

## Quality Area 2: Children's Health and Safety Early Childhood Education

### Acceptance or Refusal of Authorisations Procedure

ECMS has legal, moral and ethical responsibilities for all the children participating in our services, as well as our employees, Educators, families, volunteers and the community.

This procedure outline is to be followed when refusing a written authorisation from a parent/guardian or person authorised and named in the enrolment record.

#### The risk/benefit assessment

The risk/benefit assessment will be conducted to determine the most appropriate course of action. This will be a consultative process guided by these beliefs:

- The wellbeing, health and safety of the ECMS community are our highest priorities. We believe that resilience is a vital component of health and wellbeing. Children need to experience risk to develop the skills to identify and respond appropriately to the hazards they will encounter throughout life
- To build resilience children need to experience difficulty and be exposed to risk so they can learn how to handle challenges and setbacks. Teaching children how to assess potential hazards, identify and respond to risks gives them skills to keep themselves and others safe.

#### Procedure

The responsible person/Nominated Supervisor and Educators will:

- Implement the Medical Conditions, Medication, Delivery and Collection and Excursion policies
- Undertake a risk/benefit assessment in consultation with the family whenever a parent/guardian or authorised nominee provides written authorisation for a child to:
  1. Self-administer medication

A child over preschool age may self-administer medication if written authorisation is provided by a person with the authority to consent to the administration of

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medication. The medical conditions policy includes practices for self-administration of medication (see Health Information and Medication policies).

2. Attend an excursion

Undertake a risk/benefit analysis in consultation with the family whenever the risk assessment for an excursion indicates that ECMS is not able to adequately protect a child or children from hazards or is not able to provide for their particular needs and wellbeing.

The risk assessment for an excursion may indicate that the particular needs and/or safety and wellbeing of a child or group of children may not be able to be met.

3. Be collected at the service in accordance with the written authorisation named in the child's enrolment record

The National Law does not specify the minimum age of a person who is authorised to collect a child from the service premises. Our Delivery and Collection policy and procedure does not specify an age. It requires the undertaking of a risk/benefit assessment involving the Area Manager, the Nominated Supervisor and parent/guardian.

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