

Policy Statement

We respect the right of individual parents whether to immunise or not to immunise their children. However children who are not immunised will be excluded for the period of an outbreak that is vaccine-preventable disease. Proof of immunisation will be sought at the enrolment stage and recorded.

Considerations

- ✓ The Education and Care Services National Law 2010
- ✓ The Education and Care Services National Regulation 2011
- ✓ The Education and Care Services National Quality Standards 2011
- ✓ My Time Our Place
- ✓ NSW Health
- ✓ Staying healthy in Childcare 5th Edition

Procedures

- Families must provide information on the immunisation status of their child on enrolment.
- Parents need to supply a copy of their child's immunisation history on enrolment, which will be kept in the families file.
- An immunisation register will be kept through our software, quickkids which will allow us record the immunisation of each child and to identify which children may be at risk in the event of an outbreak at the service.
- In the event of an outbreak of vaccine-preventable disease at the centre, children not immunised will be required to stay at home for the duration of the outbreak, for their own protection, this will be advised via a notification.
- NSW Health will be notified if there is an outbreak of a vaccine-preventable disease within the centre.
- Payment of fees will be required for children excluded during an outbreak of a vaccine-preventable disease.
- It is the responsibility of each staff member to seek medical advice and to maintain their own immunisation status, or to maintain their immunity to common childhood diseases.
- There are no mandatory requirements under the law for educators to be immunised, however it is important that staff remain up to date with their vaccinations as well as the children in our care. It is recommended that staff should be vaccinated against pertussis (whooping cough), hepatitis A, measles, mumps and rubella (MMR), Varicella (chickenpox), and influenza (required annually).
- It is recommended that staff receive a booster dose of the tetanus and diphtheria vaccine every 10 years, staff should seek the advice from their medical practitioner on suitable vaccination for them.
- New staff will be encouraged via the staff handbook to undergo immunisation for Hepatitis B if they are not already immunised.
- In the event of an outbreak of a vaccine preventable disease or contagious disease at the service, the coordinator will ensure that a health notice is displayed at the service and information provided to families regarding information in the illness, symptoms, and treatment and exclusion periods.
- It is the responsibility of parents to inform the service if their child has come into contact with someone with a vaccine preventable or infectious disease.

For further information regarding Immunisation is available:

A copy of "Staying Healthy In Childcare" – Preventing Infectious Diseases in Childcare, fifth edition, is available at the centre or online at

http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/files_nhmrc/publications/attachments/ch55_staying_healthy_childcare_5th_edition_0.pdf

Checklist for Staff

- The Coordinator needs to ensure the immunisation information of each child is supplied on enrolment and kept on file.
- All staff need to be vigilant and report to the coordinator any notice of vaccine preventable diseases.
- The Coordinator will communicate with families through notices and factsheets of any outbreak of vaccine preventable diseases.

_____ end of policy _____

Policy is only endorsed if initialled by 2 members of the management committee

Endorsed by the Management Committee on the 28th April 2017

Management Committee Policy is to be reviewed by the 28th April 2019