



Child Infection Policy

Rationale:

Infection can spread rapidly in any public place where people congregate in the same room(s) and especially with children who tend to have closer and more frequent physical contact with each other and sometimes less hygienic habits. The diseases listed in the attached schedule are the most infectious and serious in consequences.

Purpose:

To prevent the transmission of infection to other children, teachers, parents or visitors at Kidiwise Early Learning Centre.

Procedures:

1. If a child develops a temperature over 37.8 degrees Celsius the parent will be called to collect their child immediately. The child is to remain away from the Centre until the child has been symptom free for 24 hours.
2. If a child has 2 diarrhea bowel motions or if a child vomits then the parent is called and the child is to be picked up immediately. The child is to remain away from the Centre until the child has been symptom free for 48 hours.
3. Children who have been sick or soiled will be cleaned in a wash area by a staff member wearing gloves. Their clothes will be soaked in hot water and disinfectant and then washed separately. Any towels or cloths used to wash the child will be soaked and washed separately also. The child will be taken to the Office and cared for in there until their parent or contact is able to collect them. The staff member will then disinfect the wash area, wash and sanitise their hands.
4. If a child arrives at the Centre who has thick green mucous coming from their nose, or who in the opinion of a Team Leader is obviously unwell, the parent will be asked to keep the child at home until they are well.
5. If a child has suspected head lice their parent/caregiver will be contacted to come and collect them immediately. They may return after the first initial treatment. Treatment is recommended every 3 to 4 days for 2 weeks to break the cycle.
6. If a staff member or child begins to feel unwell while attending the Centre, they will be asked to leave by the Team Leader.

- 7.** If a suspected illness occurs the teachers will refer to the contagious diseases chart located in the front foyer.
- 8.** If a child has a suspected contagious illness and they are unable to be picked up by a parent or guardian a staff member will isolate the child in the office until they are able to be collected.
- 9.** If a child/staff member has developed a contagious infection then advice will be recommended of the isolation period away from the Centre based on the Infectious Disease Criterion table. This will help prevent further spread of the illness.
- 10.** If there has been an infectious illness in the Centre the Person Responsible will put an information sheet by the sign in sheets explaining symptoms and advising all parents to see a doctor immediately if symptoms occur to their child at home.
- 11.** All scratches or wounds are to be covered.
- 12.** If contagious illness spreads within the Centre all staff routines, hand washing and nappy changing practices are to be monitored by Persons Responsible until all children's exclusion periods (stated in the Infectious Disease Criterion table) have ended and no new cases are evident.
- 13.** All staff are to use gloves and sanitiser spray to clean body fluids.
- 14.** The Team Leader/Office administrator is to oversee that all immunisation records are up to date.
- 15.** We ask that parents be aware of changeable weather, especially during winter months, and send children with adequate warm clothing and footwear.
- 16.** If a suspected infectious illness occurs it must be recorded by the staff member tending to the unwell child on a Record of Illness form. This should detail the child's name, date, symptoms, time, temperature and time it was taken, attempts made to comfort the child, who was contacted and when, suspected illness and the recommended exclusion period. This is to be signed by parents on pick up. When the cause is confirmed this must also be recorded.