

Service Newsletter January 2023

The Noongar Season 'Birak' (December-January) is represented by the colour red as it symbolises heat, sun and fire. During, Birak season the rain eases and the warm weather really starts to take hold. The afternoons are cooled by the sea breezes from the south west.

Traditionally this was the fire season. An almost clockwork style of easterly winds in the morning and sea breezes in the afternoon meant that this was burning time of the year for Noongar people and they would burn the country in mosaic patterns. There, are several reasons for this, including fuel reduction, increasing the grazing pastures for animals, to aid seed germination and to make it easier to move across the country.

Summer is here! What you need to know about pram covers

Covering a pram with a wrap, blanket or plastic cover is not the way to keep the sun off a little one in the pram! Did you know that covering the pram can significantly increase the risk of overheating and suffocation? Check out this article from Red Nose to see what you need to know about keeping babies safe this summer.

Checking Hot Surfaces

With the warmer weather upon us, we would like to remind you all to be aware when children are playing outside or going to play areas where they can be at risk of getting burnt on hot surfaces.

Where possible use play areas where shade sails are installed, and if possible have them installed in your backyard if the area gets particularly hot and there is no other form of shade.

Before children enter the play space, it is recommended to check the temperature of the playground surface. Holding your hand just above the surface may help you determine if the playground surface is too hot for children to play on. If the surface temperature is 50 or more or has been determined to be too hot, it is recommended that children do not play on the surface.

Kidsafe have some great [resources](#) you can refer to for safety tips.

Telehealth Service with Paediatric Specialists

KidsDocOnCall is a 24/7 telehealth service specialising in providing medical consultations with paediatric specialists to families around Australia. Consultations are available for children from newborns to 17 years of age, from the comfort of your own home! To find out more about this convenient service (which is proudly partnered with Red Nose) go to their [website](#) for all the details.

COVID Management Practices

With COVID rearing its head again, our Educators are doing all they can to minimise the spread and to ensure that your children's health and their own is a priority. It is important that you chat to your Educator to see if there have been any changes to her COVID Management Policy and that these practices are adhered to. If you have any questions about their policies please don't hesitate to chat to your Educator or give one of the staff at the office a call.

Updating Enrolment Details

We would like to remind all families to please update your details with your Educator. It is important that you ensure that your Educator has the correct names and contact information for who your emergency contacts

WHERE CHILDREN CAN BE CHILDREN



are and who is authorised to deliver and collect your child. Please make the time to double check all these details the next time you drop your child off.

Medical Incident, Illness, Injury & Trauma

In the event that your child requires any first aid treatment while they are in care, it is essential that your Educator provides you with an *Incident, Injury, Trauma & Illness Record* within 24 hours of the injury / incident occurring. This document must be signed by you and the Educator. If your Educator does not provide you with one of these please ask for one to be completed as this is a Regulatory requirement and while the Service does ask for notification of any serious incidents and medical emergencies, we are not always informed of any other incidents.

Disability Discrimination Act

Every child has the right to access, participate and be included in all aspects of community life, including children's education and care. During visits with our Educators we have been chatting to them about the Disability Discrimination Act and have given them a hand out on what Education and Care Services need to know when working with children and their families. If you would like to know more information or are interested in exploring this document, then please access it [here](#).

Reconciliation Action Plan

We are proud to share that we formally registered our Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). A RAP is a strategic document that supports Nature Alliance's business plan. It outlines concrete ways our Service can contribute to the national reconciliation movement both internally and within our community. We will be working on the plan in the coming years and warmly invite those who are interested in contributing towards our RAP to send your details through to info@naturealliancefdc.com.au. We would be excited to have as much input as possible.

Is Your Child Transitioning to Kindy this Year?

If your child is transitioning to Kindy this year chat to your Educator, to see whether they have any details about your child's development that may be useful for you to share with their Kindy teacher. There are so many big changes for our Kindy children and it can be a great help for teachers to have some background information as to where your child's interests and strengths lie.

Parent Survey

As we are entering a new year, we thought it would be a great time to get some feedback and input from the families who engage the services of our Educators. It would be greatly appreciated if you could take the time to complete [this survey](#).

Policies Being Updated

The following policies are currently being reviewed and we would love your feedback! Any suggestions, comments or feedback can be forwarded to info@naturealliancefdc.com.au before the end of February 2023.

[NA-POL-0003.2](#) - Infectious Diseases

[NA-POL-0021](#) - Engagement and Registration of FDC Assistants

Contact Us

If you have any queries or feedback regarding the Service or would like to chat about the content of this newsletter or about your Educator in general, please feel free to contact us on the numbers or email address listed at the bottom of the first page of this newsletter or find us on our [Facebook](#) page.

WHERE CHILDREN CAN BE CHILDREN

