



GOVERNANCE POLICY

Rationale

Berri Community Preschool will meet its legal and financial obligations by implementing appropriate governance practices that support our aim to provide high quality care that meets the objectives and principles of the National Quality Framework, the National Quality Standards and the Early Years Learning Framework.

Governance in schools and preschools is the responsibility of the governing council whose role is directed by the [constitution](#) and [code of practice](#). In this model of governance:

The cooperative role of governing council and school staff is emphasised.

Management and governance are clearly separated.

The focus is on improving student learning outcomes.

The broad directions are set and monitored by the governing council.

The site leader and staff are responsible for reporting.

Joint areas of accountability are minimised.

Governing Councils:

Set Broad Direction (In conjunction with the site leader)

The governing council identifies and incorporates, where possible, student, parent and community input and values into the broad direction of the preschool. The preschool director brings the staff perspective to these undertakings. The broad direction may include a future vision, a statement of purpose and a set of values that clearly focus on improving student learning.

Develop Broad Directional Policy

The governing council develops broad policy statements that facilitate the achievement of the preschool vision and broad direction.

Initiate and Approve Recommendations and Strategies

All recommendations must conform with government policy, industrial agreements, DECD policy and direction and site decision making structures.

Directors work with parents, staff and students to develop recommendations and strategies to achieve the broad site directions jointly set with the governing council. These strategies will include but are not restricted to:

A Preschool Quality Improvement Plan that is developed in consultation with the staff and community. This plan must incorporate state and federal requirements as well as local priorities that will achieve the broad direction set by the governing council.

The allocation of resources to best achieve the objectives of the P.Q.I.P. Resource allocation must take into account risk management, sustainability and industrial and accountability requirements. The budget recommendation will be developed with the Finance officer, Director and staff to suit the needs of the Preschool site. Draft budgets and the final recommendation will be presented to the governing council by the Treasurer. The governing council has final responsibility for budget approval.

Through decision making structures the director will engage the staff and parents in the development of the P.Q.I.P. These plans are presented to the governing council for comment and approval.



Monitor Progress

The governing council monitors the site budget and progress towards the broad directions set and the targets of the P.Q.I.P. This is done at each governing council meeting where the director and treasurer provide information and data as a part of their reports against the plans, priorities and budget. A summary of these forms the basis of the Annual Report.

Management and Leadership

Site management and educational leadership is the responsibility of the director and staff. It is not a part of the governance role involving the governing council and wider community.

If individual community members have an issue with a staff member they should attempt to resolve the matter directly with the staff member at an early stage. If this is not successful then the matter should be referred to the director.

If individual community members are concerned with management decisions or have an issue with the director they must discuss these with the director and if not satisfied with the result then refer the matter to the District Educational Director; Con Karvouniaris.

This policy has been developed in consultation with the Governing Council, staff and families of the centre and will be reviewed and evaluated regularly and modified as required to ensure continued relevance for Berri Community Preschool. This policy will be shared with all new staff and families, and available on the website and in the preschool policies folder.

Policy Issued: March 2021

Policy Review Date: March 2025