

Program / Curriculum Policy

Policy Statement

The Y Canberra Region’s program / curriculum delivery is guided by the Y Mission, Vision and Values. Business units will implement procedure and practice to meet their individual professional standards, curriculum framework and unique philosophy. Y Canberra provides a strong focus on social impact, health and wellbeing, community connectedness and providing the best start in life for all participants including children and young people. We acknowledge the importance of delivering programs that value active play as it lays the foundation for a healthy and active life.

Objectives

- To ensure our programs are guided by industry professional standards.
- To guide Y People towards using professional standards to build and implement Y Programs.
- To provide programs and experiences to challenge, engage and strengthen participant’s health, wellbeing and learning.
- To foster participants learning experiences through positive practices with staff in partnership with parents / guardians and the community.
- To create positive learning environments where participants are encouraged to participate and engage in experiences.

Procedures

The Y Canberra Region Program and Curriculum policy supports Y People to design and develop services to;

- enhance participant’s interests, learning and engagement
- promote participation and agency
- be connected, inclusive and resilient
- provide participants with a sense of belonging in their community.
- serve the individual needs of citizens in the Canberra and local region

Y People will;

- Plan and implement programs and curriculum that reflects and underpins the Y Values; Honesty, Respect, Caring and Responsibility.
- Be guided by professional standards, UNCROC – United Nations Convention on the right of the child, frameworks, philosophy and intentional goals relevant to the individual needs of each business unit.
- Where required implement any legislated curriculum framework e.g. Children’s Services
 - My Time Our Place (MTOP)
 - Out of School Hours Care (OSHC)
 - Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF)
 - National Quality Framework (NQF)

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- Ensure families, participants and the community are informed of Y Canberra Regions programs and curriculum e.g.
 - YMCA Canberra Website <https://canberra.ymca.org.au/>
 - Individual Service Displays
 - Children’s Services – Story Park
 - Electronic Communication / Social Media
 - Brochures / Posters
- Develop and implement programs and curriculum that establishes connections within the local and broader community and includes children, young people, families, vulnerable people, local indigenous peoples and organisations.
- Review, reflect and evaluate their programs and curriculum regularly to ensure the delivery of quality practice.
- Involve participants in any planning and decision making processes.
- Ensure the program and curriculum experiences are guided by participant’s individual strengths, needs and interests.
- Create spaces to invite participation, belonging and nurture participants’ healthy body, mind and spirit.
- Develop programs that create a sense of belonging for people, country and community.
- Establish and embed programs that instill a positive visual presence in the local and broader community.

In Children’s Services we will;

- Ensure the approved quality framework (MTOPI / EYLF / NFQ) guides;
 - the development of the educational program
 - the pedagogical practices of Y People
 - a planned and reflective approach to the assessment and planning of participants (QA 1 Educational Program and Practice)
- Be guided by the Principles and Practices of the approved learning frameworks by reflecting on theory, research and pedagogical practices.
- Observe, document and plan for participant’s individual and group learning by ensuring the documentation is clear, objective and meaningful.
- Plan experiences based on the approved learning frameworks and promote the five learning outcomes and service philosophy;
 - Outcome 1: Children have a strong sense of identity.
 - Outcome 2: Children are connected with and contribute to their world.
 - Outcome 3: Children have a strong sense of wellbeing.
 - Outcome 4: Children are confident and involved learners.
 - Outcome 5: Children are effective communicators.
- Create positive learning environments to facilitate play and learning.
- Ensure all facets of the program, including routines, meal times and experiences maximise participant’s opportunities for learning.
- Offer evidence of intentional teaching, planned and spontaneous experiences.

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- View each participant’s learning and developmental assessment as an ongoing cycle of observation, assessment, documentation, planning, implementation and reflection.



- Provide play opportunities in both indoor and outdoor spaces to support and engage all participants in quality experiences using resources that;
 - allow for multiple use and are sufficient in amount
 - support participants to become environmentally responsible
 - are safe, clean and well maintained
 - support exploration and play based learning
 - offer both built and natural experiences
 - promote participant’s understanding of inclusion and diversity
 - accessible to all ages and abilities
- Ensure individual services are provided with educational leadership to assist Y People in the planning and implementation of the Curriculum Planning Cycle.

Health, Recreation and Accommodation will;

- Implement and deliver programs on behalf of governing bodies e.g. Accredited Bodies such as Sailing Australia or Gymnastics.
- Design and deliver programs to meet community needs.
- Be guided by expertise and have knowledge in the field e.g. Diabetes Australia
- Deliver accredited programs that align with any required National Standards.
- Where required will engage qualified / experienced coaches or instructors.
- Deliver programs designed to suit individual participant’s health / fitness needs.
- Deliver group fitness programs designed and implemented to meet community needs.
- Provide programs that are designed and implemented to meet 2 specific community needs
 - 1/ Client engagement e.g. Ever Active
 - 2/ Specific Assessment Engagement e.g. Arthritis Action
- Where required contract professional presenters with the knowledge, expertise and experiences to deliver the content of a program.

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Definitions

Curriculum / Learning Framework – defined as all interactions, experiences, routines and events both planned and unplanned that occur in an environment designed to foster participants learning and development (Early Years Learning Framework EYLF and My Time Our Place MTOP)

Pedagogy – defined as the method and practice of teaching as an academic discipline. It is the study of how knowledge and skills are imparted in an educational context.

Intentional Teaching – defined as being deliberate, thoughtful and purposeful in decisions and actions.

Roles and Responsibilities

Department/Area	Role/Responsibility
Managers / Nominated Supervisors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure the planning and implementation of programs meet the required professional standards, legislation / regulations. To provide programs collaboratively with the Y Canberra Region mission, values and strategic planning goals To monitor the implementation of programs to ensure the delivery of quality outcomes
Y People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To develop, plan and implement programs that challenge and engage participants Where required, document, record and assess participants individual learning and development To gather the interests, ideas, strengths and needs of participants by collaboratively involving them in decision making To engage in critical reflection, evaluation and review processes to improve all programs and curriculum quality outcomes
Health, Recreation and Accommodation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver any accredited programs in line with the National Standards. Participate in community engagement opportunities Recruit Y People to deliver programs who are knowledgeable, qualified or have experience in their area of expertise.

Related Policies

Interactions with Children
Sustainability
Inclusion and Diversity

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

Due for review April, 2023 or as required

Standard, Legislation, Supporting Documents

Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010 and National Regulations 2011

National Quality Framework 2018, 2020 (QA 1 Educational Program and Practice QA 3 Physical Environments)

Belonging, Being and Becoming – The Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) 2009, 2019 / My Time Our Place Framework for School Aged Care (MTOP) 2011, 2019 - Department of Education and Training

Early Childhood Australia Code of Ethics 2016, Early Childhood Australia

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