



Dealing with Infectious Diseases Policy & Procedure

Augusta Park Childhood Services Centre strongly promotes childhood and adult immunisation. Immunisation protects the person who has been immunised, children who are too young to be vaccinated, and other people who have been vaccinated but did not respond to the vaccine. The most accessible locations for vaccination are at your family GP or Doctor's Surgery. Augusta Park Childhood Services Centre is committed to providing and maintaining a safe and healthy environment for families, children and educators and aims to prevent the spread of infection. Infections can be spread when a child or adult is diagnosed with an infectious disease, before and/or after they show symptoms of an infectious disease. Any symptoms of infectious diseases that show in an adult or child within the Centre will be handled in accordance with the guidelines in the Department of Health and Community Services "Staying Healthy in Child Care" publication. If symptoms occur while the child is at the Centre and indicate that the child may be contagious or if a fever occurs, parents/carers will be contacted and asked to collect their child within an hour.

The Director will:

- inform educators at induction of the risk of working with children, infection control and infectious diseases
- encourage educators to have immunisations
- advise educators upon an outbreak of an infectious disease within the Preschool
- regularly review Preschool policies in regard to health and wellbeing
- inform parents that if their child has not been immunised, depending on advice from the public health unit, their child may be excluded during outbreaks of some infectious diseases (such as measles and whooping cough) even if the child is well
- require families to provide evidence of their child's immunisation status (using MyGov)

Educators will:

- contact the child's parent/guardian if they are showing symptoms of an infectious disease
- monitor the child's wellbeing including temperature
- advise the parent/guardian of the exclusion guidelines as advised in Staying Healthy in Child Care
- advise all families of an infectious disease outbreak within the Preschool by placing notices next to the sign in sheet and displaying the communicable disease sign on the entry gate
- advise parents/guardians of an outbreak of an infectious disease in person if their child has an immunity impairment
- advise the Director if they have contracted an infectious disease and not attend work for the recommended exclusion period and provide a medical certificate upon return to work if requested
- keep the Director up to date with current and subsequent immunisation information
- notify the Department of SA Health Communicable Diseases regarding any notifiable disease as outlined on the Report of Notifiable Diseases or Related Death

Parents will:

- provide documentation of their child's immunisations at enrolment and as requested
- inform the Director if their child has been diagnosed with an infectious disease
- exclude their child from attending the Preschool for the advised exclusion period
- provide a medical clearance certificate before their child returns to the Preschool (if requested)

SOURCED: Adelaide Women's & Children's Hospital Staying Healthy in Child Care 5th edition "You've Got What?" 4th Edition 2009, Govt of SA Children's Services Child Care Centre Regulations 1998 Public and Environmental Health Act 1987 Wash Wipe Cover – SA Infection Control Service Australian Government National Health & Medical Research Council and Department for Education Immunisation requirements and early childhood services Policy 16th November 2020

Dealing with Infectious Diseases Policy & Procedure, revised February 2021. Next review February 2022.

Approved by Director: Heather Honan

Approved by Governing Council Chairperson: Name: Abby Walker