



Priority of access

Quality Area 7: Leadership and service management

Policy Statement

This policy has been developed to ensure the education and care service complies with the *Priority of Access Guidelines* set by *Family Assistance Law* and defined by *NSW State Government Funding Agreements*. Failure to meet these Guidelines is a breach of the conditions of continued approval for receiving Child Care Benefit and State Government funding.

Goals – what are we doing?

Ocean Shores Preschool:

- will follow the *Priority of Access Guidelines* at all times when enrolling children. The waiting list application will reflect these guidelines to ensure that care is provided to families using these priorities.

Strategies – How will it be done?

The education and care service will use the *Priority of Access Guidelines* to prioritise the waiting list and to allocate available education and care places to families. These are:

- Priority 1: 4 and 5 year olds;
- Priority 2: Equity group – 3 year olds of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islanders or low income families who hold a current Health Care Card; or of parents who both satisfy, the work/training/study test under Section 14 of the 'A New Tax System(Family Assistance) Act 1999'
- Priority 3: those that can full fee

The education and care service endeavours to meet the needs of the children and families in our community while complying with the above guidelines. Priority of access will reflect conditions of Funding Agreement.

EVALUATION

All enrolments will strictly adhere to the *Priority of Access Guidelines* to ensure equity and consistency for the community

Information provided by Community Child Care Co-operative (NSW).

Links to other policies/documents

- Enrolment and Orientation
- Confidentiality
- Child Protection
- Links to National Quality Standards/Elements: 6.1.1, 6.3.3, 7.3.2

Sources

- Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations – www.deewr.gov.au – Child Care Service Handbook 2011-2012
- Department of Education and Communities/ Early Childhood education and Care - www.det.nsw.edu.au/what-we-offer/early-childhood-education-and-care

Statutory Legislation & Considerations

- Child Care Benefit (Eligibility of Child Care Services for Approval and Continued Approval) Determination 2000 (subsection 2051 Family Assistance (Administration) Act)
- Priority of Access Guidelines for child care services
- Department of Education and Communities Funding Agreement
- Family Assistance Law