

Child safe environment – child protection policy

Child protection curriculum

All staff are trained in providing a child protection curriculum, in line with the South Australian Government's 'Keeping them Safe' child protection reform program, which includes a curriculum package and acknowledges the importance of teachers, support staff and educational leaders in the protection of children from abuse and neglect.

In line with state legislation all staff working in child care, kindergartens and schools, including student teachers in schools and preschools are required to undergo Relevant History Clearances through the Department of Communities and Social Inclusion (DCSI). Regular volunteers and non-current parent/guardian Governing Council members are also required to undergo Screening - the payment of these Screenings by the kindergarten will be considered on an individual basis and circumstances.

Site leaders (principals and preschool directors) have the right to require a parent / adult from the age of 16 to undergo screening at their discretion.

Work Experience students in kindergartens are also required to undergo a DCSI clearance.

Site Leaders retain the right to discontinue a volunteer / student teacher at any time if concerns exist about their suitability to be working with children. For more information refer to Relevant History Screening Checks Policy Guidelines: <https://www.decd.sa.gov.au/working-decd/relevant-history-screening/about-relevant-history-screening>

All staff in kindergartens are Mandated Reporters. This means that all kindergarten staff are legally obliged to report any form of suspected child abuse - physical, psychological and or verbal – to Families SA Services.

It is a departmental requirement for staff, Governing Council members and regular volunteers to update and/or undergo a Reporting Abuse and Neglect (RAN) course on a regular basis to ensure all staff are abreast of latest legislation; as well as to ensure optimum levels are maintained in providing a child safe environment at kindergarten.

Nominated site leader & contact person for child protection matters: Jakub Tuma, Preschool Director

Information sharing

There will be occasions where sharing information with others outside of Department of Education and Child Development (DECD) will be important to your child's educational progress, safety or well-being. Parental/Guardian consent is sought during the enrolment process prior to any information sharing occurring.

Confidentiality

Parent Information – addresses, phone numbers, medical information & other enrolment data – is only given upon verbal or written consent from the party concerned. Kindergarten staff respects confidentiality of all matters pertaining to the child and family. All child reports/folders are also treated in a confidential manner.

Reviewed: March 2017

Next Review: March 2018