

NQS7 Governance and leadership

Procedure

Affiliated Kindergarten Enrolment and Orientation

Step One: Wait list

The centre Director (or their approved delegate) will:

- Encourage parents/guardians (with their child) to visit the centre prior to completing a wait list application.
- Be responsible for maintaining the centre's wait list.
- Communicate to families and local community how the waiting list is prioritised.
- Consider a child to be on the wait list when a completed application has been received. Where possible, a waiting list fee should not be charged, but is permitted (if required) to prevent families from enrolling at multiple centres.

Step Two: Enrolment Offer

The centre Director (or their approved delegate) will:

- Make enrolment offers as per Government Queensland Kindergarten Funding Essentials, Sessional Kindergartens requirements **AND** in order of the received date of wait list application.
- When making enrolment offers, prioritise eligible-age children (children who turn 4 years by 30 June in the year they attend kindergarten) before making enrolment offers to non-eligible-age children and eligible-age children wishing to enrol in a second approved kindergarten group at their centre.
- Specify an 'offer expiry date' when making an enrolment offer.
- Make enrolment offers for the current kindergarten year when vacancies exist.
- Make enrolment offers to non-eligible-age children:
 - When all enrolment offers to eligible age children on the wait list have been finalised AND
 - After the beginning of February of the kindergarten year. Earlier enrolment offers cannot be made unless the centre has prior written approval of C&K (via cgb@candk.asn.au) and the Department of Education.
- Make enrolment offers of eligible-age children wishing to attend a second approved kindergarten group at their centre:
 - When all enrolment offers to eligible age children (attending one kindergarten group) on the wait list have been finalised.
 - After the beginning of February of the kindergarten year. Earlier enrolment offers cannot be made unless the centre has prior written approval of C&K (via cgb@candk.asn.au) and the Department of Education.
 - **Not** refuse an enrolment offer to an eligible-age child if kindergarten funding has been/is going to be claimed for that child by another approved kindergarten provider.
- **Not** prioritise enrolment offers of:
 - Children of committee members.
 - Children with siblings who are currently or have previously been enrolled at the centre.
 - Children who reside locally/close to centre.
 - Children of centre staff (unless approved by the committee).
- Consider the following factors when determining the timing and number of enrolment offers:
 - Vacancies
 - The number of children on the waitlist
 - The expected number of delayed entry/exit children.

Step Three - Enrolment Confirmation

- A child's parent/guardian is required to accept or decline an enrolment offer.
- A child's enrolment is confirmed when a parent/guardian has, by the specified date:
 - Accepted the enrolment offer.
 - Completed (and returned) a C&K Enrolment Booklet Affiliate and supplied the required documentation including evidence of child's date of birth and immunisation status. Refer to definitions for acceptable documentary evidence.
 - (If applicable) Paid an enrolment fee. A membership fee and enrolment fee can be charged. It is recommended that the enrolment fee does not exceed \$100. As stated in the centre constitution no other fees/levies are to be charged.
- The centre Director (or approved delegate) will:
 - Process any fees payable.
 - Provide parent/guardian confirmation of their child's enrolment in writing.
 - Review C&K Enrolment Booklet Affiliate and documentation as they are received and promptly follow-up on any missing information e.g., health/medical, custodial, funding eligibility, interests, talents, behaviours, developmental delay, fee payment, proof of date of birth, immunisation etc. Health information recorded in a child's enrolment record must be sighted/noted (regulation 162(g)).
- When a parent/guardian indicates in the C&K Enrolment Booklet Affiliate they are claiming kindergarten funding at another centre for their eligible-age child, the centre Director (or approved delegate) will:
 - Contact the parent/guardian to discuss and confirm their understanding and intention.
 - Support a family's choice regarding which centre will be claiming kindergarten funding for their child.
 - Not refuse the child's enrolment.

- When a parent/guardian has not provided their consent for any item listed in the *C&K Enrolment Booklet Affiliate*, the centre Director (or approved delegate) will contact the parent/guardian to discuss and confirm their understanding and intention. When parent/guardian consent has not be provided to administer First Aid and emergency medications (EpiPen or Ventolin), share the following information:
 - Sometimes a child experiences their first asthma/anaphylaxis medical emergency while in care.
 - Delay in administering anaphylaxis/asthma medication in a medical emergency may result in serious, even fatal health risks to children.
 - Under-treatment of anaphylaxis is more harmful (and potentially life threatening) than over-treatment of a mild or moderate allergic reaction. When appropriate, refer parents/guardians to [Asthma Australia](#) and [ASCIA](#).
 - Teachers and educators have current First Aid and emergency management of anaphylaxis and asthma training.

Step Four: Orientation

Prior to a child commencing, the centre Director (with their approved delegates) will:

- Complete orientation activities. Orientation activities will vary between centres; and be responsive to the needs of families and children.
- Encourage and welcome families to spend time at the centre.
- Consider and respond appropriately to the needs of families from diverse cultural and language backgrounds. Email the C&K Inclusion team (inclusion@candk.asn.au) for access code to arrange TIS interpreter ([131450](tel:131450) | tis@homeaffairs.gov). Free service for kindergarten programs
- Provide an opportunity for parents/guardians to share information about their child's current individual strengths, interests, and needs.
- When a child has inclusion or medical needs, schedule and facilitate a formal meeting with parents/guardians. Refer to [Medical Conditions Procedure](#) and [Communicating with families to support children's wellbeing and inclusion Procedure](#) for further direction.

Kindergarten Funding Eligibility

- To be eligible for [Queensland Kindergarten Funding](#), centres must meet the [service provider eligibility criteria](#) including the provision of 600 hours/year of an [approved kindergarten program](#).
- Parents/guardians of an eligible child will receive Queensland Kindergarten Funding for only one (1) kindergarten program/group.
- Parents/guardians of non-eligible age children are not eligible for Queensland Kindergarten Funding and will be charged the standard daily fee or higher.

Funding and Fees for eligible-age children attending more than one kindergarten program

- Parents/Guardians of eligible children attending two kindergarten groups at the same sessional kindergarten will be charged the standard daily fee or higher for their child's enrolment in the second kindergarten group.
- When an eligible age child is has enrolled at more than one approved kindergarten program across two centres, their parents/guardians must indicate (via their child's *C&K Enrolment Booklet Affiliate*) which centre will receive Queensland Kindergarten Funding.
- Parents/Guardians of eligible children who have indicated they are claiming Queensland Kindergarten Funding at another centre will be charged the standard daily fee or higher.

Definitions

Eligible aged child	A child that turns 4 years old by June 30 in the year they attend kindergarten OR a child with delayed exit that is no older than 6 years and 6 months
Compulsory age to start school	6 years and 6 months
Acceptable evidence of a date of birth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Birth Certificate Passport Medicare-issued immunisation history Other government issued document stating child's Date of Birth Statutory Declaration certified by a Justice of the Peace stating child's full name and Date of Birth Documentation provided by either a community elder(s) or other relevant community member citing child's full name and Date of Birth.

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Acceptable evidence of immunisation

- Official record issued by the Australian Immunisation Register
- Letter from a recognised immunisation provider i.e. General Practitioner or immunisation nurse.
- Evidence must indicate a child's immunisation status is 'up to date' or 'not up to date' as per Queensland Immunisation Schedule. An up-to-date status includes cases where a child is on a recognised catch-up schedule or has a documented approved medical exemption.
- Non-Australian government vaccination records are **NOT** recognised as approved documentary evidence. Parents/Guardians of children with non-Australian government vaccination records must seek advice of a General Practitioner or immunisation nurse to obtain evidence of immunisation.

Acknowledgements and references

- Queensland Government. [Funding essentials for sessional Kindergartens](#)
- ACECQA. [Information Sheet – Quality Area 6 Enrolment and Orientation](#)