Interactions with Children, Families and Staff Policy

Quality Area 5: Relationships with children

Standard 5.1: Respectful and equitable relationships are developed and maintained with each child.
Standard 5.2: Each child is supported to build and maintain sensitive and responsive relationships with other children and adults.

Children will be encouraged to display socially acceptable behaviour and language when dealing with their peers;

- Educators will create a relaxed and happy atmosphere in which children experience equitable, friendly and genuine interactions with all Educators
- Appropriate language and behaviour will be role modelled by Educators
- Educators will help children to be aware of the feelings of others
- Children are encouraged to treat all children as their friend

Positive communication and mutual respect that is role modelled by Educators will benefit children in their development of similar skills along with increasing their self-esteem and self-confidence;

- Children will be spoken to in a positive manner at all times to promote respect and tolerance; this includes children using non-verbal cues
- Children will engage with Educators in meaningful, open interactions that support the acquisition of skills for life and learning
- Educators will respect each child’s uniqueness, are attuned to and respond sensitively and appropriately to children’s efforts to communicate and will use the child’s own language, communication styles and culture to enhance their interactions
- Educators will listen to children and take them seriously; they will support and encourage children to use appropriate language in their interactions with adults and peers. Educators will extend upon children’s interests through questions and discussions, supported in observations, reflection and program
- Communication with children will be down on the child’s level as this shows respect to the child, allows for eye contact to occur and therefore promotes effective communication
- Educators will encourage and be involved in spontaneous interaction
- Educators will always use appropriate language keeping in mind that they are powerful influences in children’s lives and are very active role models
- Children will never be singled out or made to feel inadequate at any time
- Educators will ensure that the dignity and rights of each child are respected at all times
• Educators will show empathy to children

• Educators will ensure that the values, beliefs and cultural practices of the child and family are respected and considered

• Educators will ensure that children are not forced to eat or sleep against their wishes or needs

• No child is ever isolated for any reason other than illness, accident or pre-arranged appointment with parental consent. During this time they will be under adult supervision

• Encouragement and praise is given freely regardless of success, allowing the children to undertake experiences that develop self-reliance and self-esteem

Educators will acknowledge families as a valuable source of information on their child;

• All families will be treated equitably without bias or judgement; recognising that each family is unique

• Educators are to greet parents as well as children upon arrival

• Educators are to encourage two way communication through leading by example and asking questions

• Educators are to use common terminology when talking to parents regarding their child’s development

• Educators are never to discuss another child with a parent or visitor

• Educators are to be sensitive to cultural differences amongst families and are to encourage families to share cultural aspects with the children and Educators at the Centre

• Educators will always endeavour and seek the advice and opinion from experts to help with regard to a child with additional needs or support a family through resources available from such support agencies as KU Inclusion Support Agency, Area Health or the private sector

• Staff will endeavour to recognise and implement a number of different ways to communicate with families in their preferred chosen way

• Verbal communication will always be open, respectful and honest

• Service information, updates and notices will be made available via the Day Book, Newsletter, communal signs, emails and sign-in sheets

Educators will communicate with each other always exercising professionalism, respect and equality;

Interactions with Children, Families and Staff Policy – Australian International Islamic College Kindy
The service recognises that the way Educators interact with each other has an effect on the interactions they have with children and families.

Professional communication is very important to make a happy work environment and to build a positive relationship with families. Communication amongst colleagues creates a positive atmosphere and a professional service for families. Communication between staff and families ensures that important information is being passed on and that consistency occurs.

All duties within the room are to be shared and Educators are responsible for ensuring this occurs through the use of a roster where necessary.

Educators are to listen to each other’s point of view and ideas.

Communication is required to ensure that the teamwork occurs.

In-service training on communication will be encouraged to update and refresh knowledge.

**Educators will convey mutual respect and recognition of each other’s strengths and skills through:**

- Recognising each other’s strengths and valuing the different work each does
- Working collaboratively to reach decisions which will enhance the quality of the Education and care offered at the service
- Welcoming diverse views and perspectives
- Working together as a team and engaging in open and honest communication at all times
- Respecting each other’s feelings
- Developing and sharing networks and links with other agencies
- Resolving differences promptly and positively and using the experience to learn more effective methods of working together

This policy was made with consideration to the National Quality Standard and Education and Care Services National Regulations.

Date that the policy was last updated or revised: **January 2015**

19/02/2015

Nadiya Khan
Director
Signed by: Nadiya.Khan@aiic.qld.edu.au

**Australian International Islamic College Kindy**