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**CHILD CARE CENTRES ACT
(CHAPTER 37A)**

**CHILD CARE CENTRES
(AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 2011**

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 19 of the Child Care Centres Act, MG (NS) Chan Chun Sing, Minister of State, charged with the responsibility of the Minister for Community Development, Youth and Sports, hereby makes the following Regulations:

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Child Care Centres (Amendment) Regulations 2011 and shall come into operation on 3rd January 2012.

Amendment of regulation 2

2. Regulation 2 of the Child Care Centres Regulations (Rg 1) (referred to in these Regulations as the principal Regulations) is amended —

(a) by deleting the definitions of “health officer” and “operator” and substituting the following definitions:

“child care teacher” means a person who holds such child care qualifications as is acceptable to the Director, and who is employed by a licensee for the care and development of children older than 18 months but younger than 7 years of age enrolled in the licensee’s child care centre;

“educarer” means a person who holds such child care qualifications as is acceptable to the Director, and who is employed by a licensee for the care and development of the following children enrolled in the licensee’s child care centre:

(a) children aged 2 months or older but younger than 3 years of age, other than children referred to in paragraph (b); and

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- (b) children enrolled in any Nursery 1 class conducted at the licensee's child care centre;
- “health officer” means any Health Officer appointed under section 4(1) of the Infectious Diseases Act (Cap. 137);
- “Kindergarten 1 class” means a class conducted at a child care centre for children attaining 5 years of age in the calendar year during which the class commences;
- “Kindergarten 2 class” means a class conducted at a child care centre for children attaining 6 years of age in the calendar year during which the class commences;
- “licensee” means the holder of a licence to operate a child care centre;
- “Nursery 1 class” means a class conducted at a child care centre for children attaining 3 years of age in the calendar year during which the class commences;
- “Nursery 2 class” means a class conducted at a child care centre for children attaining 4 years of age in the calendar year during which the class commences;
- “para-educarer” means a person who holds any of the child care qualifications set out in the Third Schedule, and who is employed by a licensee to assist —
- (a) any educarer also employed by the licensee in the care and development of the following children enrolled in the licensee's child care centre:
- (i) children aged 18 months or older but younger than 3 years of age, other than children referred to in sub-paragraph (ii); and
 - (ii) children enrolled in any Nursery 1 class conducted at the licensee's child care centre; and
- (b) any child care teacher also employed by the licensee in the care and development of children enrolled in any Nursery 2 class conducted at the licensee's child care centre;

“para-educator” means a person who holds any of the child care qualifications set out in the Fourth Schedule, and who is employed by a licensee to assist any child care teacher also employed by the licensee in the care and development of children enrolled in any Kindergarten 1 class or Kindergarten 2 class conducted at the licensee’s child care centre;”;

(b) by deleting the definition of “programme staff” and substituting the following definition:

“ “programme staff” means any employee of a child care centre who is a child care teacher, an educator, a para-educator or a para-educator;”;

(c) by inserting, immediately after the word “children” in the definition of “supervisor”, the words “and staff of the child care centre”.

New regulation 2A

3. The principal Regulations are amended by inserting, immediately after regulation 2, the following regulation:

“Licensee must comply with Regulations

2A. Unless the context otherwise requires, it is the duty of the licensee of a child care centre to ensure that the provisions of these Regulations are complied with when providing child care services at that child care centre.”.

Deletion and substitution of regulation 5

4. Regulation 5 of the principal Regulations is deleted and the following regulation substituted therefor:

“Disqualification

5. No licence may be issued or renewed in respect of an applicant who has been convicted of —

- (a) any offence under section 5, 6, 7, 11, 12 or 13 of the Children and Young Persons Act (Cap. 38), or any other offence involving child abuse or child neglect;
- (b) any offence under Part XI of the Women’s Charter (Cap. 353); or

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- (c) any offence under section 354, 354A, 372, 373, 373A, 375, 376, 376A, 376B, 376C, 376D, 376E, 376F, 376G, 377, 377A, 377B or 509 of the Penal Code (Cap. 224).”.

Amendment of regulation 8

5. Regulation 8 of the principal Regulations is amended by deleting paragraph (2) and substituting the following paragraph:

“(2) The licensee of a child care centre shall ensure that the programme statement is explained in general terms to a parent or guardian of every child who is to be enrolled in the child care centre and that a copy of the programme statement is given to the parent or guardian without any charge.”.

Amendment of regulation 9

6. Regulation 9 of the principal Regulations is amended —

(a) by deleting paragraph (1) and substituting the following paragraph:

“(1) Every licensee shall submit to the Director for approval a written daily programme schedule for each age range of children specified by the Director.”;

(b) by inserting, immediately after the word “Director” in paragraph (2), the words “under paragraph (1)”; and

(c) by deleting the words “training in child care recognised by the Director” in paragraph (5) and substituting the words “the necessary child care qualifications set out in these Regulations or as accepted by the Director, as the case may be”.

Amendment of regulation 10

7. Regulation 10 of the principal Regulations is amended —

(a) by deleting the word “and” at the end of paragraph (a);

(b) by deleting the full-stop at the end of paragraph (b) and substituting the word “; and”, and by inserting immediately thereafter the following paragraph:

“(c) where applicable, give parents and guardians such length of notice of closure of the child care centre as may be required by the Director.”; and

(c) by deleting the marginal note and inserting the following regulation heading:

“Partnership between centre and parents or guardians”.

Amendment of regulation 11

8. Regulation 11 of the principal Regulations is amended —

(a) by inserting, immediately after paragraph (1), the following paragraphs:

“(1A) Subject to paragraph (1B), any child —

(a) who has a fever; or

(b) who is on medication,

shall not be admitted physically into or attend any class at any child care centre.

(1B) A child who has no fever but is on medication may be admitted physically into or attend any class at any child care centre if —

(a) the period of unfitness stated in any medical certificate signed by any registered medical practitioner with respect to the child has expired and the child does not exhibit any symptom of illness; or

(b) the child is certified by any registered medical practitioner to be medically fit to attend class at the child care centre.”;

(b) by deleting paragraph (3) and substituting the following paragraph:

“(3) Any child who develops any symptom of serious illness shall be taken to a supervised area designated for rest and care and shall remain there until such time as his parent or guardian, or any person authorised by his parent or guardian, takes him home.”; and

(c) by deleting the word “operator” in paragraphs (4) and (5) and substituting in each case the word “licensee”.