



4.4 Children's Personal Items from Home

Purpose

To ensure that children's belongings are kept safe.

Objective

To ensure that all families and staff are aware of their responsibility regarding children's belongings.

Scope of Policy

This policy applies to all children and families attending John Street.

Policy Statement

Children often want to share or show other children or caregivers special things from home, but these treasures may be easily broken or lost.

To save the upset and heartache, parents are requested to encourage children to leave their toys at home, and if that is not possible, to limit children to one small inexpensive item.

Staff take no responsibility for children's lost home toys and are unable to devote their time to searching for any missing items.

We take as much care as possible in ensuring that clothing, toys, books and puzzles etc are returned to their correct family. The labelling of all items can help us achieve this.

However, we must make it clear that the Centre is not responsible for damaged, lost or stolen items. If families choose to leave belongings in the centre during the day **it is completely at the family's own risk.**

Procedures

Toys & Treasures - A special bed-time friend to cuddle is fine, and any interesting specimens, e.g., rocks, flowers, leaves etc. are always welcome. Books and CDs can also be shared by all.

Inappropriate toys - When purchasing equipment for John Street we select toys that foster peace, cooperation and education, and which do not pose a health and safety risk. We ask that children do

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not bring any toys which run counter to this philosophy. Examples of such toys would be toy weapons, choking hazards and toys with batteries.

If children choose to bring toys to John Street that educators deem to be inappropriate, we will ask that they remain in the child's bag.

Responsibility

It is the responsibility of all staff and families to implement this policy.

Related John Street Policies, Procedures and Guidelines

Policies	<i>Educational Equipment & Toys; Superhero Play; Program Planning; Communication with Families; Interactions with Children; Guiding Children's Behavior; Enrolment, Orientation & Custody Arrangements; Equity, Diversity & the Children's Program; Inclusion of Children with Additional Needs; Expectations of Educators;</i>
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Authorisation

This policy was approved by the John Street Board in March 2019.