



P.O. Box 1050, Woden, ACT, 2606
Ph: 6281 3121 Fax: 6281 7077
Email: wodenecc@tpg.com.au

ENVIRONMENT STATEMENT

QUALITY AREA 3: PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Document number:	QA3-E1	Version:	2
Date of issue:	June 2013	Contact:	Reesha Stefek
Date of review:	November 2015		

- Links to Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011: Schedule 1
- Links to National Quality Standards / Elements: 3.3, 3.3.1, 3.3.2, 6.1.2

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 is a priority at Woden Early Childhood Centre (WECC).

Goals – What are we going to do?

WECC will define areas of the environment through individual policies¹. These policies will incorporate practices that are achievable in WECC. These practices will aim to provide a cleaner, healthier and more sustainable environment for educators, children and families.

Strategies – How will it be done?

WECC will:

- reduce waste, incorporate *Green Cleaning* ideas, and create an eco-friendly environment
- endeavour to equip WECC with and implement water-saving strategies, green cleaning and recycling. Where applicable, grants will be applied for to aid in the implementation of these effective environmental strategies

¹ These policies include *Nutrition, food, beverages and dietary requirements, Animals in the environment, Environmental sustainability and Promoting positive risk in play.*

- define the aims of this statement through specific environment policies. These individual policies will guide practices within WECC. These policies 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*
- ensure educators 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

The education and care environment reflects sustainable practices, 'Green Cleaning' and eco-friendly choices. Educators, children, families and the wider community learn together and embrace environmentally friendly practices.

Related policies / documents

- *Curriculum plan statement*
- *Interactions with children*
- *Workplace health and safety*

Statutory legislation and considerations

- Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011
- Guide to the National Quality Standard (3) ACECQA (2011)

Sources and references

- Kidsafe NSW Inc – www.kidsafensw.org
- Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities – www.environment.gov.au
- Early Childhood Australia – www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au
- Early Childhood Environmental Education Network – 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.

Authorisation

Jessica York
President
2014-15 WECC Management Committee