



Infectious Diseases

Policy Statement

Castle Hill Pre-School Kindergarten Inc. recognises that the health and safety of children, and staff, and supporting children's ongoing wellbeing is a focal point for the service.

Goals

Children's exposure to infectious diseases will be minimised by:

- Castle Hill Pre-School Kindergarten Inc. following all recommended guidelines from relevant authorities regarding the prevention of infectious diseases;
- Promotion of practices that reduce the transmission of infection;
- The exclusion of sick children and staff;
- Service support for child immunisation; and
- Implementation of effective hand washing procedures.

Strategies – How will it be done?

Castle Hill Pre-School Kindergarten will:

1. 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;
2. Implement the recommendations from *Staying Healthy in Child Care – Preventing Infectious Diseases in Child Care* to prevent the spread of infectious diseases at the service;
3. Ensure that children are reasonably protected from harm by developing, implementing and reviewing policy that will guide health and safety procedures within the service; and
4. Collect, maintain, and store appropriately the required enrolment documents and enrolment information of children in the service.

Nominated Supervisor will:

1. Develop procedures for:
 - Maintain a hygienic environment;
 - Providing families with relevant infectious diseases, health and hygiene information;
 - Guiding children's understanding of health and hygiene throughout the daily program;
 - Ensuring staff are aware of relevant immunisation guidelines for children and themselves; and
 - Maintaining relevant records regarding the current status of the immunisation medical conditions of children at the service.



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2. Ensure the enrolment form has the children’s immunisation status, and any medical conditions.
3. Provide relevant sourced materials to families about:
 - The current NSW Immunisation Schedule for children;
 - Exclusion guidelines for children that are not immunised in the event of an infectious illness at the service.
 - Providing information on illnesses (as soon as practicable after the occurrence of an infectious disease), in terms of:
 - Nature of illness;
 - Incubation period; and
 - Infectious and exclusion periods.
4. Ensuring that an “Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness” record is completed as soon as practicable of the illness occurring.
5. Inform and implement the advice of the health department, or local health unit regarding Infectious Diseases as required.

Educators will:

1. 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.
2. Implement appropriate health and safety procedures, when tending to ill children.
3. Ensure that families are aware of the need to collect their children as soon as practicable to ensure the child’s comfort.
4. Advise families that they will need to alert the service if their child is diagnosed with an Infectious Illness.
5. Implement the services health and hygiene policy including:
 - Hand washing – washing and drying thoroughly;
 - Routine and daily cleaning of the service;
 - Wearing gloves (particularly when in direct contact with bodily fluids); and
 - Proper handling and preparation of food.

Families will:

1. Advise the service 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.
2. Advise the service when their child’s immunisation/medical condition is updated.



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Evaluation

Infection control is effectively managed at the service to ensure children remain healthy and transmission of infectious diseases are minimised.

Children (Education and Care Services National Law Application) Act 2010

Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011: 3

Link to National Quality Standard: ?

Health and Hygiene Policy

Guide to the National Quality Standard (3) ACECQA (2011)

EYLF – Belonging Being Becoming (2009)

Health and Safety in Children's Services Model Policies and Practices – 2nd Edition revised (2003)

Staying Healthy in Child Care – Preventing Infectious Diseases in Child Care – 4th Edition (2006)

NSW Ministry of Health: www.health.nsw.gov.au

National Health and Medical Research Council: www.nhmrc.gov.au

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