

National Childcare Scheme (NCS)

Compliance Post Inspection Corrective/Rectification Actions for Service Providers

Following a NCS Compliance Inspection, service providers will receive a Compliance Notification, via the Hive, alerting them to the availability of the inspection report and outcomes. For each check conducted the inspection report will outline:

- final compliance outcome (Compliant/Non-Compliant),
- Reason for outcome,
- required rectification/corrective action (if applicable) and
- details of observations if relevant, claim corrections and calendar closure adjustments recorded on the day of the inspection.

For any compliance infringement identified which resulted in a non-compliant outcome, the service will be required to take rectification action on the issue identified and make a commitment to comply with the NCS requirements going forward. All rectification actions must be taken and reported on through the Hive within the required timeframe. This will then be verified by Compliance and each non-compliant outcome will be determined as 'Rectified' or 'Not Rectified'.

Where a service fails to rectify a non-compliance outcome within the required timeframe¹, then a sanction is imposed i.e. withdraw/withhold of the Programme Support Payment (PSP). Where issues in relation to the adequacy of attendance records are not rectified, then in addition to the PSP sanction, a financial correction will also be applied i.e. zero or reduced hours of attendance applied to claims from the date of the compliance outcome to the date of the follow up visit, and/or ending of relevant claims.

The table below outlines all possible non-compliant outcome reasons and the relevant rectification/corrective action which will be required of the service to ensure no financial corrections and/or sanctions are imposed.

	Compliance Outcome Reasons	Rectification/Corrective Action for Provider
PRE-REQUISITES		
1.	Service Provider did not facilitate the inspection – 1 st occurrence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate future compliance inspections immediately
2.	Service Provider did not facilitate the inspection – 2 nd occurrence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate any future compliance inspections
SERVICE CALENDAR		
3.	Service Provider is not displaying the most up to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Display the most up to date calendar at the service immediately

¹ This document makes reference to deadlines for rectification actions, follow up visits, applying sanctions etc. It should be noted that these are all included with the caveat, that if an appeal of a review decision is received, the compliance process is paused, and these deadlines are adjusted accordingly.

	Calendar within the Service in an area accessible to parents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit self-declaration within 30 calendar days of notification • Submit photographic evidence of the calendar on display in the service within 30 calendar days of notification
4.	Service Provider has not published its most up to date Calendar on its online platforms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publish the most up to date calendar on all online platforms maintained immediately • Submit self-declaration within 30 calendar days of notification • Submit photographic evidence of the calendar published online within 30 calendar days of notification (i.e. screenshot of calendar online and URL link)
PARENTAL AGREEMENTS		
5.	Signed Parental Agreements not on file for all current registered children (< 100% ≥ 90% available)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all parental agreement forms are signed and on file within 30 calendar days of notification • Submit self-declaration within 30 calendar days of notification • Submit copies of signed parental agreements, identified as not signed/on file at initial inspection, within 30 calendar days of notification
6.	Signed Parental Agreements not on file for all current registered children (< 90% available)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all parental agreement forms are signed and on file within 30 calendar days of notification. To be reviewed at a follow up on-site inspection (Note: where infringement relates to 3 or less Parental Agreements or where an Attendance Records follow up visit takes priority, the rectification action will be to submit a self-declaration and copies of the signed parental agreements)
7.	Parental Agreements not up to date with respect to fees indicated on the Hive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all parental agreement forms contain all relevant information including accurate fee details, within 30 calendar days of notification • Submit self-declaration within 30 calendar days of notification
8.	Parental Agreements not up to date with respect to number of childcare hours child is registered for on the Hive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all parental agreement forms contain all relevant information including number of childcare hours child is registered for on the Hive, within 30 calendar days of notification • Submit self-declaration within 30 calendar days of notification
9.	Parental Agreements not complete with regards to indicating the number of childcare weeks agreed for each child	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all parental agreement forms contain all relevant information including the number of childcare weeks agreed for each child, within 30 calendar days of notification

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit self-declaration within 30 calendar days of notification
10.	Parental Agreements not complete with regards to notifying the parent of the service's commitment to offsetting the subsidy in full against the agreed fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all parental agreement forms contain all relevant information including a commitment to offset the subsidy in full against the agreed fee, within 30 calendar days of notification • Submit self-declaration within 30 calendar days of notification
FEES LIST		
11.	Service Provider is not displaying the most up to date Fees List (from the Hive) within the Service in an area accessible to parents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Display the most up to date fees list at the service immediately • Submit self-declaration within 30 calendar days of notification • Submit photographic evidence of the fees list on display in the service within 30 calendar days of notification
12.	Service Provider has not published its most up to date Fees List (from the Hive) on all its online platforms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publish the most up to date fees list on all online platforms maintained immediately • Submit self-declaration within 30 calendar days of notification • Submit evidence of the fees list published online within 30 calendar days of notification (i.e. screenshot of fees list online and URL link)
13.	Fees List per the Hive does not comply with programme requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update fees list on the Hive immediately, in relation to fee increases, to comply with programme requirements and ensure correct/updated version is displayed in the service, and published online if applicable • Submit self-declaration within 30 calendar days of notification • Submit evidence of updated fees list on display in the service, and published online if applicable within 30 calendar days (i.e. screenshot of fees list displayed and URL link if applicable)
FEES RECORDS		
14.	Records in relation to fees not available for inspection on site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all fee records for all current children are available on site immediately • Submit self-declaration within 30 calendar days of notification
15.	Fee records not adequate to allow compliance to be checked	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all fee records for all current children are maintained in an adequate format to allow compliance to be checked immediately

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit self-declaration within 30 calendar days of notification
PARENTAL CO-PAYMENT		
16.	Co-payment charged to parent/guardian in excess of fees list	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all co-payments charged are in line with the Hive registered Fees List amounts • Review all co-payments charged to parents/guardians and reimburse any parents/guardians that have been overcharged • Submit self-declaration within 30 calendar days of notification
17.	Service has charged a co-payment for sponsored children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure no co-payment is charged to any parent/guardian of sponsored children immediately • Review records of all sponsored children and reimburse the parents/guardians of any sponsored children who were charged any co-payment • Submit self-declaration within 30 calendar days of notification
ATTENDANCE RECORDS		
18.	Attendance records for prior periods do not exist (e.g. destroyed, lost or never kept)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance records to be maintained immediately and in the required format that will allow compliance to be checked. To be reviewed at a follow up on-site inspection within 20 working days from notification
19.	Records in relation to attendance were not available for inspection on day of <u>initial inspection</u> Note: this outcome reason will not be issued to the provider until a revisit has been conducted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retrieve records immediately. To be reviewed at a <u>revisit</u> on-site inspection within 5 working days of initial inspection
20.	Records in relation to attendance were not available for inspection on day of <u>revisit</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retrieve records immediately. To be reviewed at a <u>follow up</u> on-site inspection within 20 working days of notification
21.	Attendance records not adequate to allow compliance to be checked	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance records to be maintained in the required format that will allow compliance to be checked immediately. To be reviewed at a follow up on-site inspection within 20 working days of notification
22.	Attendance records available but some gaps/inadequacies identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance records to be immediately maintained in the required format that will allow compliance to be checked • Submit self-declaration within 30 calendar days of notification

OVERCLAIMS		
23.	Hive returns were not reflective of all absenteeism and/or leavers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all future returns on the Hive are submitted based on actual attendance • Submit self-declaration within 30 calendar days of notification <p>Note: any claims corrections recorded to be actioned by Pobal</p>
24.	Hive returns were not reflective of all under attendance of 8 to 12 weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all future returns on the Hive are submitted based on actual attendance • Submit self-declaration within 30 calendar days of notification
25.	Hive returns were not reflective of all under attendance of greater than 12 weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all future returns on the Hive are submitted based on actual attendance • Submit self-declaration within 30 calendar days of notification <p>Note: any claims corrections recorded to be actioned by Pobal</p>
26.	Incorrect claims identified with regard to start dates of children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all future returns on the Hive are submitted based on actual start dates • Submit self-declaration within 30 calendar days of notification <p>Note: any claims corrections recorded to be actioned by Pobal</p>
27.	Ineligible claims identified as child/ren did not take up place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all future returns on the Hive are submitted based on actual attendance • Submit self-declaration within 30 calendar days of notification <p>Note: any claims corrections recorded to be actioned by Pobal</p>
CLOSURES		
28.	Registered service calendar on the Hive is not up to date – i.e. does not reflect all identified paid closure days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update calendar on the Hive immediately, in relation to paid closures, and ensure correct/updated version is displayed in the service, and published online if applicable • Submit evidence of updated calendar on display in the service, and published online if applicable (i.e. screenshot of calendar displayed and URL link if applicable) • Submit self-declaration within 30 calendar days of notification
29.	Registered service calendar on the Hive is not up to date – i.e. does	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the calendar on the Hive reflects all unpaid closures going forward

	not reflect all identified unpaid closure days	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submit self-declaration within 30 calendar days of notification <p>Note: any claim corrections (from calendar closure adjustments recorded) to be actioned by Pobal</p>
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