



INFECTIOUS DISEASES

AIM

Alstonville Nestle In Education and Care Centre will ensure children's exposure to infectious diseases will be minimised by:

- following all recommended guidelines from relevant authorities regarding the prevention of infectious diseases
- the promotion of practices that reduce the transmission of infection
- the exclusion of sick children and staff
- service support for child immunisation
- implementation of effective hand washing procedures.

EXPLANATION

Ensuring the health and safety of children, and staff, and supporting children's ongoing wellbeing, is a core focus of the delivery of our service. Our Educators need to be aware of the likelihood of young children being exposed to an infectious illness whilst in care. Maintaining hygiene practices within our service and teaching young children about health and hygiene will assist in the prevention of infectious diseases. Providing families with timely and current information will further support this process.

IMPLEMENTATION

The Approved Provider will:

- ensure that all information regarding the prevention of infectious diseases is sourced from a recognised health authority, such as: *Staying Healthy in Child Care - Preventing Infectious Diseases in Child Care* (4th edition), National Health and Medical Research Council (2006), and the NSW Ministry of Health, or NSW public hospitals websites.
- collect, maintain, and store appropriately the required enrolment documents and enrolment information of children in the service.

The Nominated Supervisor will:

- gather all required information regarding the child's immunisation status and any medical conditions.
- Provide relevant sourced materials to families about:-

- Current NSW immunisation schedule
- Exclusion guidelines for children not immunised or have not yet received all of their immunisations in the event of an infectious illness at the service.
- Providing information on illnesses (as soon after the occurrence of an outbreak) regarding symptoms, incubation period and exclusion periods.
- Ensuring a Incident, Injury and Illness form is completed.
- Communicate to staff re the illness.
- Maintain confidentiality.
- Inform and implement and directions from the health department.

Educators will:

- Ensure that any children that are suspected of having an infectious Illness are responded to and their health and emotional needs supported at all times.
- Implement appropriate health and safety procedures, when tending to ill children.
- Ensure that families are aware of the need to collect their children as soon as practicable to ensure the child's comfort.
- Advise families that they will need to alert the service if their child is diagnosed with an Infectious Illness.
- Maintain their own immunisation status, and advise the Approved Provider/Nominated Supervisor of any updates to their immunisation status.
- Provide varied opportunities for children to engage in hygiene practices, including routine opportunities, and intentional practice.
- Take into consideration the grouping of children to reduce the risk of acquiring an infectious illness when planning the routines/program of the day.
- Implement the services health and hygiene policy including:
 - hand washing
 - routine and daily cleaning of the centre
 - nappy changing procedures
 - wearing gloves (in contact with bodily fluids and handling food).

Families will:

- Advise us of their child's immunisation status, and provide written documentation of this for the service to copy and keep with the child's enrolment records.
- Advise us when their child's immunisation/medical condition is updated and provide this information to the service to ensure that enrolment records are up to date.

SELF ASSESSMENT

- Children are healthy. (review records)
- Infection control is effectively managed.

SOURCE

Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010
Education and Care Services National Regulation 2011
Guide to the National Quality Standard ACECQA 2011

EYLF - Belonging Being Becoming (2009)

Health and Safety in Children's Services Model Policies and Practices - 2nd ed 2003

Staying Healthy in Child Care - Preventing Infectious Diseases in Child Care - 4th Ed 2006

Immunisation Handbook - 9th Edition (2008) Australian Government - Department of Health and Ageing - National Health and Medical Research Council

Community Childcare Sample Policy

REVIEW

Annually

To be reviewed January 2017

December 2012 3

January 2014

January 2015

January 2016

To be reviewed January 2013