



YMCA's of Australia Policy

Interactions with Children

Procedure Number	Date Approved	Date Last Amended	Status
010	28/03/2019	29/03/2019	Final

1. PURPOSE

Mutually supportive relationships and interactions are integral to quality education and care settings. Secure respectful and responsive relationships between and amongst children and adults provide the foundation upon which the community is established.

2. SCOPE

The scope of this Policy applies to all Board members, Sub Committee members, educators and volunteers.

This Policy applies to all YMCA Member Associations.

For the purposes of this document we refer to these as the YMCA.

All Policies and Procedures must conform to this Policy.

3. POLICY

Through positive, supportive and intentional relationship building, all educators will ensure that YMCA services provide education and care to children in a way that facilitates the following:

- Children are encouraged to express themselves and their opinions;
- Educators ensure children undertake experiences that develop self-reliance and self-esteem;
- The dignity and rights of each child being educated and cared for by the service are maintained at all times;
- Each child is given positive guidance and encouragement toward acceptable behavior; and
- Educators have regard to the family and cultural values, age and physical and intellectual development and abilities of each child being educated and cared for by the service.
- Relationships in Groups (Regulation 155)

4. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Department/Role	Responsibility
Children's Services Management	Is responsible for the development, monitoring, and review of the policy and related systems, ensuring content meets all legislated requirements.



	To facilitate policy awareness to all educators on the appropriate implementation and use of the policy.
Responsible Persons	<p>YMCA nominated supervisor/ and or service management will oversee the implementation and service adherence of the policy</p> <p>Nominated supervisor/person with management and control will seek individual community feedback and facilitate an active consultation process with service users as appropriate.</p> <p>Is responsible for addressing any instance of non-compliance with this policy- and implementing strategies to help prevent non- compliance with this policy.</p> <p>Responsible for ensuring suitable resources and support systems to enable compliance with this policy.</p> <p>Drive the consultation process and provide leadership and advice on the continuous improvement of the policy.</p>
All employees, volunteers & students	<p>Responsible for meeting the requirements outlined in this Policy.</p> <p>Responsible for raising concerns or complaints in accordance with this Policy.</p>

5. DEFINITIONS

N/A

6. LEGISLATIVE AND INDUSTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010
- Education and Care Services National Regulations: Regulations 2011
- National Quality Standard, Quality Area 5: Relationships with Children
- Children's Services Act 1996
- Children's Services Regulations 2009
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Early Childhood Australia Code of Ethics
- YMCA's of Australia Safeguarding Code of Conduct Policy
- Reportable Conduct Schemes (ACT, VIC, NSW)
- Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy

7. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

(LINKS TO PROCEDURES AND/OR WORK PRACTICES)

N/A

8. PROCEDURES

Please speak to your local Association for Procedures



9. APPROVAL AND REVIEW

Approved By: Children and Families Leadership Team

Effective Date: 29/03/2019

Policy Owner: Children and Families Leadership Team

Amendments

Version	Date	Author	Change Description