



Therapy on Site Policy

In line with The Briars' philosophy regarding 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, and we will readily have discussions, share information and respect their recommendations whilst our goal is about improving the children's learning outcomes.

This policy has been written in consideration of:

- All children at The Briars are clients of the NDIS and all require the support of allied health professionals.
- Some children have three or four different therapists all requiring regular hour long 1:1 private sessions.
- NDIS clients now have access to more therapy money resulting in more therapy hours
- The number of children attending at any one time – on average 20 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.
- Our staff ratio is 1:3.
 - Due to the size and lack of space, of the facility, The Briars could not physically accommodate these therapy sessions.
 - 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 into 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 with a play-based focus.
- Our mandate is to deliver a National Curriculum, The Early Years Framework, to the children.
- When the children are attending, their learning is our focus.

Unfortunately, if we chose to support NDIS service planning and delivery for all our children in the preschool setting, our core business 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.

-
- **Policy first approved:** May 2020
 - **Next review date:** May 2027
 - **Sourced:** The Briars Preschool staff and Governing Council