

## Acceptance and Refusal of Authorisations

### Quality Area 7 – Leadership and Service Management

#### Policy Statement

Quirindi Preschool Kindergarten has a responsibility to protect the health, safety and wellbeing of each Child, always. Educators require authorisations for actions such as enrolment records; administration of medications, drop off and collections of children; excursions, transportation of children, regular transportation; regular outings; and medical emergencies. This policy outlines the processes in place to manage these authorisations.

#### Background

The Education and Care Services National Regulations require approved providers to ensure their services have policies and procedures in place in relation to the acceptance and refusal of authorisations. These procedures ensure that required authorisations are obtained and kept in the enrolment record and help to ensure that the health, safety, wellbeing and best interests of all children are met.

#### Strategies

##### Obtaining an authorisation

Authorisation must be obtained from parent/guardians or authorised nominees in the following circumstances:

- Medical treatment for the child (regulation 161)
- Medication record (regulation 92)
- Children leaving the education and care service premises (regulation 99) other than the case of emergency.
- Transportation for the child by an ambulance service (regulation 161)
  - administering medication to children (regulation 93)
  - children leaving the premises in the care of someone other than their parent (regulation 99) other than the case of emergency.
  - Authorisation for excursions (regulation 102)
  - Authorisation for service to transport of children (regulation 102D)
  - Authorisation from parents to take, use and store images and videos of children (regulation 168)
  - Authorisation for the use of digital devices by children (regulation 168)

Parents/guardians are provided with adequate information and support to complete and maintain written authorisations.

Parents/guardians are informed of their right to refuse authorisations and the impacts of a refusal.

#### Keeping Authorisation in the Enrolment Record

Authorisations must be kept in the enrolment record (regulation 161). These are:

- An authorisation, signed by a parent or a person named in the enrolment record as authorised to consent to the medical treatment of the child, for the approved provider, a nominated supervisor, or an educator to seek:
  - Medical treatment for the child from a registered medical practitioner, hospital, or ambulance service; and
  - Transportation of the child by an ambulance service; and
  - Authorization from parents to take, use and store images and videos of children

(regulation 168)

- If relevant, an authorisation given under regulation 102 for the education and care services to take the child on regular outings.

Prior to a child commencing at the service, the enrolment record is checked to ensure that all required written authorisations are completed and signed by the nominated parent/guardian.

Authorisations are monitored, maintained and stored confidentially.

### **Refusing a Written Authorisation**

On receipt of a written authorisation from a parent/guardian that does not meet the requirements outlined in the related service policy, the Approved Provider or delegated authority will:

- Immediately explain to the parent/guardian that their written authorisation does not meet legislative and policy guidelines.
- Provide the parent/guardian with a copy of the relevant service policy and ensure that they understand the reasons for the refusal of the authorisation.
- Request that an appropriate alternative written authorisation is provided by the parent/guardian.
- In instances where the parent/guardian cannot be immediately contacted to provide an alternative written authorisation, follow related policy procedures pertaining to the authorisation type. Follow up with the parent/guardian, where required, to ensure that an appropriate written authorisation is obtained.

## Roles and Responsibilities

Role	Authority/Responsibility For
<p><b>Management Committee</b></p> <p><b>(Approved Provider)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ensure that obligations under the Education and Care Services National Law and National Regulations are met.</li> <li>▪ Ensure that an enrolment record is kept for each child that includes authorisations signed by a parent or a person authorised to consent to the medical treatment of the children if relevant, in relation to:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Seeking medical treatment from a registered medical practitioner, hospital or ambulance service</li> <li>- Transportation by an ambulance service</li> <li>- Regular outings and transportation (regulations 160, 161)</li> <li>- Ensure that a medication record is kept that includes the authorisation to administer medication signed by a parent or a person named in the enrolment record (regulation 92)</li> <li>- If relevant, an authorisation given under regulation 102D for the education and care service to take the child on regular outings.</li> <li>- Authorisation from parents to take, use and store images and videos (regulation 168)</li> <li>- Authorisation for the use of digital devices by children (regulation 168)</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Ensure that medication is only administered or self-administered if authorised or, in an emergency, authorisation is provided verbally by:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A parent or a person named in the enrolment record</li> <li>- A registered medical practitioner or an emergency service if the parent or person named in the enrolment record cannot be contacted (regulations 93, 96)</li> <li>- In the case of an anaphylaxis or asthma emergency, medication maybe administered without (regulations 94)</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Ensure that children only leave the service premises with a parent, an authorised nominee named in the enrolment record, or a person named in the enrolment record to collect the child (regulation 99)</li> <li>▪ Ensure that               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ensure no child is transported by the service without authorisation from a parent or other person named in the enrolment record (regulation 102D)</li> <li>▪ Ensure systems requiring authorisations are in place for other legal requirements or quality practices, e.g. photos of children and privacy.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Ensure authorisations are kept up-to-date.</li> </ul>

## Roles and Responsibilities

Role	Authority/Responsibility For
<p><b>Nominated Supervisor</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provide supervision, guidance and advice to ensure adherence to the policy at all times.</li> <li>▪ Ensure all authorisations are retained within the Enrolment Record, original copy and include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the name of the child enrolled in the service</li> <li>- the date</li> <li>- the signature of the child’s parent/guardian or nominated contact person who is on the enrolment form</li> <li>- the original form/letter/register provided by the service.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Apply these authorisations to the collection of children, medical treatment of or administration of medication, excursion, transportation of children, and transportation via ambulance, for the safe use of digital technologies and online environments at the service, including the capture, use, securely stored and destruction of images and videos of children and the use of digital devices by children.</li> <li>▪ Ensure authorisations are stored with each individual child’s enrolment record.</li> <li>▪ Ensure that all parents/guardians have completed the authorised nominee section of their child’s enrolment form and that the form is signed and dated before the child is enrolled at the service.</li> <li>▪ Implement and oversee authorisation systems for other legal requirements or quality practices, e.g. photos of children and privacy.</li> <li>▪ Ensure authorisations are kept-up-to-date.</li> <li>▪ Implement processes for circumstances where authorisations may be refused/not applicable.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Early Childhood Educators</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Apply these authorisations to the collection of children, administration of medication, excursion and transportation of children, safe arrival of children transitioning between services and transportation via ambulance, for the safe use of digital technologies and online environments at the service, including the capture, use, securely stored and destruction of images and videos of children and the use of digital devices by children.</li> <li>▪ Implement processes for circumstances where authorisations may be refused/not applicable.</li> <li>▪ Waive compliance where a child requires emergency medical treatment for conditions such as anaphylaxis or asthma. The service can administer medication without authorisation in these cases, provided it is noted on medical plans and that parents/guardians are contacted as soon as practicable after the medication has been administered.</li> <li>▪ Ensure all action plans are carried out in line with the <i>Acceptance and refusal of authorisations</i> policy and procedures.</li> <li>▪ Ensure that the child’s family completes and signs authorisations in the enrolment record and medication record (if relevant) before the child commences at the service.</li> <li>▪ Implement authorisation systems for other legal requirements or quality practices, e.g. photos of children and privacy.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure authorisations are kept up-to-date.</li> </ul>
<b>Families</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that you complete and sign the authorised nominee section of your child's enrolment form before your child attends the service.</li> <li>Keep child enrolment details forms current stating who the authorised nominees are.</li> <li>Inform service of current contact numbers to ensure you are contactable at all</li> </ul>
	<p>times.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communicate to Responsible Person and staff any individual requests regarding authorisations.</li> <li>Update Educators in relation to any medical conditions, medical plans or ongoing medication requirements. This includes the names of medications, dosage, signs, and symptoms and contact information for any relevant health professionals.</li> <li>Ensure that where children require medication to be administered by educators or other staff, you authorise this in writing, sign and date it for inclusion in your child's medical record.</li> </ul>

### Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

This policy will be monitored to ensure compliance with legislative requirements and unless deemed necessary through the identification of practice gaps, the service will review this policy every 12 months.

Families and staff are essential stakeholders in the policy review process and will be given opportunity and encouragement to be actively involved.

In accordance with R. 172 of the Education and Care Services National Regulations, the service will ensure that families of children enrolled at the service are notified at least 14 days before making any change to a policy or procedure that may have significant impact on the provision of education and care to any child enrolled at the service; a family's ability to utilise the service; the fees charged or the way in which fees are collected.

### Related Guidelines, Standards, Frameworks

- National Quality Standard, Quality Area 7: Governance and Leadership, Standard 7.1 and

Element 7.1.2

- National Quality Standard, Quality Area 2: Children's Health and Safety

**Sources**

- Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA) – [www.acecqa.gov.au](http://www.acecqa.gov.au)
- ACECQA- Guide to the National Quality Framework [acecqa.gov.au/nqf/about/guide](http://acecqa.gov.au/nqf/about/guide)
- Victorian Government – Acceptance and refusal of authorisations policy [education.vic.gov.au/childhood/providers/regulation/Pages/authrisationspolicy.aspx](http://education.vic.gov.au/childhood/providers/regulation/Pages/authrisationspolicy.aspx)

**Related Legislation**

- Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010: Section 167
- NQF Child safety changes from 1<sup>st</sup> Sept 2025 and 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026
- Education and Care Services National Regulations: Regulations 92, 93, 94, 96, 99, 102, 102D, 160, 161, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172
- Family Law Act 1975
- Australian Child Protection Legislation <https://aifs.gov.au/cfca/publications/australian-child-protection-legislation>