
	Management Area: Children's Services	Version No: 3.0 Pages: 4
	Category of Policy: Operational	Approval Date: 19/06/2023 Policy Approver: Head of Children's Services
Policy Title: Interactions with Children Policy		Author: YMCA of SA

YMCA SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Interactions with Children Policy

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1. Purpose

Mutually supportive relationships and interactions are integral to quality education and care settings. Secure respectful and responsive relationships between and amongst children and adults provide the foundation upon which the community is established.

2. Scope

The scope of this policy applies to all Board members, Sub Committee members, educators, and volunteers. This policy applies to all YMCA Member Associations. For the purposes of this document, we refer to these as the YMCA. All Policies and Procedures must conform to this policy.


3. Policy Statement

Through positive, supportive, and intentional relationship building, all educators will ensure that YMCA services provide education and care to children in a way that facilitates the following:

- a) Children are encouraged to express themselves and their opinions.
- b) Educators ensure children undertake experiences that develop self-reliance and self-esteem.
- c) The dignity and rights of each child being educated and cared for by the service are maintained at all times.
- d) Each child is given positive guidance and encouragement toward acceptable behaviour; and
- e) Educators have regard to the family and cultural values, age and physical and intellectual development and abilities of each child being educated and cared for by the service.

4. Roles and Responsibilities

Department / Area	Role / Responsibility
Children's Services Management	<p>Is responsible for the development, monitoring, and review of the policy and related systems, ensuring content meets all legislated requirements.</p> <p>To facilitate policy awareness to all educators on the appropriate implementation and use of the policy.</p>

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Responsible Persons	<p>Nominated supervisor/ and or service management will oversee the implementation and service adherence of the policy.</p> <p>Nominated supervisor/person with management and control will seek individual community feedback and facilitate an active consultation process with service users as appropriate.</p> <p>Is responsible for addressing any instance of non-compliance with this policy- and implementing strategies to help prevent non-compliance with this policy.</p> <p>Responsible for ensuring suitable resources and support systems to enable compliance with this policy.</p> <p>Drive the consultation process and provide leadership and advice on the continuous improvement of the policy.</p>
All employees, volunteers & students	<p>Responsible for meeting the requirements outlined in this policy.</p> <p>Responsible for raising concerns or complaints in accordance with this policy.</p>

5. Key Relevant Documents

- Interactions with Children - Guide
- Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy
- Safeguarding Children and Young People Positive Behaviour Guidance Procedure
- Safeguarding Children and Young People Safety Code of Conduct
- Education and Early Childhood Services (Registration and Standards) Act 2011
- Education and Care Services National Regulations (2011 SI 653)
- National Quality Standard
- Children's Services Act 1996
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Early Childhood Australia Code of Ethics

6. Monitoring Evaluation and Review

This policy will be reviewed every two years or earlier for reasonable cause or upon the request of the YMCA South Australia Board.

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7. Version History

Version	Date	Description of changes	Effective Date	Review Date
2.0	19/06/2023	Updated legislative and industry requirements. Updated document name.	19/07/2023	July 2025
3.0	26/05/2025	Reviewed. No changes needed.	26/05/2025	May 2027