



1. Policy Information

Policy title	OOSH Philosophy Policy & Procedures
Policy version	O18.1
Classification	OOSH
Review cycle	3 years
Last review date	19 June 2024
Implementation date	23 August 2024
Next review date	19 June 2027
Approval Authority	Approved Provider (Principal), DPP, OOSH Coordinator
Person/s responsible for policy	OOSH Nominated Supervisor

2. Overview

Toongabbie Christian College (the 'College') OOSH (Out of School Hours/the 'Service') has a philosophy and associated statement of purpose that underpin all other documentation and the practices of the Service and will reflect the principles of the approved National Framework for school-age care 'My Time, Our Place'.

The statement of Philosophy will be included in the Quality Improvement Plan for the Service. The statement of purpose will define how the statement of philosophy will be implemented in the Service.

3. Policy

3.1 Philosophy

3.1.1 As a service connected to the College, the Service upholds the values and principles of the College in our practices, beliefs and policies.

3.1.1.a Faith

3.1.1.a.i OOSH recognises our unique context in which we maintain Christ as the center of our decision making and interactions with all who connect with the Service.

3.1.1.a.ii We believe that God made all people and that He knows and cares for the children, families and staff at the Service.

3.1.1.a.iii We desire to see the children in our care, their families, and our community grow in their knowledge and love for Christ, and their understanding of Christ's love for them, through their involvement in the Service.

3.1.1.b Families

3.1.1.b.i We believe that a child's primary parent/carer is their first and most valuable teacher.

3.1.1.b.ii We seek to create a community that fosters this belief through including parents/carers and families in all aspects of the Service. Families are encouraged to be involved in their child's participation at the Service.

3.1.1.b.iii Families are provided with opportunities to interact with the educators and to observe and engage with their child's participation in the educational program and Service routines.

3.1.1.c Children

- 3.1.1.c.i We believe that all children are unique individuals that are to be respected and valued.
- 3.1.1.c.ii We acknowledge the diverse range of skills and abilities that children possess and encourage them to explore their individual capacity.
- 3.1.1.c.iii We believe in the importance of promoting children’s voices to be heard.
- 3.1.1.c.iv We provide children with a variety of opportunities to have their say in matters that are important to them and impact their world. Children are encouraged to explore and communicate their personal opinions and beliefs in a way that is respectful of others, while demonstrating their agency and individuality.
- 3.1.1.d Education
 - 3.1.1.d.i We believe that OOSH plays an important role in providing a play-based learning environment for school-aged children.
 - 3.1.1.d.ii We provide a rich and varied educational program that engages children with opportunities to explore their world, their identity, their skills and their abilities alongside their peers.
 - 3.1.1.d.iii Our educators are passionate about children’s learning and development.
 - 3.1.1.d.iv Our educators celebrate children’s strengths and encourage them as they progress in their learning and development.
- 3.1.1.e Community
 - 3.1.1.e.i OOSH is proud to be a part of the Western Sydney community.
 - 3.1.1.e.ii We believe that it is crucial to foster an understanding of our local and broader community for the children in our care.
 - 3.1.1.e.iii We recognise the rich Indigenous culture of the Toongabbie area, acknowledging the Toongagal People of the Dharug Nation as the traditional custodians of the land on which the Service is built. We celebrate Australia’s Indigenous culture of the past and present through exploring Indigenous perspectives in our educational program.
 - 3.1.1.e.iv We believe that the Service has a responsibility to assist children in developing their understanding of their role as active global citizens.
 - 3.1.1.e.v We broaden their understanding of the world around them through our educational program including research, discussion, awareness raising and inquiry opportunities.
 - 3.1.1.e.vi We celebrate the diversity and multiculturalism of the families in the Service through our program and practices. We value the perspectives and traditions that the families and children bring to the Service.
 - 3.1.1.e.vii In line with the Service’s Christian values, children and educators take time each day to pray together for our immediate, local and global contexts.

4. Procedures

4.1 Collaboration

- 4.1.1 There will be a collaborative and consultative process to support the development of the philosophy that will include children, educators and parents/carers.

5. References

- none

6. Considerations

Education and Care Services National Regulations	National Quality Standard	Other service policies/documentation	Other
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R55	QA1.1.2, QA1.2.3, QA2.1.1, QA4.2.2, QA5.2.1, QA6.1.2, QA6.2.3QA7.1.1,		My Time Our Place V2.0
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