

# Quality Area One:

## Educational Program and Practice Policy



Affinity  
Education

### Policy statement

The objective of this policy is to articulate Affinity Education Group's mission to inspire and nurture individuals to reach their full potential. To achieve this, Affinity's Lifelong Learning Curriculum will provide an engaging, relevant and child-focused quality education and learning for children of all ages and to utilise contemporary, professional and research driven approaches to early childhood education. Educators will embed the evidence-informed practices of Primary Caregiving, Circle of Security, play schemas, Abecedarian Approach Australia 3a and inquiry-based project work relevant to their respective age groups as outlined in the Lifelong Learning Curriculum.

Affinity's Lifelong Learning Curriculum is the way that centres implement the approved learning framework:

- Belonging, Being and Becoming: The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia V2.0
- My Time, Our Place: Framework for School Aged Care in Australia V2.0
- Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework
- Queensland Kindergarten Learning Guidelines

Provocations, opportunities and provisions must be documented following the cycle of planning and children's individual and group learning must be linked to principles, practices and outcomes of the approved learning frameworks. Early childhood educators and teachers are both creative and knowledgeable and can capture, document and display this information in a variety of suitable ways to inform families and children of the learning that is evident. Storypark is the primary method of documenting and communicating the educational program. Programs will be displayed in rooms.

At Affinity, we believe that child safety is everyone's responsibility. We are committed to upholding the safety, rights and wellbeing of all children and promote a culture of child safety with a zero tolerance approach to child abuse and harm. Affinity ensures the Paramountcy Principle is applied in all aspects of our work. All decisions and actions related to the operation and delivery of education and care services must prioritise children's safety, rights and best interests above all other considerations.

Children are active participants in their play and learning and must have ample opportunities to have their voices heard and respected and their individual participation in the program supported. Learning and participation will be child-focused and based on what is relevant to them, what is known to them and what is sought by them. Early childhood educators and teachers can scaffold this learning with intentional teaching, taking advantage of teachable moments to extend on curiosity, inquiry and the development of new skills and knowledge.

Affinity Education Group is committed to providing learning opportunities and environments that support all children's holistic development focusing intentionally on children's social connectivity, emotional confidence, physical health and well-being and foundational learning - the fundamental requirements for a love of lifelong learning and preparedness for life beyond the early childhood environment.

Critical reflection is an important component of developing and maintaining quality in educational program and practice. Educators must reflect deeply and thoughtfully, both individually and collaboratively with colleagues, children and families and industry professionals, to evaluate all aspects of their program implementation.

#### Associated procedures to assist in implementation:

1-P1 Pedagogy and Practice

1-P2 Transition to School

Information relating to this policy, associated procedures, related forms and supporting documents is communicated throughout the service using a variety of methods including, but not limited to:

Policy folder, Promapp, newsletters, emails, family handbooks, noticeboards, signs and displays, memos, educator meetings, in-service and professional development opportunities and phone and face to face conversations.

|                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                       |                    |                      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Responsible                                                                                                                                                                       | Nominated Supervisor, Centre Team, Educational Leader |                    |                      |
| Accountable 1                                                                                                                                                                     | Chief Operating Officer                               | Accountable 2      | Nominated Supervisor |
| Consulted                                                                                                                                                                         | Head of Education, Education Team, Policy Committee   | Date Approved      | May 2026             |
| Informed                                                                                                                                                                          | All staff, students, volunteers, families             | Date next reviewed | May 2027             |
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| Links to Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010 (section) and Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011 and WA 2012 (regulation) including Amendment Regulations |                                                                                     |        |                                                                                             |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Section 168                                                                                                                                                                             | Offence relating to required programs                                               |        |                                                                                             |
| Section 323                                                                                                                                                                             | Approved learning framework                                                         |        |                                                                                             |
| Section 51(1)(b)                                                                                                                                                                        | Conditions on service approval (education and development needs of children)        |        |                                                                                             |
| Section 175a to 175J                                                                                                                                                                    | Devices in education and care services                                              |        |                                                                                             |
| Regulation 73                                                                                                                                                                           | Educational programs                                                                |        |                                                                                             |
| Regulation 74                                                                                                                                                                           | Documenting of child assessments or evaluations for delivery of educational program |        |                                                                                             |
| Regulation 75                                                                                                                                                                           | Information about the educational program to be kept available                      |        |                                                                                             |
| Regulation 76                                                                                                                                                                           | Information about educational program to be given to parents                        |        |                                                                                             |
| State/Territory Specific Provisions                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                     |        |                                                                                             |
| Regulation 274A                                                                                                                                                                         | NSW – Programs for children over preschool age                                      |        |                                                                                             |
| Regulation 289A                                                                                                                                                                         | NT – Programs for children over preschool age                                       |        |                                                                                             |
| Regulation 298A                                                                                                                                                                         | QLD – Programs for children over preschool age                                      |        |                                                                                             |
| Regulation 325B                                                                                                                                                                         | SA – Programs for children over preschool age                                       |        |                                                                                             |
| Regulation 345A                                                                                                                                                                         | TAS – Programs for children over preschool age                                      |        |                                                                                             |
| Regulation 359A                                                                                                                                                                         | VIC – Programs for children over preschool age                                      |        |                                                                                             |
| Regulation 373A                                                                                                                                                                         | WA – Programs for children over preschool age                                       |        |                                                                                             |
| Version Control                                                                                                                                                                         | Date                                                                                | Author | Description of Change                                                                       |
| V4.16                                                                                                                                                                                   | April 2016                                                                          | AEG    | New policy                                                                                  |
| V1.17                                                                                                                                                                                   | January 2017                                                                        | AEG    | Revision                                                                                    |
| V10.17                                                                                                                                                                                  | October 2017                                                                        | AEG    | Revision                                                                                    |
| V2.18                                                                                                                                                                                   | February 2018                                                                       | AEG    | Scheduled Review                                                                            |
| V2.19                                                                                                                                                                                   | February 2019                                                                       | AEG    | Scheduled Review                                                                            |
| V2.20                                                                                                                                                                                   | February 2020                                                                       | AEG    | Scheduled Review                                                                            |
| V2.21                                                                                                                                                                                   | February 2021                                                                       | AEG    | Scheduled review                                                                            |
| V2.22                                                                                                                                                                                   | February 2022                                                                       | AEG    | Scheduled review                                                                            |
| V2.23                                                                                                                                                                                   | February 2023                                                                       | AEG    | Scheduled review                                                                            |
| V12.23                                                                                                                                                                                  | December 2023                                                                       | AEG    | Added RACI table and definition                                                             |
| V2.24                                                                                                                                                                                   | February 2024                                                                       | AEG    | Scheduled review, updated frameworks to 2.0                                                 |
| V2.25                                                                                                                                                                                   | February 2025                                                                       | AEG    | Scheduled review                                                                            |
| V 1.13                                                                                                                                                                                  | May 2026                                                                            | AEG    | Scheduled review, added state/territory specific provisions and child paramountcy principle |

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