

Medication and Health Statement

Introduction

This statement has been developed to provide an overview of the areas of medication and health covered by policies developed and maintained by the education and care service. Maintaining a healthy, safe and inclusive environment for educators, children and families, is paramount for high quality education and care.

"All children have the right to experience quality education and care in an environment that provides for their physical and psychological wellbeing and provides support for each child's growing competence, confidence and independence."

ACECQA's Guide to the National Quality Framework

Goals / What are we going to do?

The education and care service have defined policies and procedures relating to the areas of medication and health. These policies, informed by the National Regulations, National Law and National Quality Standards, describe responsibilities, procedures and practices that will guide practice in the education and care service. These practices aim to provide a clean, healthy and safe environment for educators, children and families.



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LINKS TO OTHER POLICIES

- ▶ Dental Health
- ▶ Enrolment and Orientation
- ▶ Nappy Change
- ▶ Toileting
- ▶ Bottle Safety and Preparation
- ▶ Cleaning and Maintaining the Environment
- ▶ Safe Storage of Dangerous Goods
- ▶ Record Keeping
- ▶ Administration of First Aid

Strategies / How will it be done?

The approved provider will:

- ▶ Ensure that the nominated supervisor, educators and volunteers at the education and care service implement adequate health and hygiene practices.
- ▶ Ensure that educators have the skills, training and expertise required to support the inclusion of children with additional health needs.
- ▶ Ensure that educators follow procedures and guidelines set out by the local health department as well as the Education and Care Services National Regulations to keep their environment safe.
- ▶ Ensure the confidentiality and storage of medication and health records according to regulatory requirements.

The nominated supervisor will:

- ▶ Implement policies and ensure that educators, students and volunteers at the education and care service implement adequate health and hygiene practices.
- ▶ Maintain information in the enrolment records of all children regarding health and medications in accordance with legislative requirements and with reference to service policies regarding record keeping and confidentiality.

Procedures

- ▶ Regularly review health and medication policies in collaboration with educators and families.
- ▶ Develop risk minimisation and medical communication plans for children who have specific health care needs.
- ▶ Liaise with health professionals in the community to ensure that knowledge is updated and shared with families.
- ▶ Facilitate effective care and health management for children who are taking medications for health problems, prevention and/or the management of acute episodes of illness or medical emergencies through the safe administration of medication.
- ▶ Keep up-to-date with the latest information on medications and health through journals, resource agencies and professional development. This information will be shared with families and children.

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The service defines the aims of this statement through specific health policies that will guide practice within the education and care service.

These are:

- » Acceptance and Refusal of Authorisations
- » First Aid
- » Hygiene and Infection Control
- » Immunisation
- » Incidents, Injury, Trauma, Illness
- » Infectious Diseases
- » Medical Conditions
- » Medication Administration
- » Nutrition/Food/Beverages/Dietary Requirements
- » Risk Management

Evaluation

This early education and care service will ensure the health, safety, and wellbeing of children with medical conditions and health needs, and implement comprehensive policies and procedures. Educators will receive specific training to safely administer medications, adhering to medical practitioners' prescriptions and first aid guidelines. The service will maintain detailed medication records and ensure that educators are informed about each child's medical conditions and the strategies to support them. These measures are designed to create a safe, healthy, and supportive environment for all children in their care.

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LINKS TO:

- ▶ Education and Care Services National Regulations: 77, 87, 90, 92-96, 136, 162, 168, 177, 181-184
- ▶ National Quality Standards/ Elements: 2.1, 2.1.2, 2.2.1, 6.2



STATUTORY LEGISLATION & CONSIDERATIONS

- ▶ Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010
- ▶ Education and Care Services National Regulations
- ▶ ACECQA - Guide to the NQF - www.acecqa.gov.au/nqf/about/guide
- ▶ National Immunisation Program (NIP) Schedule



SOURCES

- ▶ National Health and Medical Research Council – www.nhmrc.gov.au
- ▶ NSW Department of Health – www.health.nsw.gov.au
- ▶ Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy (ASCIA) - www.allergy.org.au
- ▶ Allergy & Anaphylaxis Australia – www.allergyfacts.org.au
- ▶ NSW Poisons Information Centre – www.poisonsinfo.nsw.gov.au
- ▶ Early Childhood Australia – www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au
- ▶ ECA – Code of Ethics
- ▶ ACECQA - Guide to the NQF - www.acecqa.gov.au/nqf/about/guide

This sample policy is for information purpose only. You are welcome to use this material, with acknowledgement to Community Early Learning Australia.

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