The NT Government has stepped in to help keep the Gap Neighbourhood and Child Care Centre in Alice Springs open.

“Although it is a primary responsibility of the Commonwealth’s to provide affordable and accessible child care, we are working together to keep this crucial service available to Alice Springs families,” said NT Minister for Family and Children’s Services, Delia Lawrie.

Action was necessary after the Gap Centre’s management committee resigned today and indicated that the centre would close.

“I am disappointed that the committee thought it could just tell parents that the centre would not open.

“I’d like to assure parents, staff and the community of Alice Springs that on Monday it will be business as usual at the child care centre,” Ms Lawrie said.

“The Department of Health and Community Services will work with its Federal counterpart to put in place a temporary solution to keep the service functioning.

“One of our highly qualified and experienced public servants will be assisting in the management of the centre until a director can be appointed.

The Alice Springs Town Council, the Australian Government Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and other support agencies are also involved in finding a long-term solution for this important community service.

“While the committee’s decision is disappointing, I’m confident that by working together some positive solutions can be found,” said Ms Lawrie.

Parents with any queries should contact the Department on 08 8999 2601.

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