

## 6.4 (a) Emergency Care in Family Day Care Policy

<b>Policy number:</b> 6.4(a)
<b>Date last reviewed:</b> February 2024
<b>Reviewed by:</b> Child Care Team

This policy relates to	
Child Safe Principles	
National Quality Standards Early Childhood Education & Care	2.2 Safety 2.2.3 Child Protection

### Purpose

Emergency care of one additional hour of care may be provided in Family Day Care to a child in response to an emergency of a parent or guardian that causes late collection of the child or where a child is at risk. An emergency is defined unforeseen circumstances.

### Background

Emergency Care was previously in The Child Care Act 2002 and has now been updated in accordance with the Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011

### Policy

In implementing this policy, the approved provider of a family day care service may approve, in writing, a family day care educator to educate and care to more than 7 children, or more than 4 children who are preschool age or under, at any one time, in exceptional circumstances. For the purposes of sub-regulation (5), exceptional circumstances exist if:

- All the children being educated and cared for by the family day care educator are siblings in the same family; or
- A child to be educated and cared for is determined to be in need of protection under a child protection law and the family day care educator is determined to be the best person to educate and care for the child; or
- The family day care residence or approved family day care venue is in a rural or remote area and no alternative education and care service is available.

Other possible situations where emergency care may occur is when there has been exceptional circumstances preventing a parent from arriving at the service to collect their child on time overlapping with another booking e.g. in the instance of a car accident or unforeseen emergency.

If emergency care takes place, the educator must contact the service to register the emergency care taking place, and then record the care that occurred on the Emergency Care form, with the completed form forwarded to the service.

**Relevant Legislation**

Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011 124

Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010

**Related Policies**

[Appendix F QIP and Compliance](#)

[Appendix I Child Protection](#)