

<b>Policy Title:</b>	<b>Environment Statement</b>
<b>Effective Date:</b>	March 2014
<b>Review Date:</b>	As necessary by the Policy and Procedure Development Policy

## **POLICY STATEMENT**

This statement has been developed to provide an overview of the areas of the environment covered by this policy. Promotion of healthy, sustainable environments where educators, children and families learn and share ideas about creating an environmentally friendly service must be a priority.

## **BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT**

This policy has been implemented based on the recommendations of Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA) 2011.

This policy was reviewed by the families and educators in February 2014.

## **SCOPE AND PURPOSE**

Inner City Care will define areas of the environment through individual policies. These policies will incorporate practices that are achievable in the service. These practices will aim to provide a cleaner, healthier and more sustainable environment for educators, children and families.

## **POLICY DETAIL/ BUSINESS RULES**

Inner City Care will:

- Reduce waste, incorporate Green Cleaning ideas, and create an eco-friendly environment.
- Endeavour to equip the service with and implement water-saving strategies, green cleaning and recycling. Where applicable grants will be applied to aid in the implementation of these effective environmental strategies.
- Define the aims of this statement through specific environment policies. These are:
  - Animals in the Environment
  - The Indoor and Outdoor Environment
  - Cleaning and Maintaining the Environment
  - Drug and Alcohol Policy (includes Smoke free environment)
  - Safe Storage of Dangerous Goods
  - Environmental Sustainability

These individual policies will guide practices within the Centre.

- Educators will keep up to date with the latest research on environmental education through journals, resource agencies and professional development. This information will be shared for children and families.

## **AUTHORITIES AND ACCOUNTABILITIES**

The Centre Director is responsible for ensuring all ICC educators and staff have training in this policy.

All ICC educators and staff are accountable for the implementation of this policy.

Education and Care Services National Regulations  
Guide to the National Quality Standard (3) ACECQA (2011)

## SOURCES

- Community Childcare Co-operative sample policies
- Kidsafe NSW Inc – [www.kidsafensw.org](http://www.kidsafensw.org)
- Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts – [www.environment.gov.au](http://www.environment.gov.au)
- Early Childhood Australia – [www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au](http://www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au)
- Early Childhood Environmental Education Network – [www.eceen.org.au](http://www.eceen.org.au)
- Gosford and Wyong Council 2007, Climbing the little green steps: How to promote sustainability in early childhood services in your local area. Gosford, Australia.

## OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTATION

Curriculum planning and documentation Policy  
Interactions with Children Policy  
Professional Development Policy  
WHS Policy

Approved by Management Committee	
<b>Signature:</b>	
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
<b>Meeting number and date:</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> March 2014
<b>Resolution number:</b>	
<b>Policy Owner:</b>	Inner City Care
<b>Effective Date:</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> March 2014
<b>Review Date:</b>	As required.