



the
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Participation and inclusion

National Standard for Disability Services 2

Created August 2015	F:\Lady Lawley Cottage\Policies and Procedures\2. Participation and Inclusion\Participation and Inclusion LL-POL-24-01.docx	Sponsor: Senior Manager Teri O'Toole
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1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline Lady Lawley Cottage's (LLC) commitment to ensuring children with a disability are encouraged and supported to participate in, and contribute to, social and civic life in ways that are important to them. This policy is in line with National Standards for Disability Services, Standard 2.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all LLC, models of support, practices and systems that relate to people who use our services.

3. Responsibility

All staff will have responsibility for ensuring full understanding of the commitments outlined in this policy and implement relevant systems, procedures, workflows and other strategies to direct the participation and inclusion of children and young people in LLC care.

4. Application

LLC adopts a person centered approach to the support of our clients and adapts our services to an individual's needs. We recognise and respect diversity, the individual's strengths, preferences and aspirations and their inherent rights to freedom of expression, self determination, participation and inclusion together with the role of family, carers and advocates.

The policy aims to:

- base participation on an individual's interests, identity, preferences and goals
- support the individual's connection to family, friends, chosen communities and other organisations in their role to provide meaningful participation and inclusion
- acknowledge and respect the individual beliefs, culture and traditions of the child and their family.

LLC will strive to provide opportunities for participation and inclusion by:

- creating an inclusive culture/environment in which differences and capabilities are recognised and valued
- providing a program strategy and service structure with consideration for the health and well being of the child, their age, ability and culture
- ensuring each child can exercise free choice in what they would like to participate in
- whenever appropriate and practicable, providing children with the opportunity to socialise, build relationships with others and have access to the same places as others in the community
- selecting volunteers with consideration to their connection with the wider community and their interests and match them appropriately with like minded children, where possible
- collaborating and partnering with other community groups and their members to facilitate the inclusion of children in their activities
- delivering programs and designing activities for children to engage and build on their existing competencies
- seeking parent/guardian and school involvement in the child's skills training and development and wherever practical, enabling skills training to be delivered to the child in appropriate community settings.

5. References

[National Standards for Disability Services](#)

Lady Lawley Cottage as a key program of Red Cross is there for people in need, regardless of nationality, race, religious beliefs, class or political opinions. The organisation is impartial, neutral and independent.