# Policy statement

Goodstart Early Learning Ltd (Goodstart) is committed to its employees and to ensuring its workforce is appropriately qualified, motivated and experienced for its critical role in enhancing children's learning and development through:

* the development of warm, respectful relationships with children;
* the creation of safe environments for children;
* encouraging children's active engagement in their learning programs.

Goodstart is committed to establishing and maintaining effective, ethical and efficient practices in all aspects of its operations.

All Goodstart employees are required to maintain, at all times, effective working relationships with each other that are based on the principles of mutual respect, integrity, equity and fairness.

## What does this policy apply to?

* Staffing Arrangements
* Ethical and Respectful Workplace

This policy relates to Quality Area 4 of the National Quality Standard

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| QA4 | Staffing arrangements |
| 4.1 | Staffing arrangements enhance children's learning and development. |
| 4.1.1 | The organisation of educators across the service supports children's learning and development. |
| 4.1.2 | Every effort is made for children to experience continuity of educators at the service. |
| 4.2 | Management, educators and staff are collaborative, respectful and ethical. |
| 4.2.1 | Management, educators and staff work with mutual respect and collaboratively, and challenge and learn from each other, recognising each other’s strengths and skills. |
| 4.2.2 | Professional standards guide practice, interactions and relationships. |

### Staffing Arrangements

Goodstart is committed to maintaining required educator-to-child ratios and qualifications at all times.

Staffing arrangements, both within centres and within centre support offices, will be optimised so that children's learning and development and safety and wellbeing is prioritised at all times.

Related documents: [NQS1 Educational Program and Practice Policy](http://policies.goodstart.org.au/PoliciesandProcedures/NQS1%20Educational%20Program%20and%20Practice%20POLICY.doc); [BM5 Hours of Work Requirement](http://policies.goodstart.org.au/PoliciesandProcedures/BM5%20Hours%20of%20Work%20REQUIREMENT.docx); [NQS4 Monitoring Study Programs Requirement](http://policies.goodstart.org.au/PoliciesandProcedures/NQS4%20Monitoring%20Study%20Programs%20REQUIREMENT.docx); [NQS4 Qualification Gained Procedure](http://policies.goodstart.org.au/PoliciesandProcedures/NQS4%20Qualification%20Gained%20PROCEDURE.docx); [NQS4 Staff, Student and Volunteer Schedule Appendix](http://policies.goodstart.org.au/PoliciesandProcedures/NQS4%20Staff%20Schedule%20APPENDIX.docx); [NQS4 Study Monitoring Review Meetings Procedure](http://policies.goodstart.org.au/PoliciesandProcedures/NQS4%20Study%20Monitoring%20Review%20Meetings%20PROCEDURE.docx)

### Ethical and Respectful Workplace

Goodstart will maintain professional standards in all aspects of its operations, including in respect of its staffing and employment practices and plans.

All Goodstart staff will use ethical principles and professional standards to guide their decision-making and practice in Goodstart workplaces.

All Goodstart staff will work collaboratively and challenge, support and learn from each other to further develop their skills and to improve practice and relationships.

Goodstart is committed to ensuring all interactions between employees convey mutual respect, equity, and recognition of each other's strength and skills.

Related documents: BM1 Code of Conduct Policy; BM6 Ensuring a Fair Workplace Policy; BM1 Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Guideline; BM6 Prevention of Bullying, Harassment and Discrimination Requirement; BM4 Whistleblower Policy.

# Responsibilities

This policy is to be implemented by: All Goodstart Early Learning Employees.