**Withdrawal of a Child Policy**

To enable our Service to fill positions and maintain utilisation, families are required to provide notice when withdrawing their child from the Service.

**National Quality Standard (NQS)**

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| Quality Area 7: Governance and Leadership | | |
| 7.1 | **Governance** | Governance supports the operation of a quality service |
| 7.1.1 | **Service philosophy and purposes** | A statement of philosophy guides all aspects of the service’s operations |
| 7.1.2 | **Management Systems** | Systems are in place to manage risk and enable the effective management and operation of a quality service |
| 7.1.3 | **Roles and Responsibilities** | Roles and responsibilities are clearly defines, and understood and support effective decision making and operation of the service |

**PURPOSE**

We aim to ensure families gain a clear understanding of the Service requirements when withdrawing their child.

**SCOPE**

This policy applies to families and management of the Service.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

Families are to be made aware during the enrolment and orientation process about the Service requirements should they wish to withdraw their child from the Service.

**Withdrawing from the Service**

* Families are required to provide management with 2 weeks written notice when withdrawing their child from the Service.
* The letter must state  
  - the date they are writing the withdrawal notice
* the child’s last day of attendance
* Withdrawal Notice can be emailed or handed to management.
* This letter will be placed into the child’s file and archived once they have left the Service.
* Management will add an end date into the Service software program to ensure compliance with Centrelink.
* Fees will be charged up to the end of the two weeks from the date at which notice was received in writing, whether or not the child has attended the Service during those 2 weeks.
* A final account is to be processed by administration and noted on the withdrawal form. The final account is to be issued immediately to the family advising that payment is due.
* A copy of the final account and withdrawal form is to be kept in child’s file.
* Families must ensure the account is paid prior to final attendance.
* If payment has not been received the debt recovery process is to start immediately.
* CCB will not be paid if the child’s last day is an absence day. If the child does not attend during their 2 weeks of notice, CCB will not be paid after their last day of attendance and full fees will be applicable. (This is a policy of the Family Assistance Office in relation to Child Care Benefit)
* At the end of the placement and if all criteria regarding fees and notice of withdrawal have been met, then the initial Bond payment made on enrolment will be refunded to the family within 2 weeks after the child’s last day.
* If at any stage of the enrolment or placement it is felt that it is necessary to discuss the viability of the placement due to a concern of the duty of care to the child or other children in our care, the Service will immediately contact the Parent/Authorised Person/s to discuss all options. This may include the withdrawal of the placement.

**Continuing Enrolment for the New Year**

* Prior to the end of each year, families will be provided with a letter to confirm their child’s continuing enrolment for the New Year.
* Failure to return this letter may result in their child not being considered for future placement.
* Families with children going to school the following year will be required to complete the Re-enrolment form advising their child will be going to school the following year, adding an end date to their child’s care.
* Families who require care in the New Year until the school year starts, will need to advise management in writing, stating the date that they will be leaving and reason for care. Any extensions to the advised date will be assessed by management and subject to availability which will be confirmed in writing for families.
* Families eligible for Child Care Benefit (CCB) and the Child Care Rebate (CCR) are responsible for ensuring that all information requested by Centrelink is provided to them.

**Source**

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| * The Business of Childcare, Karen Kearns 2010 * Education and Care Services National Regulation 2015 * National Quality Standards * Family Assistance Office * Code of Ethics * Revised National Quality Standards * Childcare Centre Desktop |

**Review**

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| Date Reviewed | Modifications | Next Policy Review Date |
| December 2016 | New Format created and policy created | November 2017 |
| August 2017 | Minor changes made to policy | August 2018 |
| October 2017 | Updated references to comply with the revised National Quality Standard | August 2018 |