



## Playground Use Policy

**Policy Number:** 36  
**Date Updated:** 15/3/17

### **Rationale**

All children have the right to experience quality care in an environment which provides for their health and safety. The Education and Care Services National Law Act (WA)2012 requires that approved provider/nominated supervisor/coordinators take reasonable care to protect children from foreseeable risk of harm, injury and infection.

The service understands it has a duty of care to ensure that children are provided with a safe, secure education and care environment that is effectively supervised. Educators have a duty of care to ensure that all areas accessible to children are safe, free from hazards, and adequately supervised by sufficient numbers of educators. The type of supervision required is dependent on the type of activities that children are participating in, the specific environment and its possible hazards, and the age, needs and propensities of the individual children.

It is a requirement under the Education and Care Services National Law (WA) Act 2012 that all children being educated and cared for by the service are adequately supervised at all times that the children are in the care of that service, and that children must be protected from harm and hazards.

### **Needs**

#### **Children's**

Children need the opportunity to play outdoors in a safe environment on a daily basis (weather permitting) in accordance with their program and routine.

#### **Families'**

Families need to know that their children are experiencing a wide range of opportunities throughout their day and that they will be supervised and all reasonable care taken to ensure their safety.

#### **Educators**

Educators need to ensure that they have exclusive access to the playground and are not responsible for unenrolled children.

### **Management**

Management need to be confident that their enrolled children are being cared for and supervised and that their educators are diligent in ensuring external groups are not using the playground during rostered times.

### **Policy Principles**

- The use of the playground will be on a timetabled system so that no two groups are using it at the same time.
- The timetable will be supervised by the Lifestreamers Childcare manager between the hours of 7.00am - 6.00pm.
- Lifestreamers Childcare and The French School of Perth educators have the authority to ask other users to leave the playground when it is their allocated time of use.
- The playground timetable will be created in conjunction with other users and reviewed at the end of each calendar year.
- All users of the premises will be shown the playground policy to ensure compliance.
- The playground timetable will be displayed in each area.
- In the case of wet weather Lifestreamers Childcare will have first priority for the use of the playground except between 11am - 12am and 1pm - 1.30pm at which time The French School of Perth have exclusive use.

- Lifestreamers Childcare can allow other groups to use the playground during periods of sunshine at their own discretion.
- Lifestreamers Childcare children and The French School of Perth children will be supervised by their own employed educators.
- Other users, for example MOPS, church groups etc. will be responsible for the care of their own children when they have access to the playground.
- The gates to the playground will be locked between the hours of 7.00am and 6.00pm except for the emergency exit near the childcare building.

#### Document History

Version	Date updated
Playground Use Policy	20/12/14
Playground Use Policy	25/11/16