



## ***Policy 4.10***

### **Power Failure**

Two Wells Community Children's Centre aims to provide an environment that is safe, secure, and comfortable for all who access our service.

Two Wells and surrounding district is known to have regular power blackouts which can last up to several hours.

Therefore, Two Wells Community Children's Centre will follow these steps in the case of a power blackout:

1. Staff will ensure that our children are comforted if frightened.
2. A senior staff member will call SA Power Networks on 131366, to find out any information regarding the power failure.
3. Lights and electrical equipment are to be turned off at switches and power points.
4. Depending on when the power failure occurs, these procedures will be undertaken:
  - a. If there is no power by 11am, or if it is expected to be off for more than 3 hours, parents of babies will be contacted and advice sought about the care of their baby, as bottles are not able to be made safely.
  - b. If the power is going to be off over the lunch period, *sandwiches* will be made by the Centre Cook.
  - c. The fridge should stay cool for 4hrs, so temperature checking should occur after 3.5hrs. Once the temperature of the FOOD exceeds 5°C for more than 2hrs, it needs to be used immediately or discarded. Dairy/meat items can be moved to the freezer if there is space, as this should maintain it's temperature for up to 24hrs. Please also refer to food/hygiene policy.
  - d. Medications usually stored in fridge must be checked. Refer to storage conditions on individual medication labels for requirements.
  - e. If the temperature (refer to Australian Bureau of Meteorology website, location Two Wells or Elizabeth) is forecast to be above 28°C, or below 18 C in winter and the power is off for more than 3 hours, children will be sent home due to no air-conditioning or heating in the Centre.
  - f. Senior staff will either use the centre phone plugged into the Centre fax/phone line or the Centre's mobile phone to ring parents/families to collect their children.
5. Staff will use this as a learning opportunity to discuss electricity and how it works.
6. Fees for the day/session will be adjusted accordingly, depending on when the power failure occurs and when they are required to collect their child.

We do have emergency lighting now installed in the rooms in the case of a blackout.

**Governing Council Member's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Director's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_



## *Two Wells Community Children's Centre's Common Seal*

**Date Reviewed:** May 2016  
**Next Review Due:** May 2018

Department of Education and Children's Development, [Emergency Management All Hazards Information Pack](#)  
**Sources:** <http://www.decd.sa.gov.au/docs/documents/1/EmergencyManagementAllHaz.pdf>  
[Network SA](#)