

Can't thrive without it:

The role of effective Governance in early childhood education and care service delivery.

Gilda Howard & Catharine Hydon



© A.Sax 2013



Early Childhood Australia
A voice for young children

SEASONS OF CHANGE EARLY CHILDHOOD AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2014

What is Governance?

Governance is the *systems & processes* in place to steer the operations & directions of an organisation, stipulating the *rights & responsibilities* of the board, staff and other stakeholders.



© A.Sax 2013



Early Childhood Australia
A voice for young children

SEASONS OF CHANGE EARLY CHILDHOOD AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2014

Why do you need Governance?

Effective governance;

- Provides accountability
- Ensures control systems are in place
- Monitor risks

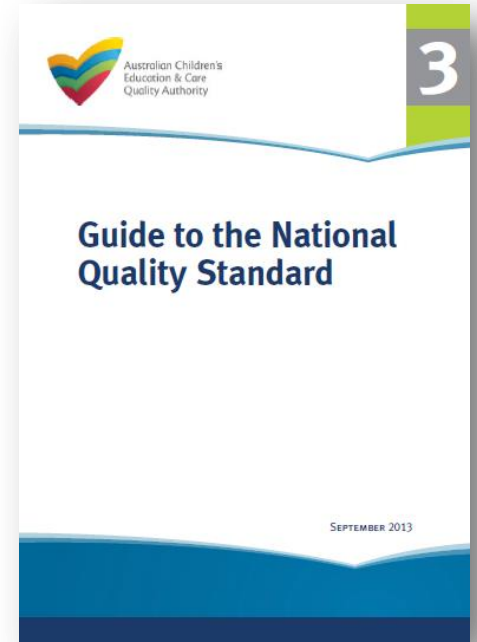


© A.Sax 2013

Governance in ECEC?

Standard 7.1

Effective leadership promotes a positive organisational culture and builds a professional learning community.



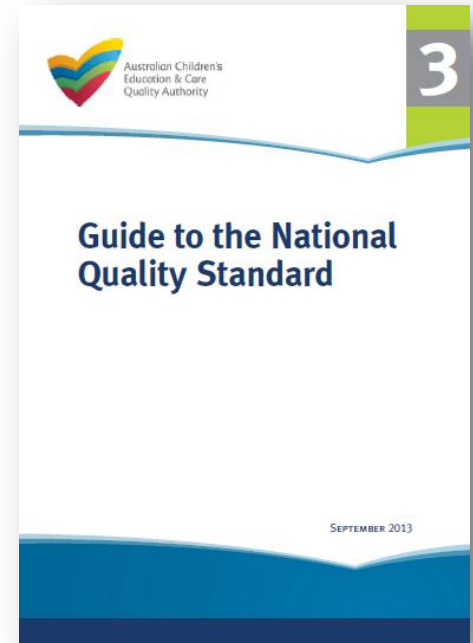
© A.Sax 2013

Governance in ECEC contributes to quality

Building a positive culture and professional learning community involves:

- continuously questioning how to improve teaching methods
- strengthening relationships with children and families
- establishing high expectations of the quality of education and care provided by nominated supervisors, educators and co-ordinators and children's learning.

Guide to the National Quality Standard p167



Governance Issues in ECEC

- Lack of understanding of the importance of good governance
- Confusion between governance and management
- Limited governance expertise, experience and understanding
- The reliance of volunteers



© A.Sax 2013



Early Childhood Australia
A voice for young children

SEASONS OF CHANGE EARLY CHILDHOOD AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2014

What is **GOOD** Governance?

Good Governance Principles and Guidance
for NFP Organisations

Our Community website – ourcommunity.org.au



© A.Sax 2013



What makes for good Governance processes?

Processes that are;

- Transparent
- Participatory
- Legal
- Ethical
- Equitable
- Accountable



© A.Sax 2013

Principles of Good Governance in ECEC?

- 1 Roles and Responsibilities
- 2 Board Composition
- 3 Purpose and Strategy
- 4 Risk - Recognition and Management
- 5 Organisational Performance



© A.Sax 2013

Principles of Good Governance in ECEC?

6 Board Effectiveness

7 Integrity & Accountability

8 Organisation building

9 Culture & Ethics

10 Engagement



© A.Sax 2013

Key roles of board members...

- Legal & financial accountabilities
- Strategic vision & objectives
- Advocacy
- Self-evaluation
- Meetings



© A.Sax 2013

Coming together is a beginning.
Keeping together is progress.
Working together is success.

Henry Ford



© A.Sax 2013



Early Childhood Australia
A voice for young children

SEASONS OF CHANGE EARLY CHILDHOOD AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2014