

OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE (OSHC) IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Scope: This policy applies to all Catholic schools, conducted by Catholic Education - Diocese of Rockhampton (referred to as CEDR in the document) which operate an outside school hours care (OSHC) service.

1. POLICY STATEMENT

Catholic Education - Diocese of Rockhampton (CEDR)'s OSHC services are committed to providing a quality service where children's physical, emotional, spiritual, creative, cognitive and social needs are met in a safe, caring, supervised and supportive environment for students enrolled in Catholic schools.

2. DESCRIPTION

Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) provides care, education and leisure-based learning framework (fee for service) for children before school, after school, during school vacation periods and student free days, where it exists.

3. IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

OSHC services will provide quality care in a way that:

1. the Principal is the Nominated Supervisor of the service
2. prioritises the Principal's oversight of the service as a key part of the school community
3. provides leisure-based learning framework in a safe and supportive environment where children build independence and apply learning in a social setting
4. encourages children to interact with and respect others, learn life skills, solve problems, practice social skills, try new experiences, feel happy, safe and relaxed
5. develops children's interests and gives children time to collaborate with educators to organise activities and opportunities that are meaningful to them
6. values play as an integral part of the learning program supporting children to use their imagination and creativity
7. provides opportunities for all children to develop a respectful understanding and appreciation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, histories, cultures and spiritualities

8. engages all children in learning about sustainability, protecting environments and creating a more ecologically and socially just world through informed action
9. encourages children (informed by the school's behaviour management policy and procedures) to think critically about fair and unfair behaviour and to act responsibly and with compassion
10. models teamwork and promotes leadership opportunities in the children
11. encourages open communication with parents/carers and the involvement of the wider community in service program and practice
12. engages staff to facilitate ongoing critical reflection of practice and professional development
13. fosters a partnership and relationship among school, service, family and the community.

4. REFLECTION MATERIAL

CATHOLIC EDUCATION POLICIES AND DOCUMENTS

- [Student Protection](#) 2023/01
- [CEDR OSHC Philosophy](#)
- [CEDR Fees and Levies Schedule](#)
- [Outside School Hours Care Policy and Procedures](#) 2019
- [Student Protection Processes and Student Protection Guidelines](#) v11 2022

LEGISLATION*

- Commonwealth of Australia (2011) [My Time, Our Place – Framework for school age care in Australia](#)
- [Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011](#)
- [Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010](#)
- [The National Quality Framework](#)
- Education Queensland – [Early Childhood](#)
- [Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority](#)

*These links will take you to the Office of the Parliamentary Counsel website where you will find the current legislation.

OTHER

- [United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child](#)