

Policy statement.

We aim to provide places for school aged children needing care during their time out of school hours. We will not discriminate against any families needing care however; priority of access will be determined by the Department of Education Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) and placement on our waiting list.

Considerations.

National Standards Section 4.6 (Access)

'Priority of access" guidelines from the Department of Education Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) (Childcare Service Handbook. Section 6.3 Priority of Access.)

Procedure.

Priority of Access

§ Priority 1- a child at risk of serious abuse or neglect.

§ Priority 2- a child of a single parent who satisfies, 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- any other child.

With these main categories priority should also be given to the following children:

§ Children in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families.

§ Children in families which include a disabled person.

§ Children in families on lower incomes.

§ Children in families with a non-English speaking background.

§ Children in socially isolated families.

§ Children of single parents.

- * Each facility within our service will ensure, wherever possible, to cater for the requirements of children with special needs.
- * The Centre will try to meet any specific needs of the families in the local community.
- * Our Centre will be available for children who currently attend primary school only.
- * No one will be discriminated against on the basis of his or her cultural background, religion, sex, disability, marital status or income.
- * Other places will be available if not filled by the above priorities.
- * A waiting list will be developed as necessary and updated regularly which identifies, priority of access eligibility, date placed on list and required days of care.
- * Placement from the waiting list is determined by priority of access guidelines, siblings of children already in care, and date of placement on the waiting list.
- * Parents are able to access their status on the waiting list on request.

Reviewed and updated by committee on 31st March 2010