



The Briars Special Early Learning Centre

Therapy on site Policy

In line with The Briars' philosophy in regard to children's learning, and after discussions between staff, Governing Council and families, we are unable to accommodate individual private therapy sessions here at The Briars.

We are always happy to work with the children's therapists and welcome them to come and observe the children. We request that the therapists make an appointment with the child's teacher and we will readily have discussions, share information and respect their recommendations whilst our ultimate goal is to improve the children's learning outcomes.

This policy has been written in consideration of

- All of the children at The Briars are clients of the NDIA and all require the support of multi disciplinary therapists.
- Some children have three or four different therapists all requiring regular, hour long, 1:1 private therapy sessions.
- Generally our enrolment exceeds 50 children, with approximately 20 attending on each day.
- Children attend The Briars for a maximum of 3 days a week and therefore have at least 2 days in the week left for therapy / appointments
- Our staff ratio is 1:2
 - Due to the size and lack of space, in the facility, The Briars could not physically accommodate these therapy sessions, or ensure line of sight supervision.
 - It is logistically impossible to schedule all the therapy sessions that would be required - 20 children per day x 2 required therapy sessions each would equate to 40 x 1 hour therapy sessions on site each week.
 - Due to the high staff ratio, it would not be feasible to allow more adults in to the preschool
 - The wellbeing and safety of the children, and staff, is of utmost importance and it would be compromised if we were to accommodate the required therapy sessions
- We are an educational facility providing play based learning
- Our mandate is to deliver a National Curriculum, The Early Years Framework, to the children.
- When the children are attending, their education is our focus.
 - Unfortunately, if we chose to support NDIA service planning and delivery for all of our children in the preschool setting, the educational outcomes of the children would be compromised.

We understand time constraints and other complexities for families and are happy to negotiate a late preschool arrival, or an early preschool dismissal, should the family choose.