

# Early Childhood Management Services

## Quality Area 2: Dealing with Infectious Diseases Policy Early Childhood Education

### Dealing with Infectious Diseases Policy

#### Purpose

To protect and promote the health, safety and wellbeing of all children in ECMS services and minimise the risk of injury, illness and the spread of infections.

To inform and educate the service, families and community on how to manage childhood illness, safety and wellbeing in an early childhood environment.

#### Principles

ECMS:

- Identifies three aspects to managing infectious diseases: exclusion, immunisation and effective hand washing hygiene practices
- Respects the primary role of families; their values and expectations will be considered when assessing risk and making decisions about infection control and other health issues
- Values and nurtures the uniqueness of each child and listens to children and includes them in decision making
- Responds to the specific and unique needs of the children; each child will be considered individually when assessing risk and making decisions about infection control and other health issues
- Provides access to resources and opportunities for learning; families will be provided with information about illness and injury prevention
- Recognises that children are both vulnerable and capable; children will be taught to care for their own and others' health and wellbeing
- Ensures the commitment to child health and safety is clear and shared by all
- Educates staff, students and volunteers about child health and safety.

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## Scope

All ECMS staff and all families attending ECMS services.

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Relevant Legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and Care Services National Law 2010: Section 167, 174</li> <li>• Education and Care National Regulations 2011: Regulations 77,85 - 97, 160 - 162, 168, 176 - 178</li> <li>• Education and Care Services National Regulations: Regulation 4, 88, 162, 168 (2) (c)</li> <li>• Health Infectious Diseases Regulations 2001</li> <li>• Public Health and Wellbeing Regulations 2009</li> <li>• Information Privacy Act 2000</li> <li>• Health Records Act 2001</li> </ul>
Relevant ECMS policy and procedure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infection Control Procedure</li> <li>• Immunisation Policy and Procedure</li> </ul>
Relevant NQS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• QA 2: Children’s health and safety</li> <li>• QA 5: Relationships with children</li> <li>• QA 6: Collaborative partnerships with families and children</li> <li>• QA&amp;: Leadership and service management</li> </ul>
References and resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infection Control Guidelines / minimum period of exclusion from primary schools and children’s service centres for infectious diseases <a href="http://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/infectious-diseases/infection-control-guidelines">www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/infectious-diseases/infection-control-guidelines</a></li> <li>• Infectious diseases <a href="http://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/infectious-diseases">www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/infectious-diseases</a></li> <li>• Guidelines for the control of infectious diseases <a href="http://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/infectious-diseases/disease-information-advice">www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/infectious-diseases/disease-information-advice</a></li> <li>• Better Health – Immunisation <a href="http://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/healthyliving/immunisation">www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/healthyliving/immunisation</a></li> <li>• Communicable Disease Prevention and Control Unit, Department of Health. Telephone: 1300 651 160 After hours: 1300 790 733 Email: <a href="mailto:infectious.diseases@health.vic.gov.au">infectious.diseases@health.vic.gov.au</a></li> <li>• National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)’s Staying Healthy in Child Care (replaces the 4<sup>th</sup> edition)</li> </ul>

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	<p><a href="https://nhmrc.gov.au/about-us/publications/staying-healthy-preventing-infectious-diseases-early-childhood-education-and-care-services">https://nhmrc.gov.au/about-us/publications/staying-healthy-preventing-infectious-diseases-early-childhood-education-and-care-services</a> or email <a href="mailto:health@nationalmailing.com.au">health@nationalmailing.com.au</a> or telephone 02 6269 1080</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hand Hygiene Australia <a href="http://www.hha.org.au">www.hha.org.au</a></li> <li>• World Health Organisation (WHO): Alcohol-based hand rubs risks / hazards <a href="http://www.who.int/gpsc/tools/faqs/abhr2/en/">www.who.int/gpsc/tools/faqs/abhr2/en/</a></li> <li>• Head lice <a href="http://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/infectious-diseases/head-lice">www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/infectious-diseases/head-lice</a></li> </ul>
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