

THE GOWRIE (QLD) INC

PEST, INSECT, PLANT & WEED CONTROL WITHOUT USE OF TOXIC CHEMICALS POLICY – ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY

CONSIDERATIONS:

QIAS	Principle 5.3 and 5.5
REGS	Child Care Act 2002 Section 75 Child Care Regulation 2003 Sections 54/56/57

POLICY STATEMENT:

- To eliminate insect pests and poisonous plants without the use of potentially toxic chemicals and to role model alternative, natural and healthy models of pest, insect and weed control.

RELEVANT FORMS/MATERIAL:

- ***Poison Plants Leaflet*** (Queensland Poisons Information Service) *Current Edition*

SOURCES:

- Lady Gowrie Child Service, Sydney (2002) *Managing OHS in Children's Services*.
- Caton, Scott & Roche, Dee (1999) *Managing the Risks in Children's Services: An integrated approach to managing risk for children and staff*. The Lady Gowrie Service (WA) Inc: Karawara.

REVIEWED: May 2010

Date to be Reviewed : May 2011

FOLLOW UP	<p>The Director will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organise annual pest control inspections to be carried out by a licensed pest eradicator. - Organise professional pest eradication as necessary. - Concentrate treatment on known harborage of pests (food storage, preparation and serving areas as well as electric motor equipment areas).
ALWAYS	<p>The Director will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organise a pest control inspection if staff notify of a pest problem outside the nominated inspection dates. - Organise for pest eradication treatment to be carried out over weekends or during holiday periods and organise for the Service to be cleaned before the children return. - Use, and request use of treatments with Natural Pyrethrines which are recognised as effective, safe and environmentally friendly.
SUPPORT STAFF	<p>The Director will request grounds and general maintenance staff to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Control weeds by manually removing weed from around paths and in garden beds (after rain or a period of watering). Weeds should be composted in a dedicated Compost Bin and the resultant compost used on garden beds as fertiliser (this eliminates the need for using chemical fertilisers). - Keep drains clear so water doesn't accumulate. - Ensure tyres used in play equipment have drainage holes and are painted white inside. - Remove any trees or shrubs which encourage problem insects or are poisonous to children. (Replace with more benign varieties). - Keep screened windows and doors in good repair.