

First aid can save lives and prevent minor injuries or illnesses from becoming major. The capacity to provide prompt basic first aid is particularly important in the context of an early childhood centre where staff have a duty of care and obligation to assist children who are injured, become ill or require support with administration of medication.

Purpose

Brunswick Crèche and Day Nursery has a duty of care to provide and protect the health and safety of children, families, educators and visitors of the Centre. This policy aims to support educators to:

- Preserve life
- Ensure that ill or injured persons are stabilised and comforted until medical assistance intervenes
- Monitor ill or injured persons and promote recovery
- Apply additional first aid tactics if the condition does not improve
- Provide immediate and effective first aid to children or adults
- Ensure the environment is safe and other people are not in danger of becoming ill or injured.

'First aid can reduce the severity of an injury or illness and in extreme cases, could mean the difference between life and death.' (Safe Work Australia).

Implementation

First aid is the emergency aid or treatment given to persons suffering illness or injury following an accident and prior to obtaining professional medical services if required. It includes emergency treatment, maintenance of records, dressing of minor injuries, recognition and reporting of health hazards, and participation in safety programs. Legislation that governs the operation of approved children's services is based on the health, safety and welfare of children, and requires that children are protected from hazards and harm.

Management is responsible for:

- Taking every reasonable precaution to protect children at the Centre from harm and/or hazards that can cause injury
- Ensuring that the following qualified people are in attendance **at all times** the centre is providing education and care to children
 - At least one staff member or one nominated supervisor who holds a current ACECQA approved first aid qualifications
 - At least one staff member or one nominated supervisor of the centre who has undertaken current approved anaphylaxis management training
 - At least one staff member or one nominated supervisor of the centre who has undertaken current approved emergency asthma management training
- Appointing a nominated first aid officer
- Ensuring a risk assessment is conducted prior to an excursion to identify risks to health, safety, or wellbeing and specifying how these risks will be managed and minimised
- Ensuring that first aid training details are recorded and kept up to date on each staff member's record
- Ensuring there is an induction process for all new staff, including casual and relief staff, that includes providing information on the location of first aid kits and specific first aid requirements and individual children's allergies and individual medical management plans
- ensuring that parents are notified when practicable or within 24 hours if their child is involved in an incident, injury, trauma or illness at the Centre and that details are recorded on the *Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness Record*.
- Ensuring the Regulatory Authorities are notified within 24 hours if a child is involved in a serious incident, injury, trauma or illness at the Centre.



- Ensuring that staff members are offered support and debriefing subsequent to a serious incident requiring the administration of first aid
- Ensuring a resuscitation flow chart is displayed in a prominent position in the indoor and outdoor environments of the Centre
- Keeping up to date with any changes in procedures for administration of first aid and ensuring that all educators are informed of these changes.

A Nominated Supervisor/ Certified Supervisor will:

- Maintain a current approved first aid qualification
- Support staff when dealing with a serious incident and/or trauma
- Provide and maintain an appropriate number of up-to-date, fully equipped first aid kits that meet Australian Standards.
- Provide and maintain a transportable first aid kit/s that can be taken to excursions and other activities
- Monitor the contents of all first aid kits and arrange replacement of stock, including when the use-by date has been reached
- Dispose of out-of-date materials and supplies appropriately
- Ensure safety signs showing the location of first aid kits are clearly displayed
- Ensure that all educators approved first aid qualifications, anaphylaxis management training and emergency asthma management training are current and meet the requirements of the National Act and National Regulations and are approved by ACECQA.
- Provide training for the administration of an auto-injector device annually and document on staff files
- Keep up to date with any changes in the procedures for the administration of first aid
- Contact families immediately if a child has had a head injury whilst at the Centre
- Ensure that appropriate documentation is being recorded by the Nominated Supervisor / Responsible Person regarding incidents, injury, trauma, and illnesses and the administration of first aid. Documentation of the following must be recorded:
 - Name and age of the child
 - Circumstances leading to the incident, injury, trauma, or illness (including any symptoms)
 - Time and date
 - Details of action taken by the centre including any medication administered, first aid provided or
 - Medical personnel contacted
 - Details of any witnesses
 - Names of any person the centre notified or attempted to notify, and the time and date of this
 - Signature of the person making the entry, and time and date of this.

Educators will:

- Implement appropriate first aid procedures when necessary
- Maintain current approved first aid qualifications, and qualifications in anaphylaxis management and emergency asthma management as required (Safe Work Australia recommends first aid qualifications should be renewed every three years)
- Refresh their-CPR and administration of an auto-injector device training at least annually
- Ensure that all children are adequately supervised while providing first aid and comfort for a child involved in an incident or suffering trauma
- Ensure that the details of any incident requiring the administration of first aid are recorded on the *Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness Record* accurately.
- Conduct a risk assessment prior to an excursion to identify risks to health, safety, or wellbeing and specifying how these risks will be managed and minimised.

Parents will:

- Sign Centre records of accidents or injuries that have occurred, acknowledging they have been made aware of the incident and the first aid that treatment that was given to the child
- Provide the required information for the Centre's medication record



- Provide written consent (via the enrolment record) for centre staff to administer first aid and call an ambulance, if required
- Be contactable, either directly or through emergency contacts listed on the child's enrolment record, in the event of an incident requiring the administration of first aid.

First Aid Kit

The approved provider of the Centre will ensure that first aid kits are kept in accordance with National Education and Care Service Regulations

All First Aid Kits at the centre must:

- Be suitably equipped
- Not be locked
- Not contain paracetamol
- Be suitable for the number of employees and children and sufficient for the immediate treatment of injuries at the Centre.
- Be easily accessible to staff and educators
- Be constructed of resistant material, be dustproof and of sufficient size to adequately store the required contents
- Be capable of being sealed and preferably be fitted with a carrying handle as well as have internal compartments.
- Contain a list of the contents of the kit.
- Be regularly checked using the First Aid Kit Checklist to ensure the contents are as listed and have not depreciated or expired.
- Have a white cross on a green background with the words 'First Aid' prominently displayed on the outside.
- Be easily recognisable
- Be easy to access and if applicable, located where there is a risk of injury occurring.
- Display emergency telephone numbers, the phone number and location of the nearest first aid trained educators
- Consideration should be given to preventative measures such as sunscreen protection and portable water if working outdoors.
- First Aid kits must be taken on excursions and be attended by First Aid qualified educators.
- Be given precautionary measures such as sunscreen protection and portable water if working outdoors.
- Be taken on excursions and be attended by First Aid qualified educators.
- Be maintained in proper condition and the contents replenished as necessary.

Our First Aid delegated individual responsible for maintaining all First Aid kits at the centre is:

Name: Angela Ventura Beiza

Role: Early Childhood Educator – Level 4

Number of First Aid Kits Responsible for in the Centre: 5

Our back-up First Aid delegated individual responsible for maintaining all First Aid kits when the individual listed above is away is:

Name: Angie Giordano

Role: Early Childhood Educator – Director

Number of First Aid Kits Responsible for in the Centre: 5

These individuals are responsible for conducting and maintaining each first aid kit by complying with the First Aid Checklist, certifying each Kit has the required quantities, items are within their expiry dates and sterile products are sealed. This will occur after each use or if unused, at least annually.



Individuals along with the Nominated Supervisor will also consider whether the first aid kits and components are appropriate and effective for the Centre’s hazards and the injuries that have occurred. If the kit requires additional resources, these individuals will advise and follow up with the Nominated Supervisor.

We will determine the need for additional items to those in the checklist, or whether some items are unnecessary, after analysing the number of children at our Centre and what injuries children or adults may incur. We will review our incident, injury, trauma and illness records to assist us in making an informed decision about what to include.

For further advice on first aid in the workplace, refer to the following website for state and territory specifications.

<https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/first-aid>

Source: Australian Children’s Education & Care Quality Authority. (2014). Early Childhood Australia Code of Ethics. (2016). Guide to the Education and Care Services National Law and the Education and Care Services National Regulations. (2017). Guide to the National Quality Standard (2020) Revised National Quality Standard. (2018). Safe Work Australia First Aid in the Workplace Code of Practice: <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/doc/model-code-practice-first-aid-workplace> Safe Work Australia Legislative Fact Sheets First Aiders: <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/first-aid>

Date Implemented: 16/04/2012

Review Completed: 18/03/2021

Schedule for Review: 18/03/2022

Authorised by COM: Nov 2020

National Quality Standard – NQS		
Quality Area 2: Children’s Health and Safety		
2.1.1	Wellbeing and comfort	Each child’s wellbeing and comfort is provided for, including appropriate opportunities to meet each child’s needs for sleep, rest and relaxation
2.1.2	Health practices and procedures	Effective illness and injury management and hygiene practices are promoted and implemented.
2.2	Safety	Each child is protected
2.2.1	Supervision	At all times, reasonable precautions and adequate supervision ensure children are protected from harm and hazard
2.2.2	Incident and emergency management	Plans to effectively manage incidents and emergencies are developed in consultation with relevant authorities, practiced and implemented
Education and Care Service National Regulations		
12	Meaning of serious incident	
85	Incident, injury, trauma and illness policies and procedures	
86	Notification to parents of incident, injury, trauma and illness	
87	Incident, injury, trauma and illness record	
88	Infectious diseases	
89	First aid kits	
90	Medical conditions policy	
97	Emergency and evacuation procedures	
136	First aid qualifications	
161	Authorisations to be kept in enrolment record	
162	Health information to be kept in enrolment record	
168	Education and care service must have policies and procedures	
174	Prescribed information to be notified to Regulatory Authority	
176	Time to notify certain information to Regulatory Authority	

