

Hand Washing Policy

2018

National Quality Standard

2.1.2	Effective illness and injury management and hygiene practices are promoted and implemented.
2.2.1	At all times, reasonable precautions and adequate supervision ensure children are protected from harm and hazard.
2.2.2	Plans to effectively manage incidents and emergencies are developed in consultation with relevant authorities, practised and implemented.

National Regulations

77	Health, hygiene and safe food practices
85	Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness policies
88	Infectious Diseases
90	Medical Conditions policy
93	Administration of Medication
109	Toilet and Hygiene facilities

Aim

This centre is committed to the provision of:

- * A clean and hygienic environment.
- * An environment which provides infection control methods to minimise the spread and risks of infectious diseases and illnesses in children, staff, and any other persons in attendance at the centre.

Who is affected by this Policy?

- * Management
- * Educators
- * Children
- * Families
- *

Implementation

- * All staff will ensure soap and drying facilities are available at all times when children are in attendance.
- * Encouraging and assisting (where required) children to wash their hands according to Hand Washing Guidelines (Appendix 1) after toileting
- * Ensuring toileting facilities are maintained in a safe, clean and hygienic manner whilst children are in attendance. This requires periodic checking of the bathroom area
- * Educating and encouraging children in good personal hygiene practices such as hand washing according to correct hand washing procedures

Hand Washing Procedure

- Wet hands with running water
- Use liquid soap and spread over hands
- Rub your hands vigorously as you wash them. Do this for approx 20 seconds
- Wash your hands all over. Pay particular attention to wash the palms and backs of hands, in between fingers, under fingernails and around the wrists.
- Rinse your hands thoroughly to remove all suds and germs. Thorough rinsing will help prevent dermatitis from suds
- Turn off tap using paper towel.
- Pat dry your hands with a new paper towel.
- Dispose of paper towel in bin.

When To Wash Hands

- * On arrival at the centre
- * Before handling food
- * Before eating
- * After changing a nappy
- * After removing gloves
- * After going to the toilet
- * After cleaning up blood, faeces or vomit
- * After wiping a nose, a child's or your own
- * After helping a child in the bathroom
- * Before giving medication
- * After handling garbage
- * After coming in from outside play
- * Before going home

When to wash the children's hands

- * On arrival at the centre (suggested practice for parents to implement)
- * Before and after eating and handling food
- * After having their nappy changed
- * After going to the toilet
- * After touching nose secretions
- * After coming in contact with blood, faeces or vomit
- * Before going home. (Suggested practice for parents to implement)

Sources

Australian Childhood Immunisation Register: <http://www.medicareaustralia.gov.au/public/services/acir/index.jsp>

Early Childhood Australia: <http://www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au/>

The Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority: <http://www.acecqa.gov.au/>

Department of Health NSW

Kidsafe: www.kidsafe.com.au

Review

Last Reviewed: 19/52018

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