



Early Childhood Education Directorate Convictions and Significant Enforcement Actions

Approved Provider	G8 Education Limited
Service Name	Headstart Early Learning Centre Norwest
Type of Service	Centre based education and care service
Action Taken	Prosecution action against G8 Education Limited for: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• one offence of failing to ensure adequate supervision of children - section 165(1) of the <i>Children (Education and Care Services) National Law (NSW)</i>; and• one offence of failing to take reasonable steps to ensure that the nominated supervisor and staff members followed policies and procedures – clause 170(1) of the <i>Education and Care Services National Regulations (NSW)</i>.
Date of conviction	20 February 2020
Sentence	Convicted at Parramatta Local Court and fined a total of \$2,500

Proven offence:

The service transported children by bus to and from their local schools and the service premises. On 26 September 2018, a five year old child remained asleep on the bus while the other children exited the bus at the service premises. Neither the driver of the bus nor any other staff member conducted a head count or signed children off the bus. The bus driver departed the service in order to collect other children. The five year old child remained asleep on the bus, unnoticed by the driver. The child's mother was waiting at the service when the bus arrived. When she queried where her child was, staff were unable to locate him and were told by another child that he was asleep on the bus. Shortly thereafter, the driver noticed the child and returned to the service.

G8 Education Limited:

- failed to ensure that adequate supervision was provided when the child remained asleep on the bus, unnoticed by the driver and his whereabouts were unknown by other staff; and
- failed to take reasonable steps to ensure that nominated supervisors and staff members followed the policies and procedures of the service in that there were

deficiencies in its system to ensure that an induction of new staff had occurred and that policies and procedures were understood and followed.