

Policy 22

Sustainability Policy

Policy Statement

Wideview Outside School Hours Care Service we aim to embed sustainable practices into our service. We take an active role in caring for our environment and we contribute to a sustainable future. Children are supported to become environmentally responsible and show their respect for the environment. Sustainability is embedded in our programs.

Links to Education and Care Services National Regulations and National Quality Standard

QUALITY AREA		
1.2	Practice	Educators facilitate and extend each child's learning and development.
1.2.1	Intentional teaching	Educators are deliberate, purposeful, and thoughtful in their decisions and actions.
1.2.3	Child directed learning	Each child's agency is promoted, enabling them to make choices and decisions that influence events and their world
3.2	Use	The service environment is inclusive, promotes competence and supports exploration and play-based learning
3.2.3	Environmentally responsible	The service cares for the environment and supports children to become environmentally responsible
5.2	Relationships between children	Each child is supported to build and maintain sensitive and responsive relationships
5.2.1	Collaborative learning	Children are supported to collaborate, learn from and help each other

EDUCATION AND CARE SERVICES NATIONAL REGULATIONS	
108	Space requirements—outdoor space
110	Ventilation and natural light
113	Outdoor space—natural environment

Procedure

1. Routines

- 1.1 Our educational program includes daily sustainable activities for the children to participate in from recycling, gardening and respecting each other and our resources.
- 1.2 At WOOSHC we remind the children of the 5 R's Reduce/ Reuse/ Recycle/ Rethink/ Respect. We ask the children and the parents to contribute with information and ideas in relation to sustainability.
- 1.3 we have a compost and worm farm which the children tend to when possible. We also have a garden.
- 1.4 We endeavour to use recycled materials for our art and craft as much as possible. We use natural resources for both indoor and outdoor play. We use recycled items for play opportunities.
- 1.5 We review procedures and policies regularly to ensure there is an underlying focus on sustainable practices.
- 1.6 Reduce paper by considering electronic newsletters, invoices, enrolment records etc
- 1.7 Educators will role model good sustainable practices and utilise opportunities to teach children about sustainability in daily routines.
- 1.8 Where possible we use local shops and suppliers for purchases.

1.9 The service endeavours to make the following part of their daily routines:

- Recycling
- Water Conservation
- Energy Conservation
- Gardening
- Purchasing sustainable equipment
- Using recycled material for craft
- Sustainability to be included to meeting agendas and the Quality Improvement Plan
- Saving leftover water to place in the garden.
- Turn off taps, light switches etc.

1.10 Keep up to date with your local council and Government departments regarding information on sustainable practices in your local community. Look for grants that allow you to improve water and energy conservation.

1.11 Encourage children to recycle paper. We have a recycle container for paper and cardboard.

1.12 Sustainability will be embedded in the program. Discuss ideas with the children. Ask the children and the families to come up with some ideas to improve the sustainability of the service.

1.13 Get the children to be in charge of a Sustainability activities, so they can be responsible for things such as recycling, gardening, water usage etc. *My Time, Our Place 2.4*

1.14 Reduce the amount of plastic and disposable equipment used.

1.15 In keeping with economic sustainability service spending follows budgetary guidelines.

1.16 At WOOSHC we accept donations from families and the community, we also purchase equipment and resources second hand when available, so we can give old items new life.

1.17 Where possible we will seek out opportunities to learn about growing our own food and collaborate with children to produce our own opportunities to use food we have grown ourselves in our menu planning

Sources, further reading and useful websites

- Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority. (2014).
- National Quality Framework (2012)
- My Time, Our Place: Framework for School Age Care in Australia (2011).
- Parent Handbook
- Staff Handbook

Policy review information –

The Service encourages staff and parents to be actively involved in the annual review of each of its Policies and Procedures. In addition, the Service will accommodate any new legislative changes as they occur, and any issues identified as part the Service's commitment to quality improvement. The Service consults with relevant recognised authorities as part of the annual review to ensure the policy contents are consistent with current research and maintain the highest standards of child safety and practice.

Review Date	Date completed	By Whom	Collaborated	Comment
Aug 2022	23 Aug 2022	Brandi (Manager)	Staff Committee Parents	
Aug 2023	31Aug 2023	Brandi (Manager)		
Aug 2024	30 Aug 2024	Brandi (Manager)		
Aug 2025	26 Aug 2025	Brandi (Manager)		
Aug 2026	26 Aug 2025	Brandi (Manager)		