Hills Grammar

Priority of Access Procedure

Statement

This policy has been developed to ensure the ECEC complies with the Priority of Access Guidelines.

Rationale

The ECEC will use the Priority of Access Guidelines to allocate available childcare places to families. The priority of access Guidelines we follow are set by Family Assistance Law.

Strategies

Implementation

The ECEC will use the Priority of Access Guidelines to allocate available childcare places to families. The priority of access Guidelines we follow are set by Family Assistance Law.

These are:

Priority 1: a child at risk of serious abuse or neglect.

Priority 2: a child of a single parent who satisfies, or of parents who both satisfy, the work, training, study test.

Priority 3: any other child.

Within these three Priority categories, precedence should also be given to children in:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families.
- Families which include a person with a disability.
- Families which include an individual whose adjusted taxable income does not exceed the lower income threshold or who or whose partner is on income support.
- Families from non English speaking backgrounds.
- Socially isolated families.
- Single parent families

The ECEC will follow the Priority of Access Guidelines when enrolling children. The wait list application will reflect these guidelines to ensure that care is provided to families using these priorities.

Statutory Legislation and Considerations

Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010

Education and Care Services National Regulations

Guide to the National Quality Standard ACECQA

Sources

Community Early Learning Australia www.cela.org.au

Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA) www.acecqa.gov.au

Australian Childcare Alliance www.childcarealliance.org.au

Australian Government Department of Social Services – Priority and Access Guidelines for Child Care Services https://www.dss.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/07_2015/instruction_sheet_10_-_priority_of_access_guidelines_for_child_care_services.pdf

Review

This policy is reviewed by management, employees and families as required or when legislative requirements change.

Families and staff are essential stakeholders in the policy review and will be given opportunity and encouragement to be actively involved.