

Edgeworth Child Care Centre Inc.

Child Health Policy

Aim

The Approved Provider of Edgeworth Child Care Centre aims to ensure that the Nominated Supervisor and all staff members of, and volunteers at, the Service implement adequate health and hygiene practices. The Service aims to promote a healthy environment in which children will grow and learn about the world around them. Educators/staff will actively support children to learn hygiene practices (including hand washing, coughing, sneezing, dental care and ear care). The application of preventative measures through an infection control process aims to prevent the spread of infections and will be followed by all people in the Education and Care Service at all times.

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?

Child
Staff
Families
Management

Implementation

Hygiene

- Hand washing is considered to be the most effective way of controlling infection in the Service. Educators, staff and children should wash their hands:
 - When arriving at the Service to reduce the introduction of germs.
 - Before and after all cleaning tasks.
 - Before and after handling and preparing food and eating.
 - After all dirty tasks e.g. nappy changing, toileting, cleaning up faeces, vomit or blood, wiping a nose, playing outside, handling animals.
 - After removing gloves.
 - Before and after giving a child medication.
 - After giving first aid.
 - Before going home to prevent taking germs home.
- Nappy changing will be done only in the nappy change area which will be properly stocked with paper towels, wipes, plastic bags, fresh nappies, clean clothes, rubbish bin with a sealed lid lined with plastic bag. The procedure for nappy changing will be displayed in the nappy change area.
- The Service uses disposable nappies.
- The laundry area includes a washing machine & trough with hot & cold water supply for the laundering of soiled clothes, and linen.
- The laundering of soiled clothes, and linen is laundered away from the premises; soiled laundry is hygienically stored in a sealed container, until such a time as it is removed from the premises. Items returned to a child's home for laundering will have soiling removed and will be stored securely and not placed in the child's bag in contact with personal items.
- The Service will ensure that toilets and hand washing facilities are easily accessible to children. Children will be encouraged to flush toilets and wash hands after use.

- Educators/Staff will use separate cloths or tissues to wipe different children's faces and noses. Tissues will be disposed of immediately after wiping a child's nose.
- Each child will have their own bedding which will be supplied by the family.
- The Service will wash mouthed toys daily using warm water and soap, and dried in the sun, rotate toys to allow for washing and use individual toy bags for babies, clean books by wiping with moist cloth and drying, clean storage areas weekly.
- Surfaces will be cleaned with detergent after each activity and all surfaces cleaned thoroughly daily. Floor in the babies and toddlers rooms will be washed each day. Areas contaminated with body fluids will be disinfected.
- Each child will be provided with their own drinking and eating utensils at each mealtime. These utensils will be washed after each use. Educators/staff will encourage children not to use drinking or eating utensils which have been used by another child or dropped on the floor.
- Educators/staff will ensure that children do not eat food that has been handled by another child or that has been dropped on the floor.
- Food will be prepared; kept and served hygienically.
- Food preparation facilities will be maintained according to Education and Care Services National Regulation 2011.
- The Education and Care Service will ensure it meets all requirements for a food handling premises in accordance with the FSANZ Food Safety Code, consistent with advice provided by families about their child's dietary requirements, likes, dislikes, cultural or other requirements families have regarding their child's nutrition.
- The rules of hygiene and dental care will be included in the child's program and educators/staff will initiate discussion about these subjects with groups and individual children at appropriate times.
- Educators/staff will engage children in experiences, conversations and routines that promote relaxed and enjoyable mealtimes and promote healthy lifestyles and good nutrition
- Information on hygiene and dental care principles and practices will be displayed in the reception area / provided through newsletters and drawn to the attention of all parents on a regular basis.
- No alcohol, tobacco or unlawful substances will be consumed on the premises of the Service at any time.
- No smoking of any substance on any part of the Service at any time.

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
Australian Government Guidelines: *Get Up and Grow: healthy Eating and Physical Activity for Early Childhood*
Work Health and Safety Act 2011
Work Health and Safety Regulations 2011
Food Standards Australia New Zealand www.foodstandards.gov.au Retrieved 25 10 17
Better Health Channel www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au Retrieved 25 10 17
Staying Healthy – Preventing infectious diseases in early childhood education and care services – 5th Edition

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