

## Casino West Little Jarjums Preschool Excursions procedure

Associated National Quality Standard	Education and Care Services National Law or Regulation	Associated department policy, procedure or guideline
2.2	Regulation 99 Regulation 100 Regulation 101 Regulation 102 Regulation 168	Excursions Policy Preschool Obtaining parent's authorisation and consent

### Pre-reading and reference documents

ACECQA – Excursion risk assessment template

Department's Risk management process and proforma

Kids and Traffic - website and contact

### **Related procedure**

Transportation of children

#### Staff roles and responsibilities

### **School principal**

The principal as Nominated Supervisor, Educational Leader and Responsible Person holds primary responsibility for the preschool.

The principal is responsible for ensuring:

- the preschool is compliant with legislative standards related to this procedure at all times
- all staff involved in the preschool are familiar with and implement this procedure
- all procedures are current and reviewed as part of a continuous cycle of self- assessment.

#### **Preschool**

The preschool supervisor supports the principal in their role and is

#### supervisor

responsible for leading the review of this procedure through a process of self-assessment and critical reflection. This includes but is not limited to:

- analysing complaints, incidents, or issues and what the implications are for the updates to this procedure
- reflecting on how this procedure is informed by relevant recognised authorities
- planning and discussing ways to engage with families and communities, including how changes are communicated
- developing strategies to induct all staff when procedures are updated to ensure practice is embedded.)

# Preschool educators

The preschool educators are responsible for working with leadership to ensure:

- all staff in the preschool and daily practices comply with this procedure
- storing this procedure in the preschool, and making it accessible to all staff, families, visitors and volunteers
- being actively involved in the review of this procedure, as required, or at least annually
- ensuring the details of this procedure's review are documented.

#### **Procedure**

## Risk assessment

- Preschool excursions are conducted in line with the department's Excursion Policy Implementation Procedures. The preschool teacher uses the School "Variation to Routine" application which is approved by the Principal.
- A risk assessment on the DoE template is developed by the Preschool Teacher and signed off by the principal prior to the excursion taking place.
- The risk assessment identifies and assesses risks to the safety, health or wellbeing of children attending the excursion and specifies how these risks will be managed and minimised.
- If an excursion involves the transportation of children, the risk assessment must also consider:
  - o the means of transport
  - the NSW requirements for seatbelts and safety restraints (in a vehicle with seating for 12 or less people, children aged four must sit in a booster seat. In a vehicle with seating for more than 12 people, if seat belts are available, they must be worn.)
  - o the process for entering and exiting the preschool premises
  - o the process for entering and exiting the destination
  - o procedures for embarking and disembarking the means of transport, including how each child is to be accounted for.
- The risk assessment also requires the educators to consider and comment on matters such as the number of children who will

- attend, any water hazards, venue location and proposed activities.
- After the risk assessment has been completed and the hazards identified and considered, educator to child ratios are determined. The risk assessment is reviewed by the principal and signed off. This is then shared with the preschool staff and available in the preschool foyer to be viewed by the parents.
- Accompanying the group on the excursion will be at least one educator who holds the ACECQA approved first aid, anaphylaxis and asthma qualifications.
- Visits to the preschool from outside providers are not regarded as incursions, however, families are informed of any organised visits. via a note in the child's note pocket, and Class Dojo.

## Organisation and planning

- In planning the excursion, these items will be considered and addressed to ensure the safety and care of the children and addressed in the risk assessment:
  - Who will carry the group list? Will it be marked throughout the excursion?
  - Who will perform head counts throughout the day? How often?
  - What plans will be made in case a child is late to preschool and the group has already departed?
  - What will be taken on the excursion (e.g. first aid kit, individual emergency medication and action plans, mobile phone, children's emergency contacts, spare clothing, spare drinking water)
  - o If food will be distributed on the excursion, who will ensure none of it is a trigger food for a child with food allergies or at risk of anaphylaxis?
  - o Has someone pre visited the venue or location?
  - o If walking, are all staff familiar with the route?
  - o What process will be used for crossing roads?
  - Who will ensure all accompanying staff and parent volunteers are familiar with relevant preschool procedures (e.g. excursions, medical conditions, administration of first aid)?

## Parent / carer authorisation

- Written authorisation and consent will be given by a parent or carer before their child leaves the preschool premises on an excursion.
   The written authorisation will include:
  - o the child's name
  - o the reason the child is to be taken outside the premises
  - o the date the child is to be taken on the excursion
  - a description of the proposed destination and method of transport to be used for the excursion
  - o the proposed activities to be undertaken by the child during

the excursion	
o the period the child will be away from the premises	
<ul> <li>the anticipated number of children likely to be attending the excursion</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>the anticipated ratio of educators attending the excursion the anticipated number of children attending the excursion</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>the anticipated number of staff members and any other adults who will accompany and supervise the children on the excursion</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>that a risk assessment has been prepared and is available at the service</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>if the excursion involves transporting children, the means of transport that will be utilised</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>a description of the seatbelts or safety restraints that will be used - if the transport seats less than 12 people, each child must be seated in a booster seat. If the transport seats more than 12 people, and belts are available, each child must wear a seatbelt.</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>For regular outings (e.g. a walk to the local park or shop) only one parent authorisation (refer to the requirements of what is to be included in the authorisation for excursions) and one prepared risk assessment (as per the requirements for an excursion) is required in a 12-month period, unless there is a change. Families are notified of upcoming regular outings via ClassDojo.</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Visits to the school (if on the same site and no roads need to be crossed) are not regarded as excursions, however, families are informed that the visit will be taking place and an annual risk management plan for visits into the school is prepared. Common areas of the school that will be visited are the library, playground, hall and office.</li> </ul>	

## Record of procedure's review

#### Date of review and who was involved

30/03/2023 Preschool Team, preschool families. Shared with families for feedback.

## Key changes made and reason/s why

Moved to new department template to adhere to Department expectations of what should be included in this localised procedure

## Record of communication of significant changes to relevant stakeholders

Uploaded to preschool webpage and placed in Localised Procedures folder in preschool foyer

Copy and paste a new table to record each occasion the procedure is reviewed.