

Edgeworth Child Care Centre Inc.

Accident & Illness Prevention Policy

Aim

Accidents are often directly related to the child's growth and developmental stage. Educators will be aware of the particular hazards recognisable in each stage, and take all precautions necessary to prevent such accidents. It is an educator's responsibility to increase parent awareness of accident prevention, and of their child's ability to learn safety habits at a very early age.

Legislative Requirements

Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010
Education and Care Services National Regulation 2011
National Quality Standards 2011
Work Health and Safety Act 2011
Work Health and Safety Regulations 2011

Who is affected by this policy?

Children
Educators
Families
Management
Visitors

Implementation

The following precautions are to be observed in the Service:

- All household products and medications are to be kept in their original containers, and stored in cupboards not accessible to children, i.e. out of reach or with childproof locks.
- Medication procedures must be followed at all times.
- Children are to be restricted from the kitchen area.
- Never leave infants on change tables, in baths, in high chairs, or eating alone.
- Have the temperature of hot water systems set at 43.5 degrees Celsius.
- Never drink hot liquids near children. Drinking of any hot beverage is to be restricted to childfree areas.
- Edgeworth Child Care Centre has an approved earth leakage circuit breaker fitted to the main power box. These should be tested on a monthly basis to ensure that they are still working. This device is not to be relied on alone. Electrocutions are reduced by the use of circuit breakers – not prevented entirely.
- Power points must have protective shutters, or be fitted with protective plugs.
- Hand-held electrical appliances must not be used in wet areas.
- Teach children to respect all electrical appliances.

- Avoid water on floors. Mop up any spillages immediately. Particular attention needs to be given to the bathroom area and lunch area.
- Children must remain seated whilst eating and babies should be supervised at all times when having a bottle.
- Never leave plastic bags within the reach of children.
- Choose safe toys with the age of the child in mind, i.e. avoid small removable parts for infants, choose durable toys, avoid movable parts, which may pinch the child, etc. Check all toys regularly, and repair or discard any broken toys.
- All water play areas must be supervised by an educator/staff member at all times. Never leave buckets of water unattended.
- All play equipment must be checked daily for:
 - stability
 - broken pieces
 - insect, spider and / or snake infestation.
- All playground equipment must be checked for the following:
 - Provision of safety rails on platforms and equipment over 1.5 metres high
 - It should not be possible to fall from any structure onto an object below
 - Provision of clear landing places at the base of slides, etc.
 - Timber top edges should be rounded, and logs checked for splinters
 - Ensure there are no projections on sliding surfaces
 - Bolts should be counter-sunk
 - Check all structures regularly for stability
 - Check equipment for wear and tear
- Boards are to be cared for properly to avoid cracking, i.e. never leave boards out when not in use, and regularly oil boards with recommended products.
- Provide shock-absorbing surfaces under play equipment.
- Provide barriers to prevent children running into the path of moving objects such as swings.
- All climbing equipment must have an Educator/Staff member supervising it when in use.
- Any vertical railing in the service is to be no more than eight centimetres apart.
- All playground equipment must be used with the child's ability in mind; e.g. it may be necessary to restrict younger children using certain climbing equipment.
- Refer to recent safety standards when purchasing equipment, e.g. The Choice Guide to Baby Products, and where Australian Safety Standards approved items are available, these must be purchased in preference to others.
- Display Emergency Exit procedures and complete quarterly drills.
- Check Service fire extinguishers as per guidelines and instruct all Educator/Staff on their use.
- Provide current information to Educators, Staff and families when required.

The Approved Provider/Nominated Supervisor will ensure that this policy is maintained and implemented at all times.

Sources

Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010
Education and Care Services National Regulation 2011
National Quality Standards 2011
Work Health and Safety Act 2011
Work Health and Safety Regulations 2011
Choice www.choice.com.au Retrieved 25 10 17
Kidsafe Australia www.kidsafe.org.au Retrieved 25 10 17
St John www.stjohn.org.au Retrieved 25 10 17

Review

The policy will be reviewed annually. Review will be conducted by management, employees, parents and any interested parties.

Reviewed: 25 October 2017

Date for next review: October 2018