

Health and Safety

We have available to us a team of DECD specialists. They specialise in the areas of child development, including special educators, speech pathologists, hearing impairment coordinators, psychologists, social workers and behaviour support coordinators. Should you have any concerns about your child's development, please see the Director. Children who are identified as needing extra support can be referred to these specialists. Children who are eligible are then entitled to extra support time while at kindergarten.

Unwell children:

Please do not send your child to the centre with a significantly runny nose, excessive sneezing, or a cough as it is impossible for educators to isolate children and infection may spread amongst other children. If your child is unwell, it is in their and others best interests to remain at home until fully recovered. This will help stop the spread of infection. If your child is going to be absent please notify by phoning the kindergarten.

Should your child become unwell or be involved in an accident while at the centre you will be notified. For this reason it is important that telephone numbers and emergency contacts are kept up to date at all times.

Infectious diseases & exclusion policy:

Please let an educator know if your child has an infectious illness (chicken pox, measles etc..) so that we can notify other parents. The centre follows the recommendations and guidelines contained in the document "staying Healthy in Child Care", published by the National Health and Medical Research Council.

If your child has vomiting and/or diarrhoea they should not return to the centre until they have been symptom free for 48 hours and do not have loose bowel actions.

As a centre, we don't have the facilities to look after sick children for extended periods.

Allergies:

Please ensure the kindergarten has received written guidelines or action plans for all allergies and is up to date with any allergies your child may have to food, medicines, creams etc.

Head lice:

Please help us to minimise this problem by:

- regularly checking your child's hair
- tie long hair back
- notifying your child's educator immediately
- should you detect any evidence follow the best available practices to eliminate infestation.

Immunisation:

On enrolment, parents are required to provide documentation of their child's immunisation record. It will then be noted on your child's enrolment form that there immunisation

schedule is up to date and documentation has been sighted. If there are medical reasons for a child not to be immunised, or a parent has a personal, philosophical or other objection to immunisation, a statutory declaration stating the reasons for non-immunisation needs to be completed. If a child is not immunised he/ she may be excluded from the centre during outbreaks of some infectious diseases, even if not displaying any symptoms.

Asthma:

Parents of children who suffer from asthma are required to complete an Asthma Management Plan in conjunction with their medical practitioner, which provides the educator with further knowledge about the child; what is likely to trigger the child's asthma and the Action Plan on how to best treat the child in the event of an asthma attack. These forms need to be completed prior to the child attending the Centre.

Medication:

Parents will be encouraged to administer prescription medication where possible before and after sessions at the Centre. The Medical Practitioner can prescribe children's antibiotics to be given twice daily (at home times) rather than 3-4 times a day. We acknowledge that we are not health care professionals. Some medications will be invasive and will require home administration. (eg eye drops, ear drops, nose drops, skin creams).

MEDICINES

If a child has to take medicine during the time he/she is in the Centre, written authorisation from the parent/guardian must be sent with the medication, along with instructions from a Doctor.

The container must bear the original label with the child's name, dose and time the medication is to be administered. Medication must be handed to the Director at the beginning of the day and documentation completed. An educator will administer and document the medication during the day. Parents or guardians will need to sign the documentation when they collect the child at the end of the day.

The Centre has a Policies and Procedures Folder located in the parent information rack by the front door. This is available for parents to read as it is important that all families are familiar with our policies.

You can view DECD policies online: [http://www.decd.sa.gov.au/childrensservices/pages/earlychildhoodreform/Policies and Procedures/](http://www.decd.sa.gov.au/childrensservices/pages/earlychildhoodreform/Policies%20and%20Procedures/). If children are receiving medication at home but not at the Centre, the Centre should be advised of the nature of the medication and its purpose and of any possible side effects it may have for the child.

Staff will not administer non-prescription medicines. This includes paracetamol, gum gels, creams or lotions.

Medications such as an epipen or Ventolin will be administered in an emergency.