

Early Years Services – QA2.25 Bush Kinder Identification and Visibility

TRIM Reference: D15/74477 Due for Review: 4 April 2024
Responsible Officer: Coordinator Early Years

Purpose

This policy outlines Surf Coast Shire Council's commitment to ensure Bush/Beach Kinder participants are clearly visible to staff and volunteers, and clearly identifiable to other users to protect the safety of all participants.

Policy Principles

This policy applies to children, parents/guardians, staff, authorised persons, volunteers and students on placement working at Surf Coast Shire Council kindergartens and preschools.

Scope

Evidence of link to National Quality Standards 1.1.1.2.
Evidence of link to Educational & Care Services National Regulations: Part 4.1, 73, 74, 75, 76.
Evidence of link to Education & Care Services National Law: Section 168
Victorian Children's Services: Regulations 2020.

Policy

The programs identify that it is important that children, staff and volunteers participating in the Bush/Beach Kinder program are easily identified to each other and parkland/beach users as a discrete group. It is also critical that children participating in the program are clearly visible to staff and volunteers.

Appropriate signage where possible must be visible to members of the public in the vicinity of the Bush/Beach Kinder site asking that they respect the education program underway and do not disturb the program in any way.

The Surf Coast Shire Early Years Management is responsible for:

- providing appropriate signage for the Bush Kinder site as detailed in this policy;
- providing appropriate identifiable clothing as detailed in this policy for Bush Kinder participants;
- ensuring staff are appropriately trained in procedures for dealing with onlookers, dogs etc.
- ensuring staff have read all policies and work instructions related to bush kinder practices

Staff are responsible for:

- placing Bush Kinder signage in appropriate places at the Bush Kinder site;
- ensuring all children are wearing identifiable ID bracelets and high visibility vests.
- ensuring all staff, volunteers and students are wearing high visibility vests
- requesting that interested onlookers move on for the safety of the children and benefit of the program

Parents/guardians are responsible for:

- ensuring children come to Bush/Beach Kinder dressed appropriately for bush kinder and being familiar with all related information and/or policies
- bringing relevant issues to the attention of both staff and Team Leader kindergarten programs.

Definitions

Identifiable clothing:

Bush Kinder children will be clearly identifiable through wearing ID wrist bracelets and high visibility vests. Staff, volunteers and students will be identifiable by wearing high visibility vests.

Visible signage:

Visible flags/signage will be displayed on site of Bush Kinder sites and on the Bush Kinder wagons where possible.

Related Procedure

Nil.

References

Related Surf Coast Shire Council and Early Years Services Policies

D15/74634	Bush Kinder Play Benefit and Risk
D15/74620	Bush Kinder - Delivery and Collection of Children
D15/74610	Bush Kinder - Snake awareness and first aid
D15/74606	Bush Kinder - Protective Clothing
D15/74583	Bush Kinder - Management of Dogs
D15/74476	Bush Kinder - Extreme Weather
D15/73628	Bush Kinder - Emergency Evacuation
D15/35312	Early Years Child Safe Environment Policy
D15/35364	Early Years Sustainability Policy

Related Surf Coast Shire Council and Early Years Services Work Instructions and Forms

Online	Early Years Enrolment and Consent Form
D19/24712	Template - Excursion Parent Permission Form - 2019

Other References

Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004
 Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2007
 Occupational Health and Safety Compliance Codes, First Aid in the Workplace (2008)
 Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010
 Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011 (Schedule 1 of the Regulations)
 ACECQA National; Quality Framework Resource Kit (2011)

Document History

Version	Document History	Approved by – Date
1	Approval Date	Manager Aged and Family - 1 October 2015
2	Amendment/Review	Manager Aged and Family - 23 August 2018
3	Amendment/Review	Manager Community Strengthening - 9 January 2020
4	Amendment/Review	Manager Community Strengthening - 16 June 2021
5	Amendment/Review	Manager Community Strengthening – 4 October 2022