



Routine: Caring for Belongings/Children's Backpacks

Review Date: 13/09/2017

Rationale

The concept of *ownership* is central to developing a sense of **belonging** within the centre. Children develop pride and respect by looking after their own items.

Becoming competent in self-help confidence, brings satisfaction and a sense of achievement.

As children learn to put their belongings into their bag and zip them up, they are learning to recognise and value their belongings and to keep them safe and secure. They are also keeping everyone at the centre safe from trip hazards.

Aim

To promote children's independence in caring for their belongings.

To keep bag area tidy and safe at all times.

Procedure:

After lunch, children sort their waste, then pack up and zip their bags before going out to play.

Educators assist them to check that the space is clean and tidy.

Educators will:

- Encourage children to make choices and decisions.
- Maintain high expectations of each child's capabilities.
- Provide opportunities for children to engage independently with tasks.
- Display delight, encouragement and enthusiasm for children's attempts.
- Support children's efforts, assisting and encouraging as appropriate.
- Motivate and encourage children to succeed when they are faced with challenges.
- Ensure all children experience pride and confidence in their achievements.
- Share children's successes with families.

Sources

Future Planning

The current arrangements of hooks for children's bags is not optimal. The crowded nature of the area hinders children's attempts at independence and increases frustration. It is more desirable that we work towards installing a locker system as funds permit so that each child can have a workable area. Lockers would allow children to have their own personal area and therefore become responsible for their space. We could provide a spot for each child to place their name each day (creating ownership and belonging) and a personal mailbox/pocket within their booth so that children can get their own mail.

Adopted by the Management Committee

Signed by: Naomi Simpson, President

Date: 13/09/2015

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