

PROVISION OF CARE - PLANNING FOR CHILDREN'S DEVELOPMENT

POLICY

The effective use of appropriate and flexible programming in a home based early childhood service is regarded as an important indicator of quality. In Family Day Care it is important for Educators to plan to ensure that children's needs are met. A range of experiences for young children, based on their needs and individual abilities, should be regularly offered by Educators.

The development and use of a programming model and keeping written notes ensures that:

- the Educator, parents and Co-ordination Unit are included in ensuring that the individual and changing developmental needs of each child are considered and met.
- the Educator is aware of the program aims, and current child development theories.
- all parents are informed about the experiences offered to their children and the Educator's aims for the group as a whole.

A home environment that provides opportunities for children to learn and develop their skills requires creativity, enthusiasm and access to suitable materials and equipment. The materials and equipment provided should be culturally appropriate, culturally diverse and provide for a variety of experiences that appeal to individual interests. They should vary according to age and level of development.

PROCEDURE

1. The Educator shall endeavour to stimulate and develop each child's social, physical, emotional, intellectual, language and creative potential and shall provide activities that are appropriate to the development of the child.
2. The Educator shall provide a balance of indoor and outdoor activities, active and quiet activities with all planned activities based on the Educator's knowledge of the child's developmental needs and interests.
3. Adequate equipment to meet the developmental needs of the children must be provided.
4. The Educator shall regularly communicate with parents about activities the child has engaged in.
5. The Educator shall maintain written/material documentation of their program and each child's development and involvement, which will be made available to parents and Family Day Care staff on request.