



EDUCATION AND CARE

ECU NEWSLETTER

18 August 2023

NQF changes in effect from 1 October 2023

A third round of regulatory changes resulting from the 2019 NQF Review will come into effect from 1 October 2023.


The changes will:

- improve the safety and wellbeing of children
- amend requirements for the FDC sector to strengthen regulatory oversight and safety
- improve the provision of NQF information to families.

ACECQA has published [new guidance information and resources](#)¹ on its website in the lead up to 1 October 2023.

The ECU will provide more detail around how the upcoming regulatory changes will look in the Tasmanian context in the coming months.



 An updated Guide to the NQF will be available from 1 October 2023

The Educational Leader role in NQF services

Effective educational leadership is essential to the provision of quality educational programs and practice.

The [Education and Care Services National Regulations](#)² require that the approved provider must designate a suitably qualified and experienced educator, co-ordinator or other individual as educational leader at the service to lead the development and implementation of educational programs (Regulation 118).

The ECU has developed an [Educational Leader resource](#)³ to support services to reflect on and unpack the role. The resource is available on the [ECU website](#)⁴ and covers:

- the Educational Leader Role
- regulatory requirements
- the National Quality Standard
- documentation
- critical reflection
- the planning cycle
- pedagogical leadership
- useful links and resources.

OSHC resources and training

The National Outside School Hours Services Alliance (NOSHSA) has developed a free resource suite for the Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) sector. This includes mentoring and coaching tools designed to build the capacity of the OSHC sector and enhancing the role of the Educational Leader and educators in their day-to-day inclusive practice with children.

The training is delivered over three online webinars, with comprehensive supporting resources. The topics are:

- Complex Behaviour Support in OSHC
- Neurodiversity Affirming Practice in OSHC
- Trauma Informed Practice in OSHC.

Full details are available at the [NOSHSA Inclusion Project](#)⁵ website.

In addition, the [Outside School Hours Research Hub](#)⁶ has published a series of eight vignettes to guide reflective conversations with educators.

Professional Development Opportunity – OSHC Educators

NOSHA is facilitating an upcoming professional learning event for the OSHC sector.

The session will focus on a process that draws critical reflection, Quality Improvement Plans and action research together so that educators and service teams can collaborate.

It will unpack the updated description about critical reflection and ongoing learning in *My Time, Our Place: Framework for School Age Care in Australia V2.0*.

The event will be held in Hobart on Monday 23 October 2023, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

To register for the event, or for further information, visit the [NOSHSA Events](#)⁷ website.

Professional Development Opportunity – Children’s Rights and Safety Courses

The University of Tasmania has developed two free short courses to enrich understanding of children’s rights and safety.

The first course, *Introduction to Children’s Rights and Safety*, provides a general overview of children’s rights. It covers the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and looks at the difference between duty bearers and rights holders.

The second, more detailed and extended course, *Child Safety: Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention*, centres on awareness and prevention. This course supports participants to:

- Recognise the importance of preventing and addressing child and young person abuse.
- Identify risk factors and misconceptions about child and young person abuse, offenders, and patterns of offending.
- Identify steps individuals and organisations can take to create a child-friendly culture and child safe environment.

The courses are self-paced, fully online, and will take 1 to 1.5 hours to complete. Participants are issued with a certificate upon completion.

To enrol, or for further information, visit the [University of Tasmania website](#)⁸.

EYLF V2.0 and MTOP V2.0 – new support material released

As you are aware, Version 2.0 of the national approved learning frameworks are now approved for use under the NQF.



[Belonging, Being & Becoming: The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia V2.0 \(EYLF\)](#)

[My Time, Our Place: Framework for School Age Care in Australia V2.0 \(MTOP\)](#)

ACECQA has released [new support material](#)⁹ to support services transitioning to the updated national frameworks.

There are new information sheets on elements of the EYLF V2.0 and MTOP V2.0, as well as fact sheets, FAQ’s and Planning Cycle posters.

The ECU encourages providers and services to begin familiarising themselves with the updated frameworks.

For most services, the updated frameworks validate and support existing practices. For others, they provide an opportunity to reflect on current practice and make improvements relevant to their children, community and context.

LINKS

¹ Changes to the NQF starting from 1 October 2023 – ACECQA - <https://www.acecqa.gov.au/latest-news/changes-nqf-starting-1-october-2023>

² *Education and Care Services National Regulations* - <https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/s1-2011-0653>

³ Educational Leader Role Resource - <https://publicdocumentcentre.education.tas.gov.au/library/Shared%20Documents/ECU-Educational-Leader-Presentation-for-NQF-services.pdf>

⁴ Education and Care Unit - <https://educationandcare.tas.gov.au/>

⁵ NOSHA Inclusion Project - <https://www.nosha.org.au/inclusionproject>

⁶ Outside School Hours Research Hub - <https://oshrh.com.au/projects/>

⁷ NOSHA Events - <https://www.nosha.org.au/event-details/critical-reflection-quality-improvement-action-research-and-my-time-our-place-for-oshc-hobart>

⁸ University of Tasmania Children's Rights and Safety Courses - <https://www.utas.edu.au/study/short-courses/childrens-rights-and-safety-courses>

⁹ Approved learning frameworks – ACECQA - <https://www.acecqa.gov.au/nqf/national-law-regulations/approved-learning-frameworks>

Contact details:

Education and Care Unit
Department for Education, Children and Young People
GPO Box 169
Hobart Tasmania 7001
Email: ecu.comment@decyp.tas.gov.au
Phone: (03) 6165 5425
Web: www.educationandcare.tas.gov.au