

Environmental Sustainability Policy

There can be few more pressing and critical goals for the future of humankind than to ensure steady improvement in the quality of life for this and future generations, in a way that respects our common heritage - the planet we live on.

(United Nations Decade for Education for Sustainable Development 2005-2014)

As part of our commitment to environmentally sustainable practices we will endeavour to do the following:

- When developing the site we will implement environmental practices to ensure any new buildings use materials and resources that are environmentally sustainable.
- Reduction and minimisation of resources used by the site (water, energy, products and materials).
- Implement curriculum that focuses teaching and learning towards environmental sustainability.
- Sustainability practices to be embedded in centre policies.
- Provide environmental education for all educators as part of our professional development program each year.
- Offer the children experiential learning through 'hands on' experiences such as working on the community garden, tending the compost bins and setting up the worm farm.
- We will purchase natural materials for the children to use that foster an understanding of the principles of sustainable education in the centre.
- Environmental Sustainable Education will focus on both local and global issues.
- We will attempt to recycle 75% of our waste.
- We will continue to look for opportunities for il nido to be a "green building" in addition to the solar panels, rain water tanks and compost bins, that are already in place.

The focus on environmental education for the children will use the following principles:

- Create an individual who is sensitive to the natural environment and can take action to protect the environment.
- Encourage children to respect the rights of other children and adults.
- We will look for ways to enable children to identify 'local' problems and issues in the service, propose solutions and enact changes.
- Seek out opportunities for the children to be advocates of environmental issues, informing their parents and community members through displays in the Piazza, local media and development of recycling programs.

If you require further information regarding any of our policies, go to www.decd.sa.gov.au/

In accordance with Quality Area 3: Physical Environment

To ensure that the physical environment is safe, suitable and provides a rich and diverse range of experiences that promotes children's learning and development. The way that the environment is designed, equipped and organised determines the way that the space and resources are used and has the potential to maximise children's engagement and level of positive experience and inclusive relationships.

Element 3.3.1 Sustainable practices are embedded in service operations.

Element 3.3.2 Children are supported to become environmentally responsible and show respect for the environment.

www.acecqa.gov.au

Reviewed: February 2017

Next Review: February 2018

Reviewed by: il nido Children's Centre