

Edgeworth Child Care Centre Inc.

Bottle Safety & Hygiene Policy

Aim

For the safety and wellbeing of children, educators/staff, and families at Edgeworth Child Care Centre, it is essential to have adequate procedures and policies in place to secure safe food handling and hygiene practices that meet Work Health and Safety Standards, and current Food Safety Standards, when preparing and heating children's bottles.

Legislative Requirements

Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010
Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011
National Quality Standards 2011
Work Health and Safety Act 2011
Work Health and Safety Regulations 2011
Food Standards Australia New Zealand
Food Safety Standard Australia New Zealand
Food Act 2003 (NSW)
Food Regulation 2010 (NSW)

Who is affected by this policy?

Children
Families
Staff
Educators
Management
Visitors

Implementation

The Approved Provider/Nominated Supervisor will ensure that the Educators/Staff are aware of and implement the procedures for preparing, heating and storing bottles of breast milk and formula.

Edgeworth Child Care Centre will have a specific designated area for bottle preparation which is safe and hygienic.

Safe Preparation Tips for Powdered Infant Formula include:

- Wash and dry hands, surfaces, utensils and equipment thoroughly.
- Sterilise bottles, teats, cups, and tongs before use.
- Prepare formula exactly according to manufacturer's instructions.
- Whenever possible, make a fresh batch of formula before each feed.
- If making formula for storage, store made up formula immediately in a closed container in the coldest section at the back of the fridge.
- Discard formula after 24 hours if refrigerated or after 2 hours at room temperature.
- Rewarm formula by placing the bottle in heated, shallow water for no more than 15 minutes or use a commercial bottle warmer – **Do not use a microwave as it reheats unevenly.**
- Discard rewarmed formula that has not been consumed after 2 hours.
- Discard unfinished formula.

- Avoid preparing formula if caregivers are suffering with vomiting or diarrhoea, and take extra care with hygiene.
- Check temperature of formula before feeding, by placing a drop of liquid on the inside of your wrist. It should feel warm.

Safe Storage and Rewarming of Expressed Breast Milk Tips include:

- Store breast milk in a sterile container, label with the date it was expressed, in the fridge or freezer.
- Thaw frozen breast milk in the fridge and use within 24 hours.
- Rewarm expressed breast milk in heated, shallow water for no more than 15 minutes.
- Do not refreeze the milk.
- Discard after four hours at warm temperatures.

General Safety Tips

- Test the temperature of the bottle before feeding to children, by placing a few drops on the inside of the wrist.
- Supervise children drinking bottles at all times.
- Give a bottle to children before going to bed, to reduce the risk of tooth decay.
- Never place a child in a cot or on a bed when drinking, as this can be a choking hazard.
- Discard any leftover milk at the completion of feeding.
- Rinse all children’s bottles thoroughly after use.
- Send all bottles homes for sanitising on a daily basis.
- Safe practices will be implemented at all times.

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 Regulations 2011
 Guide to the National Quality Standard 2011
 Work Health and Safety Act 2011
 Work Health and Safety Regulations 2011
 Staying Healthy In Child Care, 5th Edition.
 WorkCover NSW www.workcover.nsw.gov.au Retrieved 25 10 17
 NSW Food Authority www.foodauthority.nsw.gov.au Retrieved 25 10 17
 Food Safety Standards www.foodstandards.gov.au Retrieved 25 10 17
 NSW Department of Health www.health.nsw.gov.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