



GUIDING PRINCIPLE PLAY, THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT & EDUCATIONAL DOCUMENTATION

QUALITY AREA 1: EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM AND PRACTICE
QUALITY AREA 2: CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND SAFETY
QUALITY AREAS 5: REALATIONSHIPS WITH CHILDREN

Introduction:

PCYC-Out of School has effective procedures to ensure that all children attending have access to physical play (National Quality Standard 2.1), have knowledge of the natural environment, experience the outdoors and learn about how they can work towards helping sustain our environment (National Quality Standard 3.2).

Governance:

- All educators (whether casual, part time or full time) are subject to the policies and procedures in governing PCYC- Out of School Hours.

Definition:

- Educators: Staff who hold qualifications in Children's Education and Care
- Staff: Staff who don't hold any qualifications in Children's Educations and Care

Policy Title	Play, The Learning Environment and Educational Documentation				
Version		Last Revised	June 2020	Revision Date	December 2020

Programming:

Educators will provide programmes that include, but are not limited to:

- Explore a wide range of experiences/ workshops and excursions
- Engage in intentional teaching
- Engage in child focus teaching
- Engage in unplanned experiences
- Engage in planned experience

- Allow children access to wide open spaces for physical play such as:
 - 1) This may be a hall, basketball court, or outdoor area.
 - 2) During wet weather, severe cold, or extreme heat, educators will ensure that children still can participate in physical activity in a hall, basketball court and or alternative activity space.

- Allow for participation in play in outdoor areas:
 - 1) Where the service does not have its own outdoor area, regular outings to the local park, oval, or field will be provided.
 - 2) These outings will allow children to explore the environment around them, discuss changes brought about by seasons, weather, manmade alterations, growth or decay, flora, and fauna.
 - 3) These outings may lead to further activities, including craft, drama, gardening, photography.

- Allow for gardening:
 - 1) These may be grown in small pots, Styrofoam boxes, planters, or gardens.
 - 2) Children may grow plants of their choice, but may have cactus, vegetables, grasses, flowers.
 - 3) They may be asked to be responsible for the plants near the PCYC front entry where this is the only area that is an outdoor garden.

- Allow for recycling:
 - 1) This may be food scraps sent home with a child/educator who has goats, chickens, horses, pigs, cows etc. Children can discuss this, have photographs of the animals to receive the scraps.
 - 2) This may be paper, plastics, cans and rubbish separated before placed in garbage bins. Discussions should be had on why we want to do this.
 - 3) This may be craft scraps. Do not throw out left over items from craft activities but recycle them for other activities.
 - 4) This may be newspapers. The service may have newspapers that the children can read or may ask for papers to be brought in from home. These can be used for many forms of craft and for some group games also.

- Allow for craft:
 - 1) This may be drawings paintings, photography, drama, music, drawings, collage, sand art, etc
 - 2) This may be about the world around them, depicting the world around them or using items from the world around them.

Related Policies and Documents:

- Educational Documentation Guide

Considered Documents:

- Education and Care Services National Law 2010
- Education and Care Services National Regulations 2010 and 2014 Update (r73,74, 108)
- National Quality Standards (1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 2.1, 3.1, 3.2, 7.1)
- My Time, Our Place

Acknowledgement:

Staff Name: _____

Staff Signature: _____

Date: _____

Policy Title	Play, The Learning Environment and Educational Documentation				
Version		Last Revised	June 2020	Revision Date	December 2020