



In Home Care

SUPPORT AGENCY TASMANIA



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Newsletter

October 2021

Dear In Home Care Educators,

Welcome to Spring! Our October edition of our newsletter focuses on some of the guidelines and policies that underpin the In Home Care Program. It is important that we revisit these from time to time to remind us of the eligibility and compliance requirements. As IHC educators, it is important that you are also aware of, and following the guidelines, policies, and procedures to support the delivery of a quality education and care program.

- **IHC sessions must occur at the family home listed on the Family Management Plan.**
- **IHC sessions cannot be used for parenting support or respite care (non work related care). There are other support services that are specific to these needs.**
- **The majority of each IHC session needs to take place within the family home listed on the Family Management Plan. Excursions are a wonderful opportunity for children to engage in and explore their local community however, excursions should complement a well-planned home based daily program for children in your care.**

If you would like any clarification of any of these policies, please do not hesitate to contact the In Home Care Support Agency.

If a family contacts you for an extra shift of IHC etc please remind the family they must contact IHC Support Agency to have additional shifts

approved. Also, if you become aware of any changes to a family's IHC needs or family circumstances again, please remind families they also need to contact IHC Support Agency. This will help us ensure that Family Management Plans are up to date and are reflective of the correct days and times of IHC sessions. This can be done either by phoning 1300 052 057 or emailing either;

ihc.admin@ihcsupportagencytas.com.au.
Or info@ihcsupportagency.com.au

IHC Support Agency review Family Management Plans every 3 months, so please contact Wanslea IHC if you haven't received an updated copy of each family's FMP.

Community of Practice

We have thoroughly enjoyed speaking with IHC educators during our Community of Practice online meetings over the last few months. We are in the process of setting a date for our final Community of Practice discussion for 2021 (where has the year gone!). This time we will just be running one online session for educators across Tasmania. This will be a great opportunity to network with a larger group of educators and participate in 'reflective discussion'.

We are also hoping to organise a face to face get together in the South, North and North West with educators hopefully before the end of the year—stay tuned!

Sensory Processing Disorder

During our last 'Community of Practice' discussions, we asked for feedback on what topics educators would like

included in future 'Community of Practice' discussions and 'Sensory Processing Disorder' was a common request.

Sensory Processing Disorder (SPD) is a **condition that affects how our brain processes sensory information (stimuli)**. Sensory information includes things you see, hear, smell, taste, or touch. SPD can affect all of your senses, or just one. SPD usually means you're overly sensitive to stimuli that other people are not. Children who have sensory issues may have an aversion to anything that triggers their senses, such as light, sound, touch, taste, or smell. Common symptoms of sensory processing issues may include:

- hyperactivity
- frequently putting things in their mouth
- resisting hugs

Whilst children with ASD often experience sensory challenges, it's

Natalie and Roxanne look forward to engaging with IHC educators on 'Sensory Processing Disorder' including strategies to support children during our next 'Community of Practice' discussion in early December.

Stay Safe.

Roxanne, and Natalie.

In Home Care Support Agency Tasmania

important to remember that children do not need a diagnosis of ASD to experience difficulties with sensory processing. The following article contains some wonderful information about what SPD looks like for many children, and some suggestions about when to seek outside help.

<https://childdevelopment.com.au/areas-of-concern/sensory-processing/>

