

POLICY

POLICY 33: PRIORITY OF ACCESS

OVERARCHING PERSPECTIVE:

Perspective: Quality Services
Policy: Services and Programs

POLICY:

Our Village Family Childcare Service Educators are offered to families according to location and availability and in accordance with the Australian Government's Priority of Access guidelines.

Priority of access for a child's placement in education and care is determined by the Department of Social Services guidelines (ref: Australian Government, Department of Social Services Child Care Services Handbook).

SCOPE:

This document applies to all Educators, Families, Coordination Unit Staff of Our Village Family Childcare Service.

RATIONALE:

To ensure that every effort is made to provide families a choice to select their Educator and that this is done in a manner that is fair, consistent and equitable for themselves, their children, the Educators and that the placement is consistent with the Australian Government's Priority of Access Guidelines.

PROCESS:

If the demand for childcare exceeds the available places, allocation of places will be made to families whose children have the highest priority. The Coordination Unit is responsible for determining the access status of families.

PRIORITY OF ACCESS GUIDELINES

First Priority

A child at risk of serious neglect or abuse

Second Priority

A child of a single parent who satisfies, or of parents who both satisfy the work/training/study test under section 14 Family Assistance Act.

Third Priority

Any other child

Within these three (3) main categories, priority should be given to the following children:

- aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children
- children in families which include a disabled person
- children in families which include an individual whose adjusted taxable income does not exceed the lower income threshold or whose partner is receiving income support
- children in families from a non-English speaking background
- children in socially isolated families
- children of single parents

DEFINITIONS:


REFERENCES:

Education and Care Services National Regulations, 2011 . Regulation 168
Child Care Services Handbook 2013-2014

RELATED DOCUMENTS:

Enrolment and Orientation Policy - 31
(SCH) Duty of Care Policy

This box to be completed after final draft has been approved.

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Owner:	Manager, Family Day Care	<p>Signed in accordance with Deed of Delegation: 1/12/2016</p> <p>X </p> <p>Marcus Bosch General Manager, Child, Youth & Family Services Signed by: Marcus Bosch</p>	