

Only Early Learning Centre



Children's Clothing Policy

Centre Policy Number 17

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Aim

Only Early Learning Centre understands the way children are dressed for care, can affect them in many ways and impact on their participation throughout the day, their safety and comfort. The type of clothing children wear, can also assist or inhibit their independence at routines. Educators will respect children's individual choices and also facilitate any cultural practices within safety limits.

Who is affected by this policy

Children
Educators
Staff
Management
Visitors
Families

Dressing for Comfort, Safety, Health and Wellbeing

Temperature

Only Early Learning Centre will encourage families to be mindful of the temperature when dressing their child for the education and care environment. It is important that children are not overdressed or underdressed. Families are encouraged to pack clothes for a range of temperatures in their child's bag daily.

Footwear

All children are required to wear safe shoes whilst at the centre. If children do attend the centre in open toed shoes, thongs or loose shoes, they will be required to take them off, prior to being involved in certain experiences. Appropriate footwear must be worn in all bathrooms and kitchen areas of the centre.

Safe Clothing

The design and fit of clothing are important for families to consider as they can cause incidents whilst at the centre. Clothing with long hems, drawstrings and loose clothing can cause tripping and chocking hazards.

Supporting Children's Involvement in Activities

Clothes and shoes that allow children to feel comfortable and which are suitable for "messy and active" play is encouraged by Only Early Learning Centre. Children's clothing should allow for freedom of movement enabling children to play safely. Clothes that fit properly, without being too loose or tight, allow children to move freely and comfortably and participate freely in experiences. Parents are asked not to dress children in clothing, such as long skirts, which may catch on climbing equipment or become a tripping hazard.

Respect for Children

Only Early Learning Centre recognises the importance of showing respect for children and appreciation of their individuality. Educators will ensure that they talk to the children about the clothes that they feel most comfortable in for different activities and assist them in choosing practical clothes. Respect will be shown to all cultural choices in relation to children's clothing. To ensure that health and safety of children whilst at the centre, some cultural preferences in relation to clothing may not be possible. Management and educators will work with families in this situation to determine a resolution that all parties are comfortable with and that are in line with service policies, procedures and regulations.

Toilet Training

When young children are toilet training, educators will work closely with families to ensure that the child's clothing is appropriate for the child whilst using the toilet. Pants without buttons and zippers are easier for young children to remove, for example, pants with an elastic waist.

Special Clothes

Children may choose to wear special clothes or accessories to the centre. Educators will keep open communication about children's special clothes during these times. During messy play or meal times, families can request that the special clothes be removed, and educators will have these conversations with the children throughout the day. Only Early Learning Centre aims to ensure that all children's clothing is kept clean and without damage, although cannot guarantee this.

Family Responsibilities

All families at Only Early Learning Centre are responsible for:

- Labelling all children items of clothing
- Providing spare changes of clothing for their child. If the child is toilet training, multiple changes of clothes are required
- Communicate any potential clothing requirements to the centre

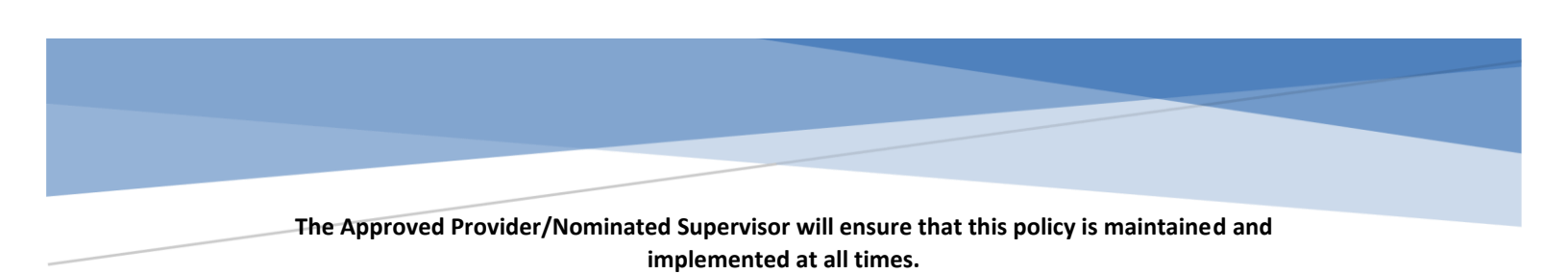
Spare Clothing

Only Early Learning Centre has a small supply of spare clothing to use in the case that a child does not have a change of clothes. These clothing items are labelled Only ELC. It is the families responsibility to ensure that these clothes are returned to the centre at the earliest possible time.

Infant Clothing for Rest Time

During infant rest and sleep times the following guidelines will be used by Only Early Learning Centre to ensure infants are comfortable and safe:

- Infants will be dressed in enough warm clothes to keep them warm without blankets.
- Young children cool themselves down by releasing heat from their heads and faces. Educators will ensure that all infants are put to sleep with their head uncovered and with no beanies or hoods.
- All children who have amber necklaces and bracelets are required to have them removed before going to sleep. All other jewellery will also need to be removed.



The Approved Provider/Nominated Supervisor will ensure that this policy is maintained and implemented at all times.

Sources

Education and Care Services National Regulation 2011

77 Health, hygiene and safe food practices

Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010

167 Offence relating to protection of children from harm and hazards

National Quality Standards 2018

2.1 Health

2.1.1 Wellbeing and comfort

2.1.2 Health practices and procedures

The Cancer Council www.cancer council.com.au Retrieved January 2018

Review

The policy will be reviewed annually. Review will be conducted by management, employees, parents and any interested parties.

Reviewed: 07.03.2019

By: Alex Jury

Approved By: Kelly Williams

Date for next review: March 2020