

## **Supervision Policy (HS 34)**

### **Rationale**

To uphold the health and safety of tamariki to ensure they are actively supervised at all times.

### **Purpose**

Tamariki need a safe, secure environment which is effectively supervised. The type of supervision required will change depending on the layout of the home environment, the experiences being undertaken, the number of tamariki, and the ages and the individual needs of the tamariki. Supervision can ensure that children's play is enjoyable, and their learning opportunities are promoted. Through careful observation, educators will see opportunities for supporting and building on children's play experiences and identify when children wish to play independent of adult involvement.

### **Guidelines**

Educators effectively supervise tamariki by actively watching and attending to their environment.

Active supervision takes advantage of all available learning opportunities and means never leaving tamariki unattended, i.e.: being able to monitor (see or hear) all tamariki at all times, including indoors, outdoors, and when sleeping. Educators should use their professional judgment and common sense when deciding when it is appropriate to have any tamariki out of their direct line of sight. For example, for older tamariki who want to use the toilet with some privacy, it is appropriate to supervise by remaining in hearing distance.

Active supervision of tamariki can be achieved in a number of ways including:

- Direct and constant monitoring by the educator in close proximity to the tamariki when supervising an experience with some element of risk, for example cooking experiences and any activity that is near water.
- Careful positioning of the educator to ensure they are observing the tamariki and are close enough to intervene promptly to prevent injury.
- Scanning or regularly looking around to observe all tamariki and to be aware when one moves out of view.
- Listening closely to tamariki near and far to supervise areas not in the educator's direct line of sight. This is particularly useful when listening out for sleeping tamariki or older tamariki using the bathroom.

- Observing children’s play and anticipating what may happen next will allow educators to assist children as difficulties arise and to intervene where there is potential danger.
- Balancing experiences to ensure risk is minimised.

## **Documentation**

Each home will have a written supervision plan that ensures the good health and safety of tamariki enrolled in the service is maintained at all times.

The plan will be specific to the premise and the number, age, and enrolled hours of the tamariki attending and will show how the educator will actively supervise tamariki attending the service. It must include, but is not limited to:

- how the premise will be arranged, across all indoor and outdoor spaces likely to be used at any time while tamariki are attending the home, to enhance supervision of tamariki.
- how tamariki will be supervised while they are:
  - involved in activities or daily routines (such as sleeping, eating and toileting) in separate parts of the home;
  - using play equipment and resources, both indoors and outdoors;
  - interacting with other people in the home, including visitors; and
  - using technology or while they are in the presence of technology while it is being used by others in the home.

Date reviewed: May 2021

**NELPS objectives 1, priority 1**