

POLICY

Clarence Family Day Care recognises that although the educator has primary responsibility for the provision of care, their family members can influence the quality of care experienced by children in family day care. As such, the educator's family members have the role and responsibility to ensure that their actions and behaviour support the professional and quality standards achieved and maintained by the educator in the provision of family day care.

Mandatory – All household members over 18 and regular visitors are required to hold a current NSW Working with Children Check. This is a legislative requirement.

PROCEDURE

All residents at a FDC residence must:

- respect the dignity and rights of all children in family day care and not subject children to any form of physical, verbal or emotional harm;
- respect the confidentiality of children and their families;
- treat all members of the child's family with dignity and respect;
- not consume alcohol, cigarettes or any drugs that diminishes their physical or mental ability to behave in a professional manner with children in care;
- must be a fit and proper person to be in the company of children
- ensure that duty of care is followed when undertaking activities with children
- must have a current Working with Children Check, if over 18 years old
- take responsibility for ensuring personal items are not accessible to children and their families; and
- ensure that children and their families are made aware of the areas of the educator's place of business that are for private purposes and not to be and, where appropriate, erect barriers to these areas.

Educators must notify the office of any new person aged 18 years or over who resides, or intends to reside, at the educators' family day care residence and any circumstance relating to a person why has previously been considered under regulation

In the event of any breach related to the quality of care provided, action would be taken in accordance with the regulations and the complaints policy.

Role of educator's partner

In addition to roles and responsibilities cited Clarence Family Day Care recognises that the partner's view of their role and responsibilities has a considerable impact on the educator's quality of care.

The level of support by an educator's partner is a crucial factor in the successful long term retention of the educator with the service. Clarence Family Day Care recognises that there is no prescriptive model that can be used to describe the ideal roles and responsibilities for a partner. What works best for one family may not work well for another. However, there are common factors that an educator and their partner should discuss in determining the role and responsibilities of the partner.

These include:

- the level of involvement the partner will have with the children in care; and
- the level and type of support that they can provide to the educator for example:
 - listening to educators when they need to debrief about their day
 - providing care for their own children so that educators can attend professional development training
 - being professional in their dealings with children and parents
 - assisting in making sure that the place of business meets health and safety standards
 - being accepting of different parenting practices and family dynamics

Definition of 'family' – husband, partner, adult children or other occupants, teenagers, older children

REFERENCE

- NSW Office of Children's Guardian
- Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012
- Child Protection (Working with Children) Regulation 2013
- Education and Care Services National Regulations 2018
- Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010