



# Kangaroo Island Children's Services Inc

## PRIORITY OF ACCESS

Sometimes, there may be a waiting list for child care services and to ensure the system is fair, the Australian Government has "Priority of Access Guide- lines" for allocating places in these circumstances.

The guidelines only apply to approved childcare. They are used when there is a waiting list for a child care service or when a number of parents are applying for a limited number of vacant places.

Every approved child care service has to abide by the guidelines and tell you about them when you enrol your child into care.

### PRIORITIES

First Priority: a child at risk of serious abuse or neglect.

Second Priority: a child of a single parent who satisfies, or of parents who both satisfy, the work/training/study test under section 14 of the Family Assistance Act.

Third Priority: any other child

Within these main categories priority should also be given to the following children:

- Children in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families
- Children in families which include a disabled person
- Children in families which include an individual whose adjusted taxable income does not exceed the lower income threshold (See Appendix 2: Child Care Payment Rates and Income Thresholds) or who or whose partner are on income support
- Children in families from a non-English speaking background
- Children in socially isolated families and
- Children of single parents

A child care service may require a Priority 3 child to vacate a place to make room for a child with a higher priority. They can only do so if you:

- Are notified when your child first entered care that your service follows this policy
- Are given at least 14 days notice of the need for your child to vacate

During the January Vacation care period children who will commence school in term 1 of that year may be able to access OSHC if there are vacancies. To ensure care is provided equitably and in line with the priority of access these children will be waitlisted for OSHC. The wait- list will be reviewed 2 working days in advance and if vacancies exist the children on the waitlist will be offered a booking. These children can hold a booking in KICS long day care, while being waitlisted for.