



Medication and health Statement

Quality Area 2: Children's Health & Safety

Policy Statement

This statement has been developed to provide an overview of the areas of medication and health covered by policies developed and maintained by Ocean Shores Preschool. 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 health and safety." Guide to the National Quality Standard (3) ACECQA (2011), p50.

Goals – what are we doing?

Ocean Shores Preschool will define policies and procedures relating to the areas of medication and health. These policies, informed by the National Regulations and Quality Standards will 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.

Strategies – How will it be done?

The Management Committee 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 NSW Department of Health and the Education and Care Services National Regulation 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 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 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;

Information provided by Community Child Care Co-operative (NSW).

- 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;

Ocean Shores Preschool defines the aims of this statement through specific Health and Medication 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

The education and care service maintains a safe and healthy environment for children, families and staff by developing and following policies and legislative guidelines.

Statutory Legislation & Considerations

- NSW Public Health Act 2010
- Children (Education and Care Services National Law Application) Act 2010
- Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011
- Guide to the National Quality Standard (3) ACECQA (2011)
- National Immunisation Programme (NIP) Schedule, Australia

Sources

- National Health and Medical Research Council - www.nhmrc.gov.au
- NSW Department of Health www.health.nsw.gov.au
- Immunise Australia Program - www.immunise.health.gov.au
- Anaphylaxis Australia - www.allergyfacts.org.au
- Asthma Foundation NSW - www.asthmafoundation.org.au/NSW/Home.aspx
- NSW Poisons Information Centre - www.chw.edu.au/poisons/
- Early Childhood Australia - www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au
- Staying Healthy in Child Care – Fourth Edition – 2005
- ECA - Code of Ethics

Information provided by Community Child Care Co-operative (NSW).

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Links to other policies

- Dental Health
- Guidelines & Agreements for Enrolment
- Nappy Change
- Toileting
- Bottle Safety and Preparation
- Cleaning and Maintaining the Environment
- Safe Storage of Dangerous Goods
- Record Keeping
- Links to Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011: 77, 87, 90, 92-96, 136, 162, 168, 177, 181-184, 246-247
- Links to National Quality Standards/Elements: 2.1, 2.1.1, 2.1.4, 2.3.2, 2.3.3, 6.3.1