

Sick Children Policy

This policy should be used in conjunction with the Centre's Control of Infectious Diseases Policy and Illness, Injury, Accident and Medical Emergency Policy.

By excluding one ill person, you can protect many other people from becoming ill. The need for exclusion and the length of time a person is excluded depend on how easily the infection can spread, how long the person is likely to be infectious and how severe the disease can be. To protect the health of children and staff within the Centre, it is important that children and staff who are ill are kept away from the centre for the recommended period.

Brunswick Creche & Day Nursery will ensure:

- Effective hygiene policies and procedures for Educators, families and children are adhered to.
- Effective environmental cleaning policies and procedures are adhered to.
- All families are given a copy of relevant policies upon enrolment which will be explained by the Nominated Supervisor including; Control of Infectious Diseases Policy, Sick Children policy, Injury and Accident policy and Medical Emergency Policy.
- If a child needs urgent medical attention and the child's parent/guardian cannot be contacted, Educators will contact the appropriate medical professional. We will continue to attempt to contact an authorised carer for the child until one is found to care for the child.
- Families or an authorised contact will always be alerted when a child registers a temperature of 38°C or above.
- Any child who registers a temperature of 38°C or above will need to be collected from the centre and will be excluded for 24 hours since the last elevated temperature or until the centre receives a doctor's clearance letter stating that the child is cleared of any infection and able to return to child care.
- A child who has not been immunised will be excluded from the Centre if; an infectious disease is reported within the Centre community and that child is deemed to be in danger of contracting the illness. Please refer to our Control of Infectious Diseases Policy.

Our Centre is not equipped to care for sick children; however we will do everything we can to comfort a child who has become sick whilst in our care. To prevent the spread of disease, please monitor your child's health and watch for:

- Runny, green nose
- High temperature
- Diarrhoea
- Red, swollen or discharging eyes
- Vomiting
- Rashes
- Irritability, unusually tired or lethargic

If a child becomes ill while at the centre and presents with any of the above symptoms, the child's parent/guardian will be contacted and asked to collect the child. If they are unable to be contacted, an alternative authorised person listed on the enrolment form will be contacted. Sick children are unable to remain at the Centre for their own well-being and for the safety of the other children. The child cannot return to the centre until a Medical Clearance from a GP has been received and the symptoms have been gone for more than 24 hours.

- Children that have had diarrhoea and vomiting will be asked to stay away from the Centre for 48 hours after symptoms have ceased to reduce infection transmission as symptoms can develop again after 24 hours in many instances.
- A child who has passed two runny stools whilst at the Centre will be sent home and may only return once a Doctor's Certificate has been produced.



- When a child has been diagnosed with an illness or infectious disease by their GP, the centre will refer to Staying Healthy in Childcare (5th Edition) to find the recommended exclusion period and also request a medical clearance from the GP stating that the child is cleared to return to the childcare setting.
- When an infectious disease has been diagnosed by a GP, the centre will display appropriate documentation and alerts for families including information on the illness/disease, symptoms, infectious period and the exclusion period. (This information can be obtained from Staying Healthy In Child Care 5th Edition)
- All notify-able Diseases will be reported to Department of Health and Human Services. The confidentiality of the child will be respected.

Source: Staying Healthy: Preventing infectious diseases in early childhood education and care services (5th Edition), Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011, Infectious Diseases in Early Childhood Settings: A Guideline for Early Childhood Service Providers and Guideline for the Control of Infectious Diseases in Child Care.

Date Implemented: 26/07/2016

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National Quality Standard – NQS

Quality Area 2: Children's Health and Safety

2.1	Each child's health is promoted.
2.2	Healthy eating and physical activity are embedded in the program for children.
2.3	Each child is protected.

