

7<sup>th</sup> June, 2013

**Karimbla Constructions Services (NSW) Pty Ltd**  
**Level 11**  
**528 Kent Street**  
**Sydney NSW 2000**

**Attention : Walter Gordon**

**Dear Walter,**

**Proposed Child Care Centre**  
**14 – 18 Boondah Road**  
**Warriewood**

We wish to submit further information in relation to the key issues referred to in Attachment 1 of the correspondence received from Planning & Infrastructure, dated the 28<sup>th</sup> May, 2013.

We hereby confirm that the design and documentation of the proposed child care centre for up to one-hundred (100) children, aged between 0 and 5 years of age, has been completed and is in accordance with the requirements of the **Education and Care Services National Regulations** (Regulations) under the **Education and Care Services National Law** (Law), including the **Children (Education and Care Services) Supplementary Provisions Regulation 2012**.

The current application seeks Council's approval for the following accommodation for a total of one-hundred (100) children in the centre :-

- 24 children aged 0 to 2 years with a cot room for 9 children;
- 32 children aged 2 to 3 years;
- 44 children aged 3 to 5 years;
- Associated internal amenities and facilities;
- Car parking for twenty-five (25) vehicles to accommodate four (4) visitors with disabilities by providing two (2) shared zones.

The required staffing levels for the centre will require the following :-

- 6 staff for the 24 children aged 0 to 2 years (1 per 4 children);
- 4 staff for the 32 children aged 2 to 3 years (1 per 8 children);
- 5 staff for the 44 children aged 3 to 5 years (1 per 10 children);

The Law and Regulations establishes the minimum operating requirements for education and care services, relating to matters such as staffing, physical environment and educational programs.

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The original approval for a total of thirty-two (32) children in the centre comprised of the following :-

- 16 children aged 0 to 2 years with a cot room for 5 children and another cot room for 4 children;
- 16 children aged 2 to 5 years.

The required staffing levels for the centre will require the following :-

- 4 staff for the 16 children aged 0 to 2 years (1 per 4 children);
- 2 staff for the 16 children aged 2 to 5 years (1 per 8 children).

Consequently, children aged between 2 to 3 years were integrated with children aged 3 to 5 years.

This practice is not recommended and discouraged due to the lack of specific education and supervision of children in specific age groups, which are compatible.

Without accommodation for separate play groups the aims and objectives of the **Education and Care Services National Law** (Law), including the **Children (Education and Care Services) Supplementary Provisions Regulation 2012** will not be achieved.

The proposed development on the site should be sufficient to accommodate the proposed number for the following reasons :-

- To avoid combining children of different ages and learning levels in one class room;
- To accommodate appropriate learning programs and play activities specifically targeting each age group in separate play groups;
- To achieve the aims and objectives of **Education and Care Services National Law** (Law), including the **Children (Education and Care Services) Supplementary Provisions Regulation 2012**;
- To accommodate the future demand from the proposed 447 residential units to be constructed in the immediate site boundary;
- To provide an economically viable centre which maximises the staff to student ratio and provides a variety of internal play areas for specific activities and play groups;
- A larger centre achieves greater economic efficiencies and will be able to offer greater variation in play activities and purpose built areas for specific tasks and learning activities.

The original centre would not have been capable of accommodating the demand expected for the anticipated number of residential families, which will ultimately occupy the site.



The framework of the Regulations is very extensive and comprehensive. The Regulations include the centre-based service provisions, under **Chapter 4 – Operation Requirements** and specifically for New South Wales requirements are specified under **Part 7.3**.

The Department of Community Services (DOCS) now requires the designer, preferably a registered architect, to certify that the child care centre is in accordance with the appropriate regulations. The writer is a qualified architect, registered in New South Wales and Queensland as such and has designed and constructed over fifty (50) child-care centres in the last ten (10) years.

The final design was therefore developed after past experiences with the Department of Community Services and ultimately developed as presented in the following documentation to form the application now submitted.

Should further information be required, please contact our office for assistance.

Yours faithfully,  
**architex**



**Robert Del Pizzo**

Associate of the Australian Institute of Architects  
NSW Board of Architects Reg. No. 3972  
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