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MEDICATION AND HEALTH STATEMENT

QUALITY AREA 2: CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND SAFETY

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National Quality Standard (NQS)

Quality Area 2: Children's Health and Safety		
2.1	Health	Each child's health is promoted
2.1.1	Wellbeing and comfort	Each child's wellbeing and comfort is provided for including appropriate opportunities to meet each child's need for sleep, rest and relaxation
2.1.2	Health practices and procedures	Effective illness and injury management and hygiene practices are promoted and implemented
2.1.3	Healthy lifestyle	Healthy eating and physical activity are promoted and appropriate for each child
2.2.2	Incident and emergency management	Plans to effectively manage incidents and emergencies are developed in consultation with relevant authorities, practised and implemented

Education and Care Services National Regulations

Children (Education and Care Services) National Law Act	
77	Health, hygiene and safe food practices
87	Incident, injury, trauma and illness record
90	Medical conditions policy
92	Medication record
93	Administration of medication
94	Exception to authorisation requirement – anaphylaxis or asthma emergency
95	Procedure for administration of medication

96	Self-administration of medication
136	First aid qualifications
162	Health information to be kept in enrolment record
168	Education and Care Service must have policies and procedures
177	Prescribed enrolment and other documents to be kept by approved provider
181	Confidentiality of records kept by approved provider
183	Storage of records and other documents
184	Storage of records after service approval transfer

"All children have the right to experience quality education and care in an environment that provides for their health and safety". Guide to the National Quality Standard – ACECQA

Introduction

This statement has been developed to provide an overview of the areas of medication and health covered by policies developed and maintained by Woden Early Childhood Centre (WECC). Maintaining a healthy and safe environment for educators, children and families is paramount for high quality education and care

Scope

This policy applies to children, families, staff, management and visitors of the Service.

Goals – What are we aiming to do?

WECC will define policies and procedures relating to the area of medication and health. These policies, informed by the National Regulations and Quality Standards, will describe responsibilities, procedures and practices that will guide practice in WECC. These practices aim to provide a clean, healthy and safe environment for educators, children and families.

Strategies – How will it be done?

The Nominated Supervisor or Director will:

- ensure that all educators, students and volunteers at WECC implement adequate health and hygiene practices
- ensure that educators have the skills, training and expertise required to support the inclusion of children with additional health needs
- ensure that educators follow procedures and guidelines set out by the *ACT Department of Health* and the *Education and Care Services National Regulations* to keep the environment safe
- maintain information in the enrolment records of all children regarding health and medications in accordance with legislative requirements and with reference to WECC policies regarding record keeping and confidentiality

The Nominated Supervisor or Director and educators will work with families to:

- regularly review health and medication policies in collaboration with educators and families
- develop risk minimisation plans for children who have specific health care needs
- liaise with health professionals in the community to ensure that knowledge is updated and shared with

families

- facilitate effective care and health management for children who are taking medications for health problems, prevention and/or the management of acute episodes of illness or medical emergencies through the safe administration of medication

WECC defines the aims of this statement through specific health and medication policies that will guide practice within WECC.

These are:

- Anaphylaxis Management
- Asthma Management
- *Authorisations*
- First aid
- Hygiene and infection control
- Immunisation
- Incident, injury, trauma and illness
- Infectious diseases
- Medical conditions
- Medication administration
- Nutrition, food, beverages and dietary requirements
- Risk management

Evaluation

WECC maintains a safe and healthy environment for children, families and educators by developing and following policies and legislative guidelines.

Related policies /documents

- *Anaphylaxis Management*
- *Asthma Management*
- *Authorisations*
- *Bottle safety and preparation*
- *Cleaning and maintaining the environment*
- *Confidentiality*
- *Dental Health*
- *Diabetes Management*
- *Enrolment and orientation*
- *First aid*
- *Hygiene and infection control*
- *Immunisation*
- *Incident, injury, trauma and illness*
- *Infectious diseases*
- *Medical conditions*
- *Medication administration*
- *Nutrition, food, beverages and dietary requirements*
- *Risk management and procedures*
- *Safe storage of dangerous goods*
- *Toileting*

Statutory legislation and considerations

- ACT Public Health Act 1997
- Children's (Education and Care Services National Law Application) Act 2010
- Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011
- Guide to the National Quality Standard – ACECQA
- National Immunisation Programme (NIP) Schedule, Australia

Sources and references

- National Health and Medical Research Council – www.nhmrc.gov.au
- ACT Department of Health – www.health.act.gov.au
- Immunise Australia Program – www.immunise.health.gov.au
- Australian Society of Clinical Immunology and Asthma (ASCIA) – www.allergy.org.au
- NSW Poisons Information Centre (Covers ACT) – www.poisonsinfo.nsw.gov.au
- Early Childhood Australia (ECA) – www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au
- Staying Healthy in Education and Care – 5th Edition
- ECA Code of Ethics

Authorisation

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