

Early Childhood Education Provider Criteria

Your Application Process

1. Please ensure you have read all of the criteria guidance below and prepared your evidence in advance of completing your application.
2. Complete and submit your application and upload all of your evidence within our Online Application Form.
3. Nature Play QLD will contact you via email with an invoice for your service.
4. Once payment has been received, your application will be assessed by our Education Coordinator, who will be in contact if we require any additional information.
5. Nature Play QLD will then inform you of your assessment category outcome if achieved, or guidance on any additional steps to undertake to become listed as a Nature Play Spaces Education Provider.
6. Once a category has been achieved, our Official Nature Play QLD Education banner will be sent to your school and you will receive guidance on how to submit your website page information and personalised Case Study Blog.
7. Once we have received your information, we will list you on our Education Providers directory, place your service on our interactive map, promote your service's achievement through an individual social media post, promote and display your Case Study (when it is ready) and develop your individual webpage on the Nature Play QLD website.
8. Once a listed Education Provider, Nature Play QLD will provide you with monthly support, tips and resources through an e-news publication.
9. Approved Nature Play QLD Education Providers will be able to maintain their listing and benefits with fee of \$150 (inc GST) and a reverification process every two years.. At this time, you may submit further evidence to achieve a different category listing.





Your Evidence

All applications must include all 7 Essential Evidence Criteria.

Nature Play Spaces

To achieve a 'Nature Play Spaces' categorisation you must also include a minimum of **20** additional evidence points.

Bush & Beach Kindy and Nature Programs

To achieve a 'Bush & Beach Kindy and Nature Programs' categorisation you must also include a minimum of **80** additional evidence points from across the 4 areas.

All 'Additional Evidence' must be saved and clearly labelled with the corresponding area number and letter. For example, minutes from staff meetings must be saved and uploaded to the online application form with the file name '2a Minutes'. The process is not intended to increase busy educators' workload. We welcome evidence submitted in any format, that best suits your existing documentation and practice.

Essential Evidence Criteria

A copy of the service approval – under the Educational and Care services national law

Outdoor Nature Play Policy and/ or Procedures

Weekly Outdoor Timetable

Nature Play Risk/Risk-Benefit Assessments

Service philosophy

Implementation plan for integrating nature play across each age phase

Photographs of nature play outdoor areas and natural loose part resources used regularly

Additional Evidence

Points
Awarded



1. Embedded Policies and Procedures

- | | | | |
|----|---|---|--------------------------|
| 1a | Outdoor Session Routine Procedure | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 1b | Safety sweep/daily safety checklist form | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 1c | An ecological impact and sustainability plan | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 1d | Any other relevant related Policies and Procedure documents | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

2. Whole Setting Approach Embedded to Provide Regular Nature Play Experiences for All Children

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|----|---|----|--------------------------|
| 2a | Minutes from weekly/monthly staff meetings evidencing service commitment to nature play through discussion and developments | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2b | Examples for session plans from across all age phases in your centre, evidencing a 'whole setting' approach | 10 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2c | Case study/reflection of your nature play journey as a whole centre/team | 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2d | Any other relevant related evidence e.g. QIP and service philosophy | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

3. Planning, Teaching and Learning

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|--------------------------|
| 3a | A case study of children taking part in Nature Play Program | 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3b | Relevant action research your centre has been involved in | 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3c | Certificates of relevant Professional Development attended by staff | 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3d | Evidence of your service hosting a Personalised Forest Learning Workshop for the team | 20 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3e | Completed full course of Bush Kindy/Forest Leader | 20 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3f | Reflections and documentation of outdoor learning experiences for individuals/whole group stories and feedback from children on their experiences about nature play | 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3g | Any other relevant teaching and learning evidence | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

4. Communicating the Nature Play Ethos and Engaging the Community

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|----|---|---|--------------------------|
| 4a | Evidence of community involvement - visitors, resources supplied, local media | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4b | Evidence of engaging and informing parents/ carers of your nature play based ethos | 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4c | Facilitating/ co-running a nature play associated community event. | 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4d | Collaboration with other educational providers to support outdoor nature play opportunities | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4e | Evidence of relevant positive feedback from parents/carers | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4f | Evidence of regular nature play emphasis on service's Social Media, website and advertising | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4g | Evidence of regular nature play emphasis in service's Newsletter | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4h | Any other relevant family and community engagement evidence | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

5. The Nature Play Environment

- | | | | |
|----|--|----|--------------------------|
| 5a | A case study on your nature play space developments as a centre/ building and grounds plans for re / development | 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5b | Evidence of regular off-site nature play/forest learning sessions in local area. | 10 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5c | Any other relevant nature play environment evidence | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

TOTAL
POINTS: