

## Environmental Statement

### Introduction

This statement has been developed to provide an overview of the areas of the environment covered by this policy. Promotion of healthy, sustainable environments where educators, children and families learn and share ideas about creating an environmentally friendly education and care service are a priority within Quirindi Preschool Kindergarten.

### Goals

Quirindi Preschool Kindergarten will define areas of the environment through individual policies. These policies will incorporate practices that are achievable in the service. These practices will aim to provide a cleaner, healthier and more sustainable environment for educators, children and families, reflected through our implementation of the Early Years Learning Framework.

### Strategies

#### The Education and Care Service will:

- Reduce waste, incorporate Green Cleaning ideas, and create an eco-friendly environment.
- Endeavour to equip the service with and implement water-saving strategies, green cleaning and recycling. Where applicable, grants will be applied to aid in the implementation of these effective environmental strategies.
- Quirindi Preschool Kindergarten defines the aims of this statement through specific environmental policies. These are:
  - Animals in the Environment
  - The Indoor and Outdoor Environment
  - Cleaning and Maintaining the Environment
  - Smoke Free Environment
  - Safe Storage of Dangerous Goods
  - Environmental Sustainability
- These individual policies will guide practices within Quirindi Preschool Kindergarten.
- Educators will keep up-to-date with the latest research on environmental education through journals, resource agencies and professional development. This information will be shared with families and children.

### Evaluation

Quirindi Preschool Kindergarten reflects sustainable practices, 'Green Cleaning' and eco-friendly choices. Educators, children, families and the wider community learn together and embrace environmentally friendly practices.

### Statutory Legislation and Considerations

- Education and Care Services National Regulations
- ACEQA's Guide to the National Quality Framework

### Sources

- Kidsafe NSW Inc – [www.kidsafensw.org](http://www.kidsafensw.org)
- Department of the Environment and Energy – [www.environment.gov.au](http://www.environment.gov.au)
- Early Childhood Australia – [www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au](http://www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au)
- NSW Early Childhood Environmental Education Network – [www.eceen.org.au](http://www.eceen.org.au)
- Gosford and Wyong Council (2007), Climbing the little green steps: How to promote sustainability in early childhood services in your local area. Gosford, Australia.
- Community Early Learning Australia (CELA)

**Links To:**

- Education and Care Services National Regulations: Schedule National Quality Standard
- National Quality Standards/Elements: 3.1.2, 3.2.3, 6.1.1

**Links to other Policies**

- Interactions with Children