

## CHILDREN'S BELONGINGS

### POLICY STATEMENT

Children often want to share or show other children or educators special things from home, but these treasures may be easily broken or lost. It can be distressing for children to misplace their toys from home and bringing personal belongings to the service and can result in conflicts between children.

Our service aims to ensure children, families and educators are aware of their responsibilities regarding children's personal belongings, including keeping them safe.

### CONSIDERATIONS

Education and Care Services National Regulations	-
National Quality Standard	2.1, 5.1, 6.1
Other Service policies/documentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Interactions with Children Policy</li><li>• Family Handbook</li><li>• Vacation Care Programs</li></ul>
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• My Time, Our Place</li></ul>

### PROCEDURE

#### a) Service will:

- Provide numerous stimulating and challenging toys and resources for all children to play with, catering to a wide range of interests.
- Take care to ensure that personal belongings are returned to the correct person when labelled.
- Enforce a non-violent toy policy in which we seek family assistance in preventing their children from bringing in violent toys from home. Any such toys will be removed from the child immediately and placed in the office for parental collection at the end of the day.
- Not take responsibility for damaged, lost or stolen items.
- Actively encourage children and their families to care for their belongings by:
  - Suggesting to keep the item away safely in their school bags
  - Collaborating with families and requesting any item which is either special, expensive or at risk of being damaged to be kept in a secured and safe position for that day (we have very limited storage space).
- Inform families about appropriate personal clothing/belongings required for active participation at the service. This items may include (but isn't limited to):
  - enclosed footwear at all times

- weather appropriate clothing
  - wide brim hat
  - suitable school bag (backpack)
  - appropriate food containers, water bottle and lunch box.
- Provide appropriate storage for lost property that will be available to children and families at all times.

**b) Children and families will:**

Leave their special toys at home, unless they are essential to a child's emotional wellbeing and/or sense of belonging. During exceptional program circumstances, the children may (on occasion) be able to bring with them personal belongings which will be communicated with families

- Ensure that if children wish to bring music or electronic games, these are discussed with management and are rated no higher than PG
- Ensure all personal property and belongings are clearly named or labelled
- Adhere to the guidelines provided during 'mufti' day and vacation care periods
- Contact the centre via email and/or phone if an item is missing so we can assist in helping the child find it.