Yard Supervision Policy

(Issued July 2011; Reviewed 1/5/12)

Clarendon kindergarten is a small kindergarten with a lovely long outdoor space that provides for a number of different play opportunities. As with most kindergartens, we aim to provide a wide range of learning activities across both the inside and outside, which of course need to be staffed and monitored.

However, due to 1) the L-shaped yard and the toilet block encumbering staff view, and 2) the two staff that form the warranted staffing for our centre, it has become necessary to devise effective plans for yard supervision, to provide for the care of the children in our charge.

POLICY

• Outside staff will supervise and engage the children outside. Staff should regularly move about the L-shaped yard, monitoring children’s engagement, and providing support as required. The vantage point of the sandpit provides for a view in both directions and staff should regularly monitor from this point.

• If any children become hurt and need staff attention, the outside staff member should redirect the child to the inside teacher to care for.

• The inside staff member should also regularly monitor the eastern kindy veranda and the yard area that extends behind the veranda to the fence. This can be accommodated by using the direct view of site from the kindy windows, or moving out onto the eastern kindy veranda - particularly when there are few children inside. Of course if all children are outside, both staff members should be on duty outside (the ‘inside’ staff members being watchful when children might subsequently go inside and then she is of course to monitor those children).

• All staff will be watchful and listen for any raised voices that might indicate an altercation, and of course any cries that might indicate a child has hurt themselves, across both inside and outside areas, but both staff should pay particular attention to those heard outside. Staff communicate as to who can render assistance to the child/ren.

• If there are 3 staff members on duty (usually to provide for lunch care and Preschool Support) the third staff member will also provide for the duty of care of the children in her charge and support other staff as required/directed by the Kindy Director).

• It is also a learning expectation of 3-5 year olds (who are verbal and mobile) that when they are facing difficulties/altercations that they cannot resolve themselves, they come and seek help from a staff member, or friends come and ask for assistance on their behalf (Protective behaviours and STOP, THINK, DO program is taught in our kindy program).
  o EYLF goal - to assist children to take a growing responsibility for their own health and physical wellbeing,

If you have any queries, please see the Director.