



Sustainability & Environmental Awareness

Policy Statement

NBCA encourages a sense of respect, responsibility, empowerment, active and engaging participation, enquiry and an interest in driving change, children as change agents through supportive, scaffolded and rich educator partnerships.

Implementation

- This policy draws on the National Quality Standard QA1 with a particular application aligned to (1.1.2) '*Each child's current knowledge, ideas, culture, abilities and interests are the foundation of the program*'. We believe this element is also applicable to the educators in our services whereby learning about and application of sustainable practices is aligned with what educators know about, are interested in and utilise their strengths in these areas. We acknowledge this journey will also encourage critical reflection on areas educators may want to learn more about with children as co-learners and advocate collectively.
- NBCA recognise the importance of our role as a community organisation that promotes awareness and action towards caring for the local, national and international eco systems in which we are part of.
- NBCA will provide information and ideas where appropriate to families on sustainable practices that are implemented at the service including project work and resources shared with children.
- Impact on the environment will be considered when landscaping and building works are undertaken and the service will seek resources and funding for projects that promote environmental protection.
- NBCA will encourage educators and children to explore sustainability on different levels from day to day exposure to administrative practices, building operations and project work. Such exploration will encourage families to also consider making small steps to help the environment and grow awareness.
- Natural and flexible play materials such as sand, bark, leaves and water will be made available to children as part of the program.
- Animals can be an integral part of the program. Where appropriate this will be discussed with children, including safety and hygiene.
- NBCA values the opportunity of re-purposing with the community and as such actively seek materials from the Green Shed and engage in second hand shopping through community charities such as The Salvo's, St Vincent de Pauls, in addition to individuals on-selling quality items.
- NBCA acknowledges the importance of our growing awareness and commitment to respectfully maintain and nurture our Ngunnawal land and beyond.



Policy Links

Policies:

- Compliance and Quality Improvement
- Programs and Documentation
- Workplace Health and Safety

NQS: 1.2 and 3.1-3.3

Regulations: 110, 113 and 114

Sources:

- National Quality Framework
- NBCA Service Philosophy

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