

BERMAGUI PRESCHOOL



1.05 Interactions with Families

Written By

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Aim

To have positive relationships between families and staff, encouraging families to participate and engage in all relevant aspects of Bermagui Preschool.

Purpose

The purpose of interacting with families is to encourage positive relationships between families and staff for the ultimate benefit of the child. This extends to encouraging families to participate and engage in all relevant aspects of Bermagui Preschool including programming, decision making and fundraising.

Staff supporting families

The interaction with families can provide support to families in caring for their children. Staff can help families increase their competence and confidence in themselves as well as their pleasure in and understanding of their children. Staff should ensure that all interactions with families are of a professional, not personal/social nature during preschool hours.

Families supporting staff

By staff interacting with families they can help staff increase their understanding of the children, their play preferences, behaviour, likes and dislikes. This ultimately assists staff in their education and care for children. All information shared is to be treated confidentially, in accordance with Bermagui Preschool's Confidentiality policy.

Implementation

To promote an attitude of openness and respect for families' staff should;

- Ask families questions about how they care for their child, what they are like at home, what they love about their child, what help do they need as parents/care givers? This includes collaboratively developing an Individual Learning Plan for each child at the start of each year or on enrolment.
- Involve families whenever possible in making decisions about the child's experiences
- Promote verbal interaction at arrival and departure or at formal meetings/interviews as necessary
- Remember that parents/care givers have other roles in their lives apart from parenting. They are workers, spouses, people just like us. Find out about their lives, and accept individual differences in parents/care givers and their relationships with their children.
- Families may choose, and be respected for, their level of interaction with Bermagui Preschool.
- If there are concerns about inappropriate interactions please refer to Bermagui Preschool's Complaints and Feedback policy.

Resources & References

Education and Care National Regulations 2011
The National Quality Standard (2010)
Being, Belonging and Becoming: The Early Years Framework for Australia (2009)

Relevant Documentation

2.03 Approved Providers and Board of Directors Responsibility Policy
5.02 Program and Documentation Policy
1.09 Complaints and Feedback Policy
1.07 Students, Volunteers, Visitors and Work Experience Policy

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