



## Parents' Room and Women's Room Policy

Category Procedural

Version 6

First ratified 21, August 2002

Last ratified 23, March 2010

Review date October, 2019

**Note:** This policy outlines the responsibilities and appropriate procedures for the maintenance of the Parents' Room and Women's Room.

**Related Policies and Motions:** Student General Meeting Motions 20/09 and 21/09 THAT OUSA supports the continued existence of the Parents' Room and Women's Room and Executive Motion 567/18 THAT OUSA will lobby the University for a space for Queer and Questioning students and that there be of review of the Women's Room Policy within 12 months.

### **1009-2010 Parents' Room Policy**

**Category:** OUSA Operated Spaces

**Last Modified:** 16/06/2009

**Version:** 5

**First Ratified:** 21/08/2002

**Last Ratified:** 23/03/2010

**Review Date:** 01/02/2019

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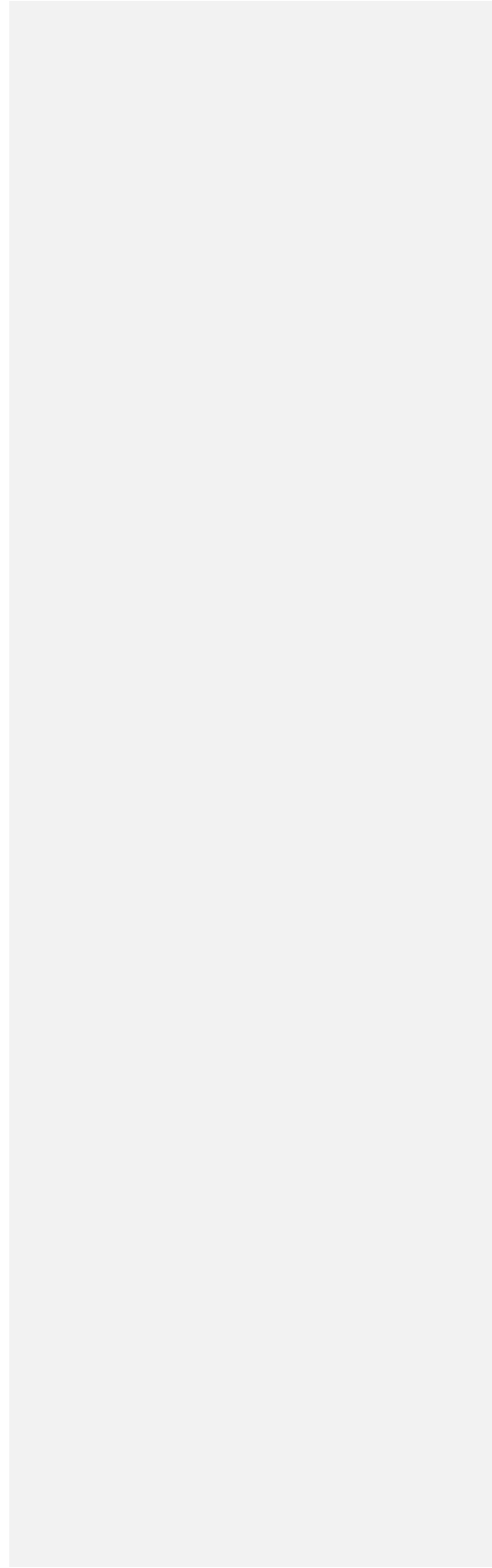
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## 1. Purpose

- 1.1 The intent of this policy is to formally detail the rules governing the maintenance and availability of the Otago University Students' Association (OUSA) Parents' Room and Women's Room.
- 1.2 The Executive delegates to the Welfare Officer or their delegate the responsibilities of promoting the principles of this policy, ensuring that this policy's substance is implemented.
- 1.3 The Executive delegates to the Student Support Centre Manager or their delegate the ability to make any operational changes and carry out any other specific duties required by this policy.
- 1.4 The Executive strongly supports the Welfare Officer and Student Support Centre Manager in fulfilling their duties with respect to this policy.

## 2. Interpretation

- 2.1 In this policy, unless the context otherwise requires –  
Child means a person under fourteen years of age who is the responsibility of their parent.  
Parent means, in addition to its standard meaning, caregiver or guardian.  
**Parents' Room** means the space reserved for parents and children on campus and maintained by OUSA in the Union building.  
~~Welfare Officer means the individual occupying, in accordance with Section 30.6 of the Constitution, the position of Welfare Officer on the Executive.~~  
~~Parent means, in addition to its standard meaning, caregiver or guardian.~~  
~~Child means a person under fourteen years of age who is the responsibility of their parent.~~  
**Women's Room** means the space reserved for women on campus and maintained by OUSA in the Otago University Union building.

## 3. Guidelines

- 3.1 The Parents' Room shall not be used for any purpose other than as a safe space for parents and their children, except as provided for elsewhere in this policy.
- 3.2 The Women's Room shall not be used for any purpose other than as a safe space for those who use it within the bounds of this policy, except as provided for elsewhere in this policy.
- ~~3.32~~ Users of ~~the Parents' Room~~ both Rooms shall be tolerant and inclusive of other users, and may discuss any problems with the Welfare Officer.
- ~~3.43~~ During such time as the Welfare Officer position is vacant, the Executive shall, by general resolution, delegate the tasks outlined in 1.2 to another Executive member.
- ~~3.54~~ The Executive shall recognise:
- ~~3.54.1~~ That the Parents' Room and Women's Room ~~are~~ is a unique and important spaces on campus;
- ~~3.54.2~~ That the Parents' Room should be a place where all parents and their children can feel safe and welcome; and.
- ~~3.53~~ That the Women's Room should be a place where all users can feel safe, welcome and free from harassment of any kind.
- ~~3.4.3~~ The existence of SGM motion 21/09, stating "THAT OUSA supports the continued existence of the Parents' Room."
- ~~3.65~~ The Executive shall commit to:
- ~~3.65.1~~ Improving access to ~~the Parents' Room~~ both Rooms, in order to encourage greater utilisation of the facilities;
- ~~3.65.2~~ Improving general awareness of the facilities provided by the Parents' Rooms; and.
- ~~3.65.3~~ Promoting the continued existence of the Parents' Rooms.

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## 4. Access and Availability

- 4.1 Access to the Parents' Room shall be limited to:
- 4.1.1 All parents with their children; and
  - 4.1.2 Any other persons deemed necessary for the maintenance and upkeep of the Parents' Room. Such persons are subject to the explicit authorisation of the Welfare Officer.

- ~~4.2 Access to the Women's Room shall be limited to:~~
- ~~4.2.1 All those on campus who identify as women;~~
  - ~~4.2.2 Their children, excluding males of five years of age or older; and~~
  - ~~4.2.3 Any other persons deemed necessary for the maintenance and upkeep of the Women's Room. Such persons are subject to the explicit authorisation of the Welfare Officer.~~

- ~~4.32 The Parents' Both Rooms~~ shall be available whenever ~~the upstairs of~~ the Union Building is available for normal use.

- 4.43 The Executive, on the recommendation of the Welfare Officer, may temporarily waive any of the limitations on access and purpose contained in section 4 of this policy.

- 4.53 Unauthorised contraventions of sections 3 or 4 of this policy shall be dealt with in the following manner:
- 4.3.1 A verbal or written warning from the Welfare Officer.

- 4.64 In the case of more serious breaches, the Executive, on the advice of the Welfare Officer and operating within the boundaries set by the Constitution, may take any further steps it deems necessary.

## ~~5. Group Access to the Women's Room~~

- ~~5.1 In all reasonable circumstances, the Women's Room shall be made available for use for meetings of women's interest groups on campus, subject to the requirements that:~~
- ~~5.1.1 Said groups comply with the terms of this policy; and~~
  - ~~5.1.2 Said groups have obtained the consent of the Welfare Officer, who shall be required to comply with the terms of this policy in the granting or denying of such requests.~~

## 5. Upkeep

- 5.1 Daily cleaning of the ~~Parents' Rooms~~ shall be the responsibility of University of Otago Property Services.

- 5.2 In terms of the upkeep of the ~~Parents' Rooms~~, the Student Support Centre Manager ~~or their delegate~~ shall be responsible for the following:

- 5.2.1 Ensuring the continued existence and maintenance of adequate seating facilities ~~for the explicit purposes of the Rooms (for example, breastfeeding in the Parents' Room):-~~
- 5.2.2 Ensuring the continued existence and maintenance of adequate kitchen facilities ~~which includes access to hot water, fridge and cleaning equipment:-~~
- 5.2.3 ~~Ensuring the continued existence and maintenance of adequate changing facilities in the Parents' Room;~~
- 5.2.43 Coordinating with the Welfare Officer to provide educational material so that parents ~~and women~~ on campus have the ability to easily access basic information in a comfortable environment ~~and that any material provided shall be objective in nature, and its intention shall~~

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be to inform and educate rather than to persuade or cast opinion on any particular issue or action.

~~5.2.3.1 Any material provided shall be objective in nature, and its intention shall be to inform and educate rather than to persuade or cast opinion on any particular issue or action.~~

5.2.54 The carrying out of any other duties arising from the Student Support Centre Manager's role as custodian of the Parents' Rooms.

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## **6. — Related Policies, Procedures and Forms**

6.1 — Constitution and Rules of the Otago University Students' Association Incorporated

6.2 — Student General Meeting motion 21/09 THAT OUSA supports the continued existence of the Parents' Room