

Purpose

The purpose of the policy is to guide service members and parents/guardians in their actions and help provide education about dealing with infectious diseases.

Scope

Staff and management, Educators, Relief Educators, parent/guardians and volunteers.

Definitions

Educators: are fully licensed registered educators in accordance with service policy and procedure.

Relief Educators: are fully licensed and registered relief educators in accordance with service policy and procedure.

Policy Content

Exclusion of infectious children significantly reduces the risk of the spread of diseases to other healthy children, staff and Educators. The successful implementation of infection control in a home based child care environment is reliant upon the strategies and professional standards of individual Educators and staff and the cooperation of parents/guardians.

The National Health & Medical Research Council (NHMRC) recommends exclusion periods based on the time a child is infectious to others. There are a number of diseases that are notifiable to the local Public Health Unit under the Public Health Act 2010.

Greater Hume Children Services staff and Educators will minimise the spread of infectious disease between children, staff and Educators by:

- i. using accepted infectious disease control measures to minimise the spread of the infectious disease.
- ii. conforming to the requirements of the NHMRC – Staying Healthy in Childcare for the exclusion of children with infectious diseases and other legislative requirements.

Links to Policy

Greater Hume Shire Child Protection Policy and Procedure (No 75)

Greater Hume Shire Council Model Code of Conduct

Staffing including: Code of Conduct; Determining the Responsible Person Present; Participation of Volunteers and Students (GHCS.GOV.POL.010.1)

Incident Injury Trauma and Illness (GHCS.GOV.POL.008.1)

Emergency and Evacuations (GHCS.GOV.POL.006.1)

Health and Safety including matters relating to: Nutrition Food and Beverages and Dietary Requirements; Sun Protection; Water Safety; Administration of First Aid (GHCS.GOV.POL.007.1)

Assessment Approval and Reassessment of Approved Family Day Care Residences and Family Day Care Venues (GHCS.GOV.POL.016.1)

Engagement and Registration of Family Day Care Educators (GHCS.GOV.POL.017.1)

Monitoring Support and supervision of Family Day Care Educators (GHCS.GOV.POL.019.1)

Fit and Proper Assessment of Family Day Care Educators Assistants and Adults Residing at the Family Day Care Premises (GHCS.GOV.POL.020.1)

Visitors to the Family Day Care Residence and Venues (GHCS.GOV.POL.021.1)

Provision of Information assistance and Training to Family Day Care Educators (GHCS.GOV.POL.022.1)

Links to Procedures

Dealing with Medical Conditions Procedure

Administration of First Aid Procedure

Code of Conduct Procedure Including Determining the Responsible Person Present and Participation of Volunteers and Students

References

Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (2011). Guide to the Education and Care Services National Law and the Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011

Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (2011). National Quality Standards

Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (2011). Guide to the National Quality Framework

Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (2011). Guide to the National Quality Standard

Firth, J, Kambouris N, & O'Grady O. (2003). Health and Safety Model Policies and Practices. (2nd ed.)

National Health and Medical Research Council. (2005). Staying Healthy in Childcare: Preventing Infectious Diseases in Child care (4th Ed.)

Responsibility

Service Manager

Relevant Legislation

Education and Care Services National Regulation 2011 Regulation 168 (2) (i)

Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010

Public Health Act 2010 (NSW)

Food Act 2003 (NSW)

Workplace Health & Safety Act 2011

Associated Records

Document Control

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