

MEDIA RELEASE – 27 OCTOBER 2016

Tragic death continues to be investigated

The Australian Childcare Alliance New South Wales (ACA NSW) is deeply saddened by the tragic death of a child who attended Little Zak's Academy (a member of ACA NSW) in Artarmon, a suburb of Sydney.

“Our deepest condolences and heartfelt prayers go out to the child’s family. We have offered any assistance we can to all families of the children of Little Zak’s, especially those affected who have been admitted to hospital,” said Nesha Oneil Hutchinson, President of ACA NSW.

Upon notification, ACA NSW representatives have been assisting Little Zak’s Academy in cooperating with the inquiries from NSW Health, the NSW Early Childhood Directorate and media.

“The most important things we are focusing on are ensuring all families related to Little Zak’s Academy are properly supported at this time, confirming that the centre continues to comply with all health and childcare regulations, and augmenting Little Zak’s management with its operations and obligations,” said Ms Hutchinson.

The cause(s) of the tragic death on Sunday, 23 October 2016, remain unknown after almost 4 days, with NSW Health continuing with its investigations.

Information from NSW Health and Little Zak’s is being provided to all families as per the protocols of NSW Health, and of course, respecting the privacy of the family affected.

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Australian Childcare Alliance New South Wales is the peak body for privately owned early childhood education and care services in NSW, numbering approximately 1,100 long daycare services and supporting over 100,000 families. ACA NSW provides advocacy, policy and regulatory support and advice, member services and professional development for members across the state.

**For further media inquiries,
please contact ACA NSW President Nesha Oneil Hutchinson on 0412 085 068,
or ACA CEO Chiang Lim on 0427 277 299.**