



INFECTIOUS DISEASES POLICY

2021

**THE—
AFTER
SCHOOL
KLUB—**

INFECTIOUS DISEASES POLICY 2020

NATIONAL QUALITY STANDARD (NQS)

QUALITY AREA 2: CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND SAFETY		
2.1.1	Wellbeing and comfort	Each child's wellbeing and comfort is provided for, including appropriate opportunities to meet each child's needs for sleep, rest and relaxation.
2.1.2	Health practices and procedures	Effective illness and injury management and hygiene practices are promoted and implemented.
2.2	Safety	Each child is protected.

EDUCATION AND CARE SERVICES NATIONAL REGULATIONS	
77	Health, hygiene and safe food practices
85	Incident, injury, trauma and illness policies and procedures
86	Notification to parents of incident, injury, trauma and illness
87	Incident, injury, trauma and illness record
88	Infectious diseases
90	Medical conditions policy
162	Health information to be kept in enrolment record

Purpose

The way that children interact with each other and with adults in education and care services means that diseases can quickly spread in a variety of ways. Whilst it is not possible to prevent the spread of all infections and diseases, minimising the risk is enhanced through:

- effective hand hygiene
- exclusion of ill children, educators and other staff
- immunisation

Our Service has a duty of care to ensure that children families, educators, and visitors of the Service are provided with a high level of protection during the hours of the Service's operation.

In order to prevent the spread of infectious diseases through interpersonal contact, our service will adhere to the exclusion period table, published by the Department of Health.

Responsibilities of the Approved Provider

- Ensure the service operates in line with the Children (Education and Care Services) National Law (NSW) 2010 and Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011.
- Ensure children are protected from harm by ensuring relevant policies and procedures are followed regarding health and safety within the Service.
- Ensuring that where there is an occurrence of an infectious disease at the service, reasonable steps are taken to prevent the spread of that infectious disease (**National Regulation 88(1)**).
- Ensuring that where there is an occurrence of an infectious disease at the service, a parent/guardian or authorised emergency contact of each child at the service is notified of the occurrence as soon as is practicable.
- As soon as practicable, a family member or authorised emergency contact of each child being cared for must be notified of the occurrence (**National Regulation 88(2)**).
- Notifying the Regulatory Authority and parent/guardian within 24 hours of a serious incident including when a child becomes ill at the service or medical attention is sought while the child is attending the service (**National Regulation 86**).
- Ensure the medical conditions policy is given to families.
- Keeping informed about current legislation, information, research and best practice.

Responsibilities of the Nominated Supervisor

- Notifying a parent/guardian or authorised emergency contact person when a symptom of an excludable infectious illness or disease has been observed.
- Ensuring that a minimum of one staff with current approved first aid qualifications is in attendance and immediately available at all times the service is in operation (**National Regulation 136**).
- Establishing good hygiene and infection control procedures and ensuring that they are adhered to by everyone at the service.
- Ensuring the exclusion requirements for infectious diseases are adhered to as per the recommended minimum exclusion periods, notifying the Approved Provider and parents/guardians of any outbreak of infectious disease at the service, and displaying this information in a prominent position.
- Maintaining confidentiality at all times.
- Ensuring that an “Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness” record is completed as soon as practicable or no later than 24 hours of the illness occurring (**National Regulation 86**).
- A hygienic environment is maintained.
- Children do not attend the Service if they are unwell. If a child has been sick they must be well for **24hrs** before returning to the Service.

Responsibilities of the Educators

- Ensure that any children that are suspected of having an infectious illness are responded to and their health and emotional needs supported at all times.
- Implement appropriate health and safety procedures, when tending to ill children.
- Ensure that families are aware of the need to collect their children as soon as practicable to ensure the child’s comfort.
- Maintaining confidentiality at all times.

Responsibilities of the Families

- Providing Immunisation documentation upon enrolment and as the child receives subsequent immunisations.
- Keep their children at home if they are unwell or have an excludable infectious disease.
- Where a child has an acceptable exemption, keep the children at home when an infectious disease has been confirmed at the service and the child is not fully immunised against that infectious disease, until there are no more occurrences of that disease and the exclusion period has ceased.
- Inform the service if their child has an infectious disease or has been in contact with a person who has an infectious disease.

Immunisation Requirements

<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Publications/immunisation-enrolment-toolkit.pdf>