

# D-14 Immunisation

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Epping Heights OSHC.

## NQS

QA. 2.1	Health.
QA. 2.1.1	Wellbeing and comfort.
QA. 2.1.2	Health practices and procedures.
QA. 6.1.1	Engagement with the service.
QA. 6.1.3	Families are supported.
QA. 7.1.2	Management systems.
QA. 7.2.1	Continuous improvement.

## National Regulations

Reg. 88	Infectious diseases
Reg. 162	Health information to be kept in enrolment record
Reg. 168	Education and care service must have policies and procedures

## POLICY STATEMENT

We respect the right of individual parents whether to immunise or not to immunise their children. However children who are not immunised will be excluded for the period of an outbreak that is a vaccine-preventable disease. Proof of immunisation will be sought at the enrolment stage and kept on file with the enrolment form. To help protect the Epping Heights community educators are expected to follow Public Health Orders.

## RELATED POLICIES

- Epping Heights OSHC Policy A-4: Enrolment
- Epping Heights OSHC Policy A-6: Fees
- Epping Heights OSHC Policy A-11: Maintenance of Records
- Epping Heights OSHC Policy C-2: Conditions of Employment
- Epping Heights OSHC Policy C-3: Staff Orientation and Induction
- Epping Heights OSHC Policy D-2: Hygiene
- Epping Heights OSHC Policy D-13: Illness and Infectious Disease
- Epping Heights OSHC Policy D-21: HIV/AIDS and HEP B & C

## PROCEDURE

Families will provide the Centre with a copy of their Immunisation History Statement (from the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register) upon enrolment as evidence of child's immunisation status. Where an Immunisation History Statement is not available, the Centre will may accept other pertinent documents pertaining to vaccination status. Parents will be made

aware that in the event of the outbreak of an infectious disease, their child(ren) will be excluded from the service. CCS is also not claimable. Once received, the ACIR certificate will be kept on file with the child's enrolment form.

In the event of an outbreak of vaccine-preventable disease at the Centre or school attended by children at the Centre, children not immunised will be required to stay at home for the duration of the outbreak, for their own protection.

At present there is a risk of transmission of Covid-19 among children attending schools and early education and care facilities. The Covid-19 vaccine is currently not available for children of certain ages. Public Health Orders will be followed when an appropriate Covid-19 vaccine is available for children attending Epping Heights OSHC. Families will be strongly encouraged to have their children vaccinated and provide a copy of their child/ren's updated immunisation certificate.

In the event that any child contracts a vaccine-preventable disease, The Public Health Unit will be notified:

## **NSW Health**

### **Public Health Division**

#### **1300 066 055**

Payment of fees will be required for children excluded during an outbreak of a vaccine-preventable disease. Families eligible for Child Care Subsidy, are able to elect for these days excluded from the Centre to be noted as 'approved absences'.

All staff should also maintain through immunisation, their immunity to common childhood diseases.

Staff will be encouraged to undergo immunisation for Hepatitis B if they are not already immunised. Staff will be required to provide immunisation status on employment. In line with the immunisation policy, any staff member not immunised against a vaccine-preventable disease will also be excluded for the duration of an outbreak.

As per the Public Health (Covid-19 Vaccination of Education and Care Workers) Order 2021(NSW), Education and care workers must be vaccinated

- (1) The Minister directs that an education and care worker must not carry out relevant work on or after 8 November 2021 unless the worker has:
  - (a) Had 2 doses of Covid-19 vaccine, or
  - (b) Been issued with a medical contraindication certificate.
- (2) The Minister directs that an education and care worker must provide the worker's vaccination evidence if requested by:
  - (a) A responsible person, or
  - (b) A person authorised by a responsible person.

- (3) The Minister directs that each responsible person for an education and care worker must take all reasonable steps to ensure that the education and care worker complies with the directions of this clause.
- (4) This clause does not apply to an education and care worker who carries out relevant work in an emergency.
- (5) In this clause – vaccination evidence for an education and care worker includes, until the beginning of 8 November 2021 –
  - (a) Evidence from the Australian Immunisation Register that the worker has had 1 dose of a Covid-19 vaccine, and
  - (b) Evidence of an appointment to receive a Covid-19 vaccine.

Staff will be required to provide immunisation status on employment and when their immunisation status is updated. In line with the immunisation policy, any staff member not immunised against a vaccine-preventable disease will also be excluded for the duration of an outbreak.

It is also recommended that all adults receive a booster dose of tetanus and diphtheria vaccine every ten years.

Notify issues of significance to:

NSW Early Childhood Education and Care Directorate  
Department of Education and Communities

Locked Bag 4028  
ASHFIELD NSW 2131  
Phone: (02) 02 9716 2100 or 1800 619 113 (toll free)  
Fax: (02) 9716 2162

Website: [www.det.nsw.edu.au](http://www.det.nsw.edu.au)  
E-mail: [cslicensing@dhs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:cslicensing@dhs.nsw.gov.au)

## SOURCES

- Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011
- National Quality Standard
- Children (Education and Care Services National Law Application) Act 2010
- NSW Public Health Act 2010
- Dept of Health Recommendations
- National Health and Medical Research Council 'Staying Healthy in Child Care – Preventing infectious diseases in childcare' (2006)
- Public Health (Covid-19 vaccination of Education and Care Workers) Order 2021 (NSW)

Endorsed:30/11/2021	Review Date:30/11/2023
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