

P2-01: Incident, Injury, Trauma, & Illness Policy

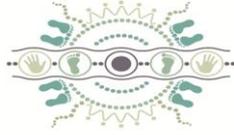
The health and safety of all staff, children, families, and visitors to Queanbeyan & District Preschool Association (QDPA) is of the utmost importance. QDPA aim to reduce the likelihood of incidents, illness, accidents, and trauma through implementing comprehensive risk management, effective hygiene practices and the ongoing professional development of all staff to respond quickly and effectively to any incident or accident.

QDPA acknowledge that in early education services, illness and disease can spread easily from one child to another, even when implementing the recommended hygiene and infection control practices. QDPA aims to minimise illnesses by adhering to all recommended guidelines from relevant government authorities regarding the prevention of infectious diseases and adhere to exclusion periods recommended by public health units.

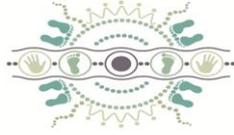
When groups of children play together and are in new surroundings accidents and illnesses may occur. QDPA is committed to effectively manage our physical environment to allow children to experience challenging situations whilst preventing serious injuries.

NATIONAL QUALITY STANDARD (NQS)

| QUALITY AREA 2: CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND SAFETY | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|---|
| 2.1.2 | Health practices and procedures | Effective illness and injury management and hygiene practices are promoted and implemented. |
| 2.2 | Safety | Each child is protected. |
| 2.2.1 | Supervision | At all times, reasonable precautions and adequate supervision ensure children are protected from harm and hazard. |
| 2.2.2 | Incident and emergency management | Plans to effectively manage incidents and emergencies are developed in consultation with relevant authorities, practiced and implemented. |
| 2.2.3 | Child Safety and Protection | Management, educators and staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities regarding child safety, including the need to identify and respond to every child at risk of abuse or neglect |



| EDUCATION AND CARE SERVICES NATIONAL LAW AND NATIONAL REGULATIONS | |
|---|--|
| S. 165 | Offence to inadequately supervise children |
| S. 174 | Offence to fail to notify the regulatory authority |
| S. 167 | Offence relating to protection of children from harm and hazards |
| 12 | Meaning of serious incident |
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| 86 | Notification to parents of incident, injury, trauma and illness |
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| 177 | Prescribed enrolment and other documents to be kept by approved provider |
| 183 | Storage of records and other documents |

RELATED POLICIES

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|---|---|
| Administration of First Aid Policy Administration of Medication Policy Child Protection Policy Child Safe Environment Policy Delivery of children to, and collection from ECE Premises Policy Enrolment & Priority of Access Policy | Health and Safety Handbook Immunisation Policy Medical Conditions Policy Privacy and Confidentiality Policy Record Keeping and Retention Policy Safe Transportation Policy Technology Policy Work Health and Safety Policy |
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PURPOSE

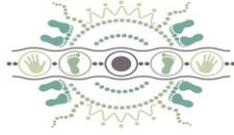
QDPA has a duty of care to respond to and manage illnesses, accidents, incidents, and trauma that may occur at the Preschool's to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children, educators, and visitors. This policy will guide educators and staff to manage illness and prevent injury and the spread of infectious diseases and provide guidance of the required action to be taken in the event of an incident, injury, trauma, or illness occurring when a child is educated and cared for.

SCOPE

This policy applies to children, families, educators, staff, the Approved Provider, nominated supervisor, management, students, volunteers and visitors of QDPA.

IMPLEMENTATION

Under the *Education and Care Services National Regulations*, an approved provider must ensure that policies and procedures are in place for incident, injury, trauma, and illness and take reasonable steps to ensure policies and procedures are followed. (ACECQA, 2025). In the event of an incident, injury, trauma, or illness all staff will implement the guidelines set out in this policy and associated procedures to adhere to the legislative requirements under the National Law and Regulations and inform the regulatory authority as required for notifiable incidents.



QDPA implements risk management planning to identify any possible risks and hazards to our learning environment and practices. Where possible, we have eliminated or minimised these risks as is reasonably practicable.

QDPA implements procedures as stated in the Staying healthy: [Preventing infectious diseases in early childhood education and care services \(6th Edition\)](#) developed by the Australian Government National Health and Medical Research Council as part of our day-to-day operation of the Preschools. We are guided by explicit decisions regarding exclusion periods and notification of any infectious disease by the *Australian Government- Department of Health* and local Public Health Units in our jurisdiction under the Public Health Act.

DEFINITION OF A SERIOUS INCIDENT

Regulations require the approved provider or nominated supervisor to notify the regulatory authority within 24 hours of any serious incident at the Service through the [NOA IT System](#)

A serious incident (Reg. 12) is defined as any of the following:

a) the death of a child:

(i) while being educated and cared for by an Education and Care Service or

(ii) following an incident while being educated and cared for by an Education and Care Service.

(b) any incident involving serious injury or trauma to, or illness of, a child while being educated and cared for by an Education and Care Service, which:

(i) a reasonable person would consider required urgent medical attention from a registered medical practitioner or

(ii) for which the child attended, or ought reasonably to have attended, a hospital. For example: whooping cough, broken limb and anaphylaxis reaction

(c) any incident or emergency where the attendance of emergency services at the Education and Care Service premises was sought, or ought reasonably to have been sought (e.g.: severe asthma attack, seizure or anaphylaxis)

(d) any circumstance where a child being educated and cared for by an Education and Care Service

(i) appears to be missing or cannot be accounted for or



(ii) appears to have been taken or removed from the Education and Care Service premises in a manner that contravenes these regulations or

(iii) is mistakenly locked in or locked out of the Education and Care Service premises or any part of the premises.

A serious incident should be documented as an *Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness Record* as soon as possible and within 24 hours of the incident, with any evidence attached.

PHYSICAL ABUSE/SEXUAL ABUSE

Physical abuse refers to the use of physical force against a child that results in harm to the child.

Sexual abuse is any sexual behaviour including grooming behaviour, between an adult and a child.

Any incident or allegation of physical or sexual abuse to a child whilst being educated and cared for at our Service, must also be notified to the regulatory authority within 24 hours of the approved provider being aware of the incident or allegation. (ACECQA, 2025)

INJURY, INCIDENT OR TRAUMA

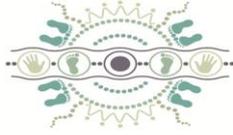
In the event of any child, educator, staff, volunteer or visitor having an accident at any of our Preschools, an educator who holds an approved first aid qualification will attend to the person immediately. Adequate supervision will be provided to all children attending the Preschool.

Any workplace incident, injury or trauma will be investigated, and records kept as per WHS legislation and guidelines. All staff and educators are required to follow the procedures outlined in our *Administration of First Aid Policy*.

INCIDENT, INJURY, TRAUMA AND ILLNESS RECORD

An *Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness* record contains details of any incident, injury, trauma or illness that occurs while the child is being educated and cared for at the service. The record will include:

- name and age of the child
- circumstances leading to the incident, injury, illness
- time and date the incident occurred, the injury was received, or the child was subjected to trauma



- details of any illness which becomes apparent while the child is being cared for including any symptoms, time and date of the onset of the illness
- details of the action taken by the educator including any medication administered, first aid provided, or medical professionals contacted
- details of any person who witnessed the incident, injury or trauma
- names of any person the educator notified or attempted to notify, and the time and date of this
- signature of the person making the entry, and the time and date the record was made

Educators are required to complete documentation of any incident, injury or trauma that occurs when a child is being educated and cared for by the preschool. This includes recording incidences of biting, scratching, dental or mouth injury. Due to Confidentiality and Privacy laws, only the name of the child injured will be recorded on the *Incident, Injury, Trauma or Illness Record*. Any other child/ren involved in the incident will not have their names recorded. If other children are injured or hurt, separate records will be completed for each child involved in the incident.

Parents/authorised nominee must acknowledge the details contained in the record, sign and date the record on arrival to collect their child. All *Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness Records* must be kept until the child is 25 years of age (See: *Record Keeping and Retention Policy*).

INJURY UPON ARRIVAL RECORD

An *Injury upon Arrival Record* is to be completed on any occasion a child arrives to preschool with any evident injury (scratch, broken bone, etc). This record is available in OWNA under 'forms' > 'manage custom forms' > 'Injury upon arrival'. This is a staff only document, and not viewable by parents/families. This record must be completed in full and signed by the educator completing the report.

MISSING OR UNACCOUNTED FOR CHILD

At all times, reasonable precautions and adequate supervision is provided to ensure children are protected from harm or hazards. However, if a child appears to be missing or unaccounted for, removed from the preschool premises that breaches the National Regulations or is mistakenly locked



in or locked out of any part of the preschool, a serious incident notification must be made to the regulatory authority.

A child may only leave the preschool in the care of an authorised person named in the child's enrolment record or a person authorised by a parent or authorised nominee or because the child requires medical, hospital or ambulance care in an emergency.

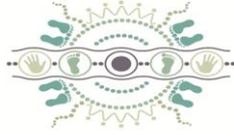
Educators must ensure that:

- the attendance record is regularly cross-checked to ensure all children signed into the preschool are accounted for
- children are supervised at all times
- visitors to the preschool are not left alone with children at any time.

Should an incident occur where a child is missing from the preschool, educators and the nominated supervisor will:

- attempt to locate the child immediately by conducting a thorough search of the premises (checking any areas that a child could be locked into by accident)
- cross check the attendance record to ensure the child hasn't been collected by an authorised person and signed out by another person
- if the child is not located within a 5-minute period, emergency services will be contacted, and the approved provider will notify the parent/s or guardian
- continue to search for the missing child until emergency services arrive whilst providing supervision for other children in care
- provide information to Police such as child's name, age, appearance, (provide a photograph), details of where the child was last sighted.

If a child is missing during or following transportation, the approved provider is responsible for notifying the regulatory authority of a serious incident within 24 hours of the incident occurring.



HEAD INJURIES

It is common for children to bump their heads during everyday play, however it is difficult to determine whether the injury is serious or not. Therefore, any knock to the head is considered a *head injury* and should be assessed by a registered doctor. In the event of any head injury, the First Aid officer will assess the child, administer any urgent First Aid and notify parents/guardians to collect their child.

Emergency services will be contacted immediately on 000 if the child:

- has sustained a head injury involving high speeds or fallen from a height (play equipment)
- loses consciousness
- seems unwell or vomits several times after hitting their head

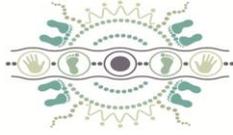
TRAUMA

Trauma is defined as the impact of an event or a series of events during which a child feels helpless and pushed beyond their ability to cope. There are a range of different events that might be traumatic to a child, including accidents, injuries, serious illness, natural disasters (bush fires), assault, and threats of violence, domestic violence, neglect or abuse and war or terrorist attacks. Parental or cultural trauma can also have a traumatising effect on children. This definition firmly places trauma into a developmental context: *“Trauma changes the way children understand their world, the people in it and where they belong.”* (Australian Childhood Foundation, 2010).

Trauma can disrupt the relationships a child has with their parents, educators and staff who care for them. It can transform children’s language skills, physical and social development and the ability to manage their emotions and behaviour.

Behavioural responses for pre-school aged children who have experienced trauma may include:

- new or increased clingy behaviour such as constantly following a parent, carer or staff around
- anxiety when separated from parents or carers
- new problems with skills like sleeping, eating, going to the toilet and paying attention
- shutting down and withdrawing from everyday experiences
- difficulties enjoying activities
- being jumpier or easily frightened



- physical complaints with no known cause such as stomach pains and headaches
- blaming themselves and thinking the trauma was their fault.

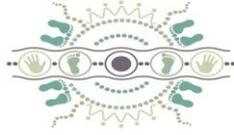
Children who have experienced traumatic events often need help to adjust to the way they are feeling. When parents, educators and staff take the time to listen, talk, and play they may find children begin to say or show how they are feeling. Providing children with time and space lets them know you are available and care about them.

It is important for educators to be patient when dealing with a child who has experienced a traumatic event. It may take time to understand how to respond to a child's needs and new behaviours before parents, educators and staff are able to work out the best ways to support a child. It is imperative to realise that a child's behaviour may be a response to the traumatic event rather than just 'difficult' behaviour.

EDUCATORS CAN ASSIST CHILDREN DEALING WITH TRAUMA BY:

- observing the behaviours and expressed feelings of a child and documenting responses that were most helpful in these situations
- creating a 'relaxation' space with familiar and comforting toys and objects children can use when they are having a difficult time
- having quiet time such as reading a story about feelings together
- trying different types of play that focus on expressing feelings
- helping children understand their feelings by using reflecting statements (e.g., 'you look sad/angry right now, I wonder if you need some help?').

There are a number of ways for parents, educators and staff to reduce their own stress and maintain awareness, so they continue to be effective when offering support to children who have experienced traumatic events.



STRATEGIES TO ASSIST FAMILIES, EDUCATORS AND STAFF TO COPE WITH CHILDREN'S STRESS OR TRAUMA MAY INCLUDE:

- taking time to calm yourself when you have a strong emotional response. This may mean walking away from a situation for a few minutes or handing over to another educator or staff member if possible
- planning ahead with a range of possibilities in case difficult situations occur
- remembering to find ways to look after yourself, even if it is hard to find time or you feel other things are more important. Taking time out helps adults be more available to children when they need support
- using supports available to you within your relationships (e.g., family, friends, colleagues)
- identifying a supportive person to talk to about your experiences. This might be your family doctor or another health professional
- accessing support resources- BeYou, Emerging Minds.
- accessing QDPA's EAP program

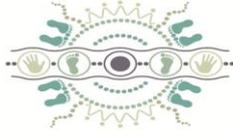
Living or working with traumatised children can be demanding so it is important for all educators to be aware of their own responses and seek support from management when required.

ILLNESS MANAGEMENT

To reduce the transmission of infectious illness, QDPA implements effective hygiene and infection control routines and procedures as per the *Staying healthy: Preventing infectious diseases in early childhood education and care services guidelines*. If a child is unwell or displaying symptoms of a cold or flu virus, parents are requested to keep the child away from the Preschool. Infectious illnesses can be spread quickly from one person to another usually through respiratory droplets or from a child or person touching their own mouth or nose and then touching an object or surface.

PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF ILLNESS

Practising effective hygiene helps to minimise the risk of cross infection within our preschools. Educators model good hygiene practices and remind children to cough or sneeze into their elbow or use a disposable tissue and wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds after touching their mouth, eyes or nose.



Handwashing techniques are practised by all educators and children routinely using soap and water before and after eating and when using the toilet and drying hands thoroughly with paper towel.

After wiping a child's nose with a tissue, educators will dispose the tissue in a plastic-lined bin and wash their hands thoroughly with soap and water and dry using paper towel.

All surfaces including bedding (mat, cushions) used by a child who is unwell, will be cleaned with soap and water and then disinfected.

Parents, families and visitors are requested to wash their hands upon arrival and departure at each preschool or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. (Note: alcohol-based sanitizers must be kept out of reach of children and used only with adult supervision.)

CHILDREN ARRIVING AT THE SERVICE WHO ARE UNWELL

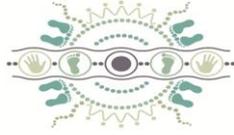
Management will not accept a child into the preschool if they:

- have a contagious illness or infectious disease
- are unwell and unable to participate in normal activities or require additional attention
- have had a temperature and/or have been vomiting in the last 24 hour (as reported by a parent or sent home in the previous day)
- have had diarrhoea in the last 24 hours
- have started a course of antibiotics in the last 24 hours
- have been given medication for a temperature prior to arriving at the preschool (for example: Panadol/nurofen)

IDENTIFYING SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF ILLNESS

Early childhood educators and management are not doctors and are unable to diagnose an illness or infectious disease. To ensure the symptoms are not infectious and to minimise the spread of an infection, medical advice may be required to ensure a safe and healthy environment.

Children who appear unwell at preschool will be closely monitored and if any symptoms described below are noticed, or the child is not well enough to participate in normal activities, parents or an



emergency contact person will be contacted to collect the child as soon as possible (ideally within 30 minutes).

A child who is displaying symptoms of a contagious illness or virus (vomiting, diarrhoea, fever) will be moved away from the rest of the group and supervised until they are collected by a parent or emergency contact person.

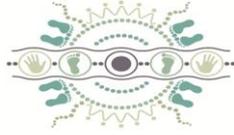
Educators will closely monitor the child focusing on the symptoms displayed and how the child behaves

and be alert to the possibility of symptoms that may suggest the child is very sick and needing urgent medical assistance.

Educators will:

- understand the differences between *concerning and serious symptoms*
- if any *serious symptoms* are observed (breathing difficulties, drowsiness or unresponsiveness, looking pale or blue or feeling cold)
 - an ambulance will be called immediately
- if any *concerning symptoms* are observed (lethargy, fever, poor feeding, new rash, poor urine output, irritation or pain or sensitivity to light) educators will:
 - monitor the child carefully
 - call parents/carers
 - discuss symptoms with parents/carers and help them decide whether the child needs to see a doctor
- educators will monitor the child and will consider calling an ambulance if:
 - any concerning symptoms become severe
 - the child gets worse very quickly
 - there are multiple concerning symptoms.

(Staying healthy, 6th Edition, 2024)



In the event of any child requiring ambulance transportation and medical intervention, a serious incident will be reported to the regulatory authority (Reg. 12) by the approved provider within 24 hours.

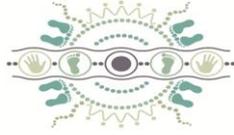
SYMPTOMS INDICATING ILLNESS MAY INCLUDE:

- behaviour that is unusual for the individual child
- high temperature or fevers
- loose bowels
- faeces that are grey, pale or contains blood
- vomiting
- discharge from the eye or ear
- skin that displays rashes, blisters, spots, crusty or weeping sores
- loss of appetite
- poor urine output/dark urine
- headaches
- stiff muscles or joint pain
- continuous scratching of scalp or skin
- difficulty in swallowing or complaining of a sore throat
- persistent, prolonged or severe coughing
- difficulty breathing
- a stiff neck or sensitivity to light
- excessively running nose

(This is not an exhaustive list of indicators of illness)

HIGH TEMPERATURES OR FEVERS

Children get fevers or temperatures for all kinds of reasons. Most fevers and the illnesses that cause them last only a few days. However sometimes a fever will last much longer and might be the sign of an underlying chronic or long-term illness or disease. Recognised authorities suggest a child's normal temperature will range between 36.0°C and 37.0°C, but this will often depend on the age of the child and the time of day.



WHEN A CHILD DEVELOPS A HIGH TEMPERATURE OR FEVER AT PRESCHOOL

If a child becomes ill whilst at preschool, educators will respond to their individual symptoms of illness and provide comfort and care. Educators will closely monitor the child focusing on how the child looks and behaves and be alert to the possibility of vomiting, coughing or convulsions. The child will be cared for in an area that is separated from other children in the service to await pick up from their parent/guardian.

- Educators will notify parents when a child registers a temperature of 38°C
- The child will need to be collected from preschool as soon as possible (within 30 minutes)
- Children will not be permitted to return to preschool for 24 hours after the temperature coming back down to normal without the need of any paracetamol
- Educators will complete an *Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness* record on OWNA and note down any other symptoms that may have developed along with the temperature (for example, a rash, vomiting, etc.).
- Emergency services will be contacted immediately should the child have trouble breathing, becomes drowsy or unresponsive or suffers a convulsion.

In the event of any child requiring ambulance transportation and medical intervention, a serious incident will be reported to the regulatory authority (Reg. 86) by the approved provider.

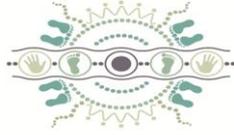
METHODS TO REDUCE A CHILD'S TEMPERATURE OR FEVER

- encourage the child to drink small sips of water regularly
- remove excessive clothing (shoes, socks, jumpers, pants etc.). Educators will be mindful of cultural beliefs.
- parents/guardian will be contacted by phone and informed of their child's temperature

RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS

Respiratory symptoms include cough, sneezing, runny or blocked nose and sore throat. It is not unusual

for children to have five or more colds a year, and children in education and care services may have as many as 8–12 colds a year. A runny or blocked nose is a common symptom for many respiratory



conditions or diseases which may be infectious such as a cold, influenza or COVID. Some causes, however, are not infectious such as allergies (hay fever).

As each child may have different symptoms of a respiratory illness, our Service will consider exclusion based on the severity of the symptoms and the child's behaviour. Children can become distressed and lethargic when unwell and should be at home with a parent or carer under close supervision.

A child will be excluded from the Service if:

- the respiratory symptoms are severe or;
- the symptoms become worse during the course of the day (more frequent or severe) or;
- the child has other concerning symptoms (fever, tiredness, pain, poor feeding).

(Staying healthy, 6th Edition, 2024).

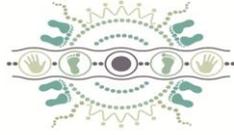
DIARRHOEA AND VOMITING (GASTROENTERITIS)

Gastroenteritis (or 'gastro') is a general term for an illness of the digestive system. Typical symptoms include abdominal cramps, diarrhoea, and vomiting. In many cases, it does not need treatment, and symptoms disappear in a few days.

However, gastroenteritis can cause dehydration because of the large amount of fluid lost through vomiting and diarrhoea. Therefore, if a child does not receive enough fluids, he/she may require fluids intravenously. If a child has diarrhoea and/or vomiting whilst at preschool, management will notify parents or an emergency contact to collect the child immediately. In the event of an outbreak of viral gastroenteritis, management will contact the local Public Health Unit.

[Public Health Unit- Local state and territory health departments](#) . An outbreak is when two or more children or staff have a sudden onset of diarrhoea or vomiting in a 2-day period. Management must document the number of cases, dates of onset, duration of symptoms. (See: *Illness or Infectious Disease Register*.)

Staff and children that have had diarrhoea and/or vomiting will be excluded from the Service until there

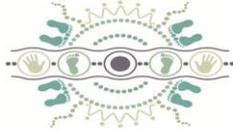


has not been any diarrhoea or vomiting for at least 24 hours. If an outbreak is confirmed, this will be extended to 48 hours. If the diarrhoea or vomiting are confirmed to be norovirus, they will be excluded until there has not been any diarrhoea or vomiting for at least 48 hours. Staff who handle food will be excluded from the Service for up to 48 hours after they have stopped vomiting or having diarrhoea. [Staying healthy, 2024.]

An *Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness Record* on OWNA must be completed as per regulations. Notifications for serious illnesses must be lodged with the regulatory authority and Public Health Unit.

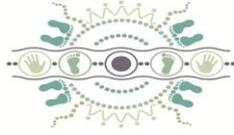
NOTIFYING FAMILIES AND EMERGENCY CONTACT- ILLNESS OR INFECTIOUS ILLNESS

- It is a requirement of QDPA that all emergency contacts are able to pick up an ill child within a 30-minute timeframe
- In the event that the ill child is not collected in a timely manner, or should parents refuse to collect the child, a warning letter will be sent to the families outlining QDPA policies and requirements. The letter of warning will specify that if there is a future breach of this nature, the child's position may be terminated.
- Parents or guardians are notified as soon as practicable and no later than 24 hours of the illness, accident, or trauma occurring
- Families will be notified of any outbreak of an infectious illness (e.g.: Gastroenteritis, whooping cough) within the preschool via our notice board, online app or email to assist in reducing the spread of the illness
- When a child has been diagnosed with an illness or infectious disease, the preschool will refer to information about recommended exclusion periods from the Public Health Unit (PHU) and *Staying healthy: Preventing infectious diseases in early childhood education and care services*.
- Exclusion periods for illness and infectious diseases are provided to families and included in our Family Handbook and *Dealing with Infectious Disease Policy*.

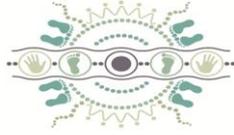


THE APPROVED PROVIDER/ MANAGEMENT/NOMINATED SUPERVISOR/RESPONSIBLE PERSON AND EDUCATORS WILL ENSURE:

- that obligations under the *Education and Care Services National Law and National Regulations* are met and child's safety and wellbeing are prioritised at all times
- educators, staff, students, visitors and volunteers have knowledge of and adhere to this policy and associated procedure and are advised on how and where the policy can be accessed
- every reasonable precaution is taken to protect children from harm and hazards likely to cause injury
- all educators, staff and students are aware of their mandatory reporting obligations and responsibilities
- staff, educators, volunteers, and students adhere to the National Model Code and [Guidelines](#) and not use, or have access to, any personal electronic devices, including mobile phones to take images or videos when educating and caring for children at the preschool
- each child's enrolment records include authorisations by a parent or person named in the record for the approved provider, nominated supervisor or educator to seek medical treatment for the child from a registered medical practitioner, hospital or ambulance service and if required, transportation by an ambulance service
- accurate attendance records are kept at all times
- parents or guardians are notified as soon as practicable and no later than 24 hours of the illness, accident, or trauma occurring
- any incident, injury, trauma, illness or allegation of physical or sexual abuse to a child whilst being educated and care for, is recorded as soon after the event as possible (within 24 hours)
- an *Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness Record* is completed accurately and in a timely manner as soon after the event as possible (within 24 hours)
- if the incident, situation or event presents imminent or severe risk to the health, safety and wellbeing of any person present at the preschool, or if an ambulance was called in response to the emergency (not as a precaution), the regulatory authority will be notified within 24 hours of the incident
- the regulatory authority is notified of any allegation of physical or sexual abuse within 24 hours of the incident, or within 24 hours of the approved provider being aware of any incident or allegation using the NQA ITS incident form
- families are advised to keep their child home until they are feeling well, and they have not had any symptoms for at least 24-48 hours (depending upon the illness and exclusion periods)
- children or staff members who are diagnosed with an illness or infectious disease may be excluded as per recommended exclusion periods
- families are notified of any infectious disease circulating the preschool within 24 hours of detection



- a child who has not been immunised will be excluded from the preschool if a vaccine preventable disease is reported within the preschool community and that child is deemed to be in danger of contracting the illness.
- families of a child with complex and chronic medical conditions will be notified in the event of an outbreak of an illness or infectious disease that could compromise their health
- families are notified to collect their child if they have vomited or had diarrhoea whilst at the preschool
- a review of practices is conducted following an outbreak of illness or infectious diseases at the preschool, including an assessment of areas for improvement
- first aid kits are suitably equipped and checked on a termly basis
- first aid kits are easily accessible when children are present at the preschool and during excursions
- that the following qualified people are in attendance at all times the preschool is providing education and care to children [Reg. 136]
 - at least one educator, staff member or nominated supervisor who holds a current ACECQA approved first aid qualification including emergency life support and CPR resuscitation
 - at least one educator, staff member or nominated supervisor of the preschool who has undertaken current approved anaphylaxis management training
 - at least one educator, staff member or nominated supervisor of the preschool who has undertaken current approved emergency asthma management training
- educators or staff who have diarrhoea or an infectious disease do not prepare food for others for at least 48 hours after the symptoms have resolved
- cold food is kept cold (below 5 °C) and hot food, hot (above 60°C) to discourage the growth of bacteria
- staff and children always practice appropriate hand hygiene and cough and sneezing etiquette
- appropriate cleaning practices are followed
- toys and equipment are cleaned and disinfected on a regular basis, or cleaned immediately if a child who is unwell has mouthed or used these toys or resources
- additional cleaning will be implemented during any outbreak of an infectious illness or virus
- information regarding the health and wellbeing of a child or staff member is not shared with others unless consent has been provided, in writing, or provided the disclosure is required or authorised by law under relevant state/territory legislation

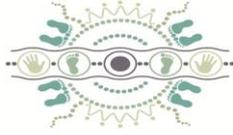


FAMILIES WILL:

- adhere to QDPA's policies regarding *Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness*
- provide authorisation in the child's enrolment record for the approved provider, nominated supervisor or educator to seek medical treatment from a medical practitioner, hospital or ambulance service and if required, transportation by ambulance service (families are advised the cost of an ambulance is not covered by QDPA)
- provide up to date medical and contact information in case of an emergency
- provide emergency contact details and ensure details are kept up to date
- ensure that their child is able to be collected from the preschool within a 30-minute timeframe if required due to illness by either a parent or emergency contact
- provide the preschool with all relevant medical information, including Medicare and private health insurance (where applicable)
- provide a copy of their child's medical management plans and update these annually or whenever medication/medical needs change
- adhere to recommended periods of exclusion if their child has a virus or infectious illness
- keep up to date with their child's immunisation, providing a copy of the updated AIR Immunisation History Statement to the Service following each immunisation on the National Immunisation Schedule
- complete documentation as requested by the educator and/or approved provider- *Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness record* and acknowledge that they were made aware of the incident, injury, trauma or illness
- inform the preschool if their child has an infectious disease or illness
- provide evidence as required from doctors or specialists that the child is fit to return to care if required- including post-surgery
- complete and acknowledge details in the *Administration of Medication Record* if required.

BREACH OF POLICY

Staff members or educators who fail to adhere to this policy may be in breach of their terms of employment and may face disciplinary action.



RESOURCES

[beyou Natural Disaster Resource](#)

[Emerging Minds Community Trauma Toolkit](#)

[Common cold fact sheet](#)

[Concussion and mild head injury](#)

[Exclusion for common or concerning conditions](#)

[NSW Health Gastro Pack NSW Health](#)

NSW Health [Stopping the spread of childhood infections factsheet.](#)

[Staying healthy- 6th Edition Fact sheets](#)

[Time Out Keeping your child and other kids healthy!](#) (Queensland Government)

Time Out Brochure [Why do I need to keep my child at home?](#)

The Sydney Children's Hospitals network (2020). [Fever](#)

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT/REFLECTION

The *Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness Policy* will be evaluated and reviewed on an annual basis or earlier if there are changes to legislation, ACECQA guidance or incidents related to child safety or celebration practices. Feedback will be requested from children, families, staff, educators and management and notification of any change to policies will be made to families within 14 days.

SOURCES

Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority. (2025). [Guide to the National Quality Framework](#)

Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority. (2025). [Policy and Procedure Guidelines. Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness Guidelines.](#)

Australian Government Department of Education. (2022). [Belonging, Being and Becoming: The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia. V2.0.](#)

BeYou (2024) [Natural disaster Response](#)

Early Childhood Australia Code of Ethics. (2016).

Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010. (Amended 2023).

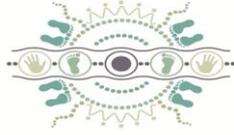
[Education and Care Services National Regulations.](#) (Amended 2023).

Health Direct <https://www.healthdirect.gov.au/>

National Health and Medical Research Council. (2024). [Staying healthy: Preventing infectious diseases in early childhood education and care services. 6th Edition.](#)

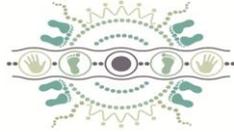
Raising Children Network: <https://raisingchildren.net.au/guides/a-z-health-reference/fever>

SafeWork Australia: [First Aid](#)



REVIEW

| Version Control | Date | Author | Description of Change |
|-----------------|----------------|--------|--|
| 1.0 | | QDPA | Original document |
| 2.0 | 2018 | QDPA | Scheduled review |
| 3.0 | July 21 | QDPA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Document reviewed with change in leadership team in 2021. Additional related regulations & NQS references added. Version control and description box added to clarify reviewed items/new inclusions. Format change to include policy statement, purpose, scope and implementation, addition of footers and page numbering and general layout changes. Policy name amended to include incidents, illnesses & trauma. Former Critical Incident Policy incorporated. |
| 4.0 | April 2023 | QDPA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> annual policy maintenance name change of Control of Infectious Disease Policy to <i>Dealing with Infectious Disease Policy</i> reference to ELYF updated to V2.0 vaccination requirements for COVID 19 removed. updated information on managing positive COVID cases added. hyperlinks checked and repaired as required. continuous improvement section and Resource section added. procedure removed from policy (available as a separate document) Added collection with 30 minutes if child sent home unwell. Added administration of paracetamol procedures Added requests from parent for child not to participate in any area of the program due to being unwell will not be accommodated. Added child to be sent home with any head injury |
| 5.0 | September 2024 | QDPA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> major review of policy rearranged content of policy and responsibilities to align with policy title (incident, injury, trauma and illness) merged contents of <i>Sick Children's Policy</i> into this current policy sources checked for currency and repaired as required |



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|-----|---------------|------|---|
| 6.0 | December 2025 | QDPA | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• annual policy review• policy updated to adhere to changes in National Regulations- child safety• additional section added- Physical and Sexual Abuse and notification requirements to regulatory authority• additional child safe practices added- Safe Use of Digital Technologies and Online Environments (National Model Code)• sources updated• edits to head injury management• added information on reviewing/reflecting/identifying areas for improvement following an incident, injury, trauma or illness• sources updated as required |
|-----|---------------|------|---|