

# **Enrolment and Orientation**

## **Policy Statement**

The BOOSH Centre accepts enrolments to the service for primary school age children in accordance with funding priorities and guidelines. An orientation process is in place for children and their families. The purpose of this is to:

- Enable educators/staff to meet and greet children and their families
- Provide essential operational information
- Form the foundation for a successful and caring partnership between home and the service.
- To help children develop a sense of belonging, feel accepted, develop attachments and trust those who care for them ("My Time, Our Place", Outcome 1).

## **Procedure**

### **Enrolment**

#### **(a) Eligibility**

There are currently no government mandated requirements for filling vacancies, and providers can set their own policies for prioritising who receives a place. However, as vacancies in our service arise, The BOOSH Centre will prioritise children who are:

- at risk of serious abuse or neglect
- a child of a sole parent who satisfies, or parents who both satisfy, the activity test through paid employment.

This reflects the Australian Government's intention to help families who are most in need, and support the safety and wellbeing of children at risk in accordance with the Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2009 -2020.

Please see The BOOSH Centre Priority of Access policy for more detailed information.

Children must be enrolled in primary school in order to be eligible to attend the service. Children of preschool age will not be accepted at the service. Children commencing Kindergarten will be allowed enrolment in the January Vacation care period immediately prior to them commencing primary school upon proof that the child is enrolled to commence primary school. Children who have completed primary school are eligible to attend the service for only the December/January Vacation care period immediately after they have completed Year 6.

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Date endorsed: December 2020

Date for Review: December 2022

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### **(b) Inclusion of children additional needs**

Provision of places for children with additional needs will be made wherever possible, with a regular review period. Access to care will focus on the needs of the child and the service's ability to meet these needs. Ongoing arrangements will be at the discretion of the Nominated Supervisor in consultation with parents and educators.

### **(c) Waitlist**

Where demand for care exceeds the service's number of approved places families will be required to join The BOOSH Centre waitlist. Only children who are currently enrolled at Beecroft Primary School (BPS) are eligible to join the waitlist. BPS families who would like to request Before and After School Care positions at The BOOSH Centre will fill out a waitlist form for the sessions they require. When applying to join the waitlist families will be advised of the Priority of Access Guidelines and Policy.

Please see The BOOSH Centre Priority of Access policy for more detailed information.

### **(d) Enrolment**

Enrolments will be created in line with The BOOSH Centre Priority of Access policy. Enrolment is offered to families on a Permanent or Casual basis. Depending on availability of care, children may be enrolled at any time throughout the year. Enrolment is conducted online using the My Family Lounge website and by doing so parents are required to accept the terms and conditions of The BOOSH Centre and the family agrees to abide by 'The BOOSH Centre Policies'. These policies are available to view at The BOOSH Centre.

Children will not be accepted at the centre without full completion of the enrolment form and payment of the Bond and membership fee (See Fees Policy). The enrolment form must contain authorisations regarding collection of children and emergency contacts as well as consent to permissions listed within. Asthma and Anaphylaxis plans, custodial access information and any other relevant information regarding the wellbeing of the child must be provided with the enrolment form if applicable. The enrolment form must be signed by the primary guardian and it is preferred that both parents/guardians sign unless it is a sole parent family, where the form is signed only by that parent.

### **(e) Attendance and enrolment records**

Accurate attendance records will be kept, which:

- ✓ Records the full name of each child attending the service
- ✓ Records the date and time each child arrives and departs

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- ✓ Is signed on the child's arrival and departure by either:
  - The person who delivers or collects the child
  - The Nominated Supervisor or an educator (Regulation 158); and
- ✓ Meet the requirements of the Child Care Subsidy (CCS)

An enrolment record for each child will be kept at the service which includes all details outlined in Regulations 160, 161 and 162.

### **(f) Child's attendance once enrolled**

The service's responsibility for the child begins when placed in the staff's care by parent or guardian, or when they signed in from school or other extra-curricular activities for the afternoon session. If a child is to be absent on a day they are normally booked, the family must notify the service as soon as possible. A non-notification of absence fees applies for non-notification of absence for the PM session. The rules for Allowable Absences under CCS will be followed in relation to all absences.

Please see The BOOSH Centre Fees policy for more detailed information.

If a child, who is enrolled with the service but is not on the roll for a particular day, arrives at the service, the Centre Coordinator, or other relevant staff member will contact a parent or guardian immediately. If a child has not been enrolled they must not be taken into care without written or verbal permission from the parent or guardian of the child. If contact cannot be established contact the BPS office immediately.

### **(g) Cancellation of enrolment**

Cancellation of an enrolment may be initiated in two different situations:

- ✓ A parent advises the service that no further care needs to be provided
- ✓ The service identifies that care is no longer required or being provided (*CCS Ending Enrolments*)

The family must give two weeks' notice if they wish to cancel a child's enrolment; failure to do so will mean that the next 2 week's fees will be charged to the families account. Refunds may be granted under exceptional circumstances after discussion with the Centre Coordinator and Executive Committee. CCS guidelines will be followed once an enrolment is cancelled.

### **(h) Confidentiality and storage of records**

Enrolment information will be kept in strict confidence according to The BOOSH Centre Confidentiality Policy. All enrolment records will be kept in a safe and secure place and kept for the period of time specified in the Regulations (Regulations 158, 159,160, 183).

### **(i) Re-enrolment**

Re-enrolment forms for currently enrolled families with Permanent sessions will be collected and

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submitted at The BOOSH Centre Annual General Meeting (AGM). The date of the AGM will be determined by the Centre Coordinator, and all parents will be given 4 weeks' notice of this date through the BPS school newsletter and via email. An attendee from each family must attend the AGM to complete re-enrolment. Families must ensure all fees are paid and up to date before the AGM to be able to re-enroll.

Families with permanent bookings who do not attend the AGM or who have not paid their fees in full, or registered with direct debit/credit, by the due date will not be able to re-enroll for their child's permanent sessions in the following year. Families who fail to comply with the above stipulations but have extenuating circumstances may request that their ability to re-enroll for permanent sessions be reviewed by the Executive Parent Committee for exemption. In such cases a written warning may be issued, however repeated behavior is grounds for immediate cancellation of places at the centre.

All Casual families will be given the opportunity to re-enroll after the AGM. Families must ensure they attend the centre during the advertised re-enrolment period to complete all documentation and ensure fees are up to date. Failure to re-enroll will result in their account being cancelled at the end of that calendar year. If an account is cancelled that family will no longer have access to book sessions of care in the following year.

## **Orientation**

Families who are enrolling their child for the first time will be given the Parent Handbook which outlines the key policies for families prior to the child's first day at the service. Families should read the information provided to them to ensure that their child is prepared for their first day at the service.

The Centre Coordinator will confirm the start date with the family. Opportunities will be provided to share information to the Centre Coordinator and to discuss the individual needs of each child such as medical conditions, behavioural guidelines or other family needs prior to the child joining the centre. Other Educators will be informed of any information pertaining to the care of the child.

Parents should advise educators when they are greeted that it is their child's first day at the service and the educator will introduce themselves and guide them through the sign-in/out process and show them and their child around the Centre.

Educators will introduce the child to other children and engage them in an activity. The educator will remain with the child until they are settled and comfortable in the new environment. Educators will carefully monitor the child whilst in the service to ensure they are settling in. Educators will complete an enrolment checklist for each new child at the service within their first few weeks of attendance.

The BOOSH Centre's daily routines and weekly programs will be displayed at the centre for families to view as well as on The BOOSH Centre website. Opportunity is given to both children and families to

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contribute to this program to ensure the interests of their child are included, valued and extended.

Additional procedures are to be put in place in regards to drop off and collection of kindergarten children during their first year at school to ensure their safety and ease of transition between school, The BOOSH Centre and home.

### From the start of Term 1 of each year:

- Kindy children will wear a distinguishable 'Kindy Vest' over their uniform/casual clothes when in attendance at the centre for the duration of Term 1, as well as during January Vacation Care. They will wear this vest from when there are dropped off by parents/guardians until hand over to teachers in the morning, and from when they are collected from the classroom until they are picked up by parents/guardians in the afternoons. During Vacation Care this vest is to be worn all day including on excursions.
- Each morning and afternoon there will be an educator nominated as 'The Kindy Staff'. If additional help is required to supervise the Kindy children during sign in/out times the staff allocated to The Cottage will assist.
- A Kindy list will be printed in addition to the roll each week which details which Kindy children are expected in the morning and afternoon sessions.
- Sign out AM SESSION – Kindy children to go to The Cottage while older children attend sign out. They will continue play/group activities in The Cottage until they are signed out from The Cottage around 9:15am. The Kindy staff will help the children collect their belongings and walk over to the Kindy lines for school. Once the teachers have arrived for each class the staff will collect the Kindy Vests from each child and return to the centre.
- This morning routine will continue for the duration of Term 1 unless, in collaboration with the Kindy Teachers at BPS, it is deemed no longer necessary.
- Sign in PM SESSION – at 3:10pm The Kindy staff will attend each Kindy classroom or Kindy collection area to collect those children coming for the PM session. The Kindy children will be marked off the Kindy list, come over to The BOOSH Centre with the Kindy Staff, get signed in on the centre roll, wash their hands and collect their afternoon tea.
- This afternoon routine will continue for the duration of Term 1 unless, in collaboration with the Kindy Teachers at BPS, it is deemed no longer necessary. Once Kindy children are no longer required to be collected from their classrooms the Kindy staff will stand in the K-2 playground for the children to be marked off the Kindy list before continuing through to The BOOSH Centre for sign in. This playground collection will continue until, in collaboration with the Kindy Teachers at BPS, it is deemed no longer necessary.

### Considerations:

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Education and Care Services National Regulations	National Quality Standard	Service policies/documentation	Other
158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 168, 177, 183.	6.1, 7.3.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Service Enrolment form</li> <li>- Family Handbook</li> <li>- Fees Policy</li> <li>- Confidentiality Policy</li> <li>- Delivery and Collection of Children Policy</li> <li>- Acceptance &amp; Refusal of Authorisations Policy</li> <li>- Governance &amp; Management Policy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Network <i>Record Keeping</i> Factsheet</li> <li>• Child Care Provider Handbook 2018</li> <li>• A New Tax System (Family Assistance) (Administration) Act 1999</li> <li>• Child Care Subsidy Secretary's Rules 2017</li> </ul>

Date Endorsed

December 2020

Signed by

Nigel Childs

Date for Review and Evaluation

December 2022

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Date for Review: December 2022

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