

6.2 Provision of Resources and Equipment Policy

The service recognises the importance of providing resources and equipment that are safe and suitable for the developmental and recreational needs of the children in care. When purchasing resources and/or equipment consideration will be given to the ages, skills and abilities as well as the area in which the resources/equipment are to be used.



Relevant Laws and other Provisions

The laws and other provisions affecting this policy include:

- *Education and Care Services National Law Act, 2010 and Regulations 2011*
- *Duty of Care*
- *See relevant Australian Standards on equipment in the Service*
- *National Quality Standard, Quality Area 3 – Physical environment; 1.1 The educational program enhances each child's learning and development*
- *Policies: 3.1 - Educational Program Planning, 3.7 – Physical Activity, 3.9 – Creative and Expressive Arts, 4.4 – Preventative Health and Wellbeing, 6.1 Space and Facilities Requirement, 6.3 – Workplace Health and Safety.*



Procedures

Care will be taken when purchasing equipment to ensure it complies with relevant Australian Standards (available from Standards Australia) and is suitable for the purpose for which it is intended.

Equipment provided will be appropriate to the interest, developmental and cultural needs of the children, is flexible and able to be rearranged or adjusted to provide additional interest, variety, challenge and support the inclusion of children with special/additional needs.

The Coordinator/Responsible Person will ensure that all equipment is regularly checked, cleaned and maintained in accordance with manufacturer's instructions and otherwise as reasonably necessary to ensure that it remains in a safe and good working order.

Children will be encouraged to access outdoor areas which include natural elements such as trees, plants, edible gardens, sand, rocks, mud and water.

Safe storage and shelving will be provided to allow children to independently access equipment and resources.

The Coordinator/Responsible Person will ensure that a wide range of real, commercial, natural, recycled and simple homemade materials are provided to support the children's learning in a range of ways.

DATE DEVELOPED	DATE RATIFIED	DATE REVIEWED	DATE RATIFIED
August 2018	August 2018	October 2021	October 2021
		October 2023	October 2023