

HIV AIDS Policy

NQS

QA2	2.1.2	Health practices and procedures - Effective illness and injury management and hygiene practices are promoted and implemented.
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National Regulations

Regs	77	Health, hygiene and safe food practices
	88	Infectious diseases
	90	Medical conditions policy

Aim

The service aims to effectively care for any child that may be infected with Human Immunodeficiency Virus Infection, AIDS Virus and also minimise the risk of exposure to HIV through effective hygiene practices.

Related Policies

- Enrolment Policy
- Food Nutrition and Beverage Policy
- Health, Hygiene and Safe Food Policy
- Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness Policy
- Infectious Diseases Policy
- Medical Conditions Policy
- Privacy and Confidentiality Policy

Who is affected by this policy?

- Child
- Educators
- Families
- Community
- Visitors
- Management

Implementation

It is the Director's responsibility to educate and inform educators and parents about HIV/AIDS. One of the main problems surrounding HIV/AIDS is a lack of understanding which leads to an unfounded fear to the virus.

The following provides basic information on HIV/AIDS -

- AIDS is a medical condition which can damage a bodies' immune system.
- It is caused by a virus which is transmitted through the exchange of bodily fluid and is primarily passed on through sexual contact.
- The AIDS virus can be transmitted through blood products. However, the risk of contracting AIDS from a blood transfusion is minimal and said to be about one in 1,000,000.
- There is no evidence of the spread of the virus to children through other means at this time.

The confidentiality of medical information must be adhered to regarding an infected child. Any information disclosed to the Nominated Supervisor regarding a child from family members must not be passed on to any other staff member unless the child's caregivers provide written authorisation.

Children with the HIV virus will be accepted into the service.

Educators will carry out routine hygiene precautions to Australian standards at all times to prevent the spread of any infections following the service's relevant policies and procedures.

Educators will exercise care in regards to the exposure of bodily fluids and blood and the service's hygiene practices will be used to prevent the spread of infection. Similarly, if the need arises to perform CPR on a child infected with HIV a disposable mouth to mouth mask will be used.

Children who are infected with HIV will be assessed by their Doctor before they are excluded from the service. Children who have abrasions or open wounds will cover them while at the service. If these abrasions cannot be covered for any reason unfortunately the child will have to be excluded from the service until the wound has healed or can be covered.

Educators who have been infected by HIV are not obliged to inform their employer but are expected to act in a safe and responsible manner at all times to minimise the risk of infection.

No child, educator, parent or other visitor to the service will be denied First Aid at any time.

Sources

Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011

Early Years Learning Framework

National Quality Standard

Public Health (Amendment) Act 1991

Anti Discrimination Act 1997

National Health and Medical Research Council. (2005). Staying Healthy in Child Care – Preventing infectious diseases in child care

Review

The policy will be reviewed annually.

Review will be conducted by:

- Management
- Employees
- Families
- Interested Parties.

Reviewed: 14/01/2020

Date for next review: 13/01/2021