

## **POSITION STATEMENT**

### **Nurse Education**

#### **STATEMENT**

Nurses play a significant role in the delivery of health care to children, young people and their families in a variety of settings from acute to community. Nurse education and ongoing professional learning impacts on the quality of health care provided for these client/patient groups. Therefore, there is an ongoing need for nurses to be appropriately prepared for generalist and specialty practice to provide competent nursing care, as well as clinical expertise and leadership for those caring for children and young people.

#### **THE AUSTRALIAN COLLEGE OF CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S NURSES**

##### **BELIEVES THAT:**

1. All children and young people and their families have the right to be cared for by nurses who meet ACCYPN minimum standard for nurses caring for children and young people;
2. There are common knowledge and skills in nursing children, young people and families regardless of practice setting;
3. Relevant clinical experience is an essential element of both generalist and specialist nurse education;
4. Postgraduate education programs provide the educational foundation for specialty practice.

##### **RECOMMENDS THAT:**

1. ACCYPN position and competency statements are used in developing curricula for both undergraduate and postgraduate nursing education, to prepare nurses at generalist, as well as specialist practice relating to the care of children and young people;
2. Undergraduate education of nursing students includes sufficient content on children's and young people's health to enable graduates to meet ACCYPN minimum standard for nurses caring for children and young people;
3. Postgraduate curricula recognise common knowledge areas related to paediatrics, child health, young people's health and family health;
4. Clinical education in both academic and practice settings be an integral part of the educational program;
5. Individual assessment for specialist practice related to the care of children and young people be based on ACPCHN competencies;
6. Clinical experience for both undergraduate and postgraduate students be supervised by registered nurses with specialist qualifications relevant to the practice setting;
7. Formal and informal education is accessible for all nurses working with children and young people, regardless of their geographic location;
8. Employers support staff to advance their education;
9. Postgraduate specialist qualifications be recognised by the relevant accrediting bodies, nursing career structures and remuneration rates.

##### **RESOLVES TO:**

1. Continue to provide and promote opportunities for professional learning of members and colleagues working with children, young people and their families;
2. Continue to encourage state chapters to participate in professional learning initiatives;

3. Continue to keep members informed about developments and options in education;
4. Lobby at state and national levels to ensure undergraduate and specialist nurse education includes children and young people's health;
5. Develop and implement processes for accreditation of children and young people's nurse specialists.

#### References

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