objects every morning?					
Are outdoor storage areas containing hazardous substances securely locked and inaccessible to children?					
Are soft fall zones around equipment free of objects?					
Practices					
Do you make sure children ride bikes in one direction only?					
Do you make sure children wear helmets when riding bikes?					
Do children take turns to use equipment like wobbly bridges and trampolines?					
Is the sandpit covered when not in use?					
Do you ensure children play in shaded areas when UV levels are high?					
Hygiene					
Are all equipment and fittings (including lights) maintained in a safe and clean condition at all times?					

Actions required after completing the checklist?

Week 30b 3 to 7 October 2022– **Catch-up week**