

Lockdown Policy

NQS

QA2	2.3.3	Plans to effectively manage incidents and emergencies are developed in consultation with relevant authorities, practised and implemented.
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National Regulations

Reg	168(2)(e)	Policies and procedures in relation to emergency and evacuation
Reg	97	Emergency and evacuation procedures
Reg	98	Telephone or other communication equipment

Aim

The Lockdown Policy aims to ensure the safety of all children, educators, families and other visitors to the service in the event of a threat. Also, the service aims to minimise the risk of harm or the exposure to danger to anyone on the premises through the implementation of this procedure. Our service aims to practice a lockdown drill every 3 months.

Related Policies

Death of a Child Policy

Child Protection Policy

Emergency Management and Evacuation Policy

Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness Policy

Implementation

Examples of such critical incidents are:

- Death of a child at the service or on an excursion.
- Children/educators being taken hostage.
- A siege of service property.
- A disaster in the local community.
- Unusual amounts of media attention.
- Aggressive trespassers.

Initial Notification

If an event takes place that requires a "Lock Down", the following should occur:

- The educator who witnesses the event or issue must try to raise an alarm with the most senior person in charge.
- 000 must be called immediately if the event or issue requires the police, ambulance or fire service to respond.
- The most senior person in charge will determine the need for a "Lock Down" and raise the appropriate alarm.

Alarm Procedure

- The service whistle will sound every 5 seconds for a one minute period if possible if not skip to verbal announcement.
- The most senior person in charge will sound the whistle and make the following announcement

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• "This is a LOCK DOWN"• "This is not a fire drill"• "Everyone is to stay in the room, go to the nursery area, sit down, remain seated and to keep calm and quiet." |
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Movement of Children and Educators

- All persons will remain in the room.
- If possible, educators will make efforts to seal and lock classroom doors and windows and close curtains and turn off lights.
- Children should remain with educators in the nursery area and out of sight during the lockdown period.
- If children are outside, educators should get them inside as quickly as possible.

Staff Responsibilities:

- Person in charge to contact Emergency Services and follow their instructions.
- Educators must check the sign-in sheet and check all signed-in children are present. Any absences must be reported to the Nominated Supervisor as soon as it is safe.
- Educators are to close and lock all doors and windows, turn the lights off and ensure children are kept below the window level.
- Educators and staff are to read to the children and try to maintain a calm and quiet mood to the group until it is all clear.
- All staff, children and anyone else present will remain in the locked room until the "All Clear Signal" is given by the person in charge.

All Clear Signal

The All Clear Signal is as follows:

- The most senior person in charge will blow a whistle for 5 seconds.
- The most senior person in charge will then say, "The Lock Down has now ended, everyone follow me and the educators in an orderly manner".

Sources

National Quality Standard

Education and Care Services National Regulations

Review

The policy will be reviewed annually. Review will be conducted by

- Management
- Employees
- Parents/Families
- Interested Parties

Policy Updated: 23 July 2013

Approved by: _____
William F Kerwin
Chief Executive Officer
Croydon Shire Council

Approval Date: 31 July 2013

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