

Medical Conditions Policy

To support children’s wellbeing and manage precise health requirements, our Service will work in accordance with the Education and Care Services National Regulations to ensure health related policies and procedures are developed and implemented.

National Quality Standards (NQS)

Quality Area 2: Children’s Health and Safety	
2.1.1	Each child’s health needs are supported.
2.1.4	Steps are taken to control the spread of infectious diseases and to manage injuries and illness, in accordance with recognised guidelines.
2.3.2	Every reasonable precaution is taken to protect children from harm and any hazard likely to cause injury.

Education and Care Services National Regulations	
90	Medical Conditions Policy
90(1)(iv)	Medical Conditions Communication Plan
91	Medical conditions policy to be provided to parents
92	Medication record
93	Administration of medication
94	Exception to authorisation requirement—anaphylaxis or asthma emergency
95	Procedure for administration of medication
96	Self-administration of medication

PURPOSE

We aim to efficiently respond to and manage medical conditions at the Service ensuring the safety and wellbeing of children, staff, families and visitors.

SCOPE

This policy applies to children, families, staff, management and visitors of the Service.

IMPLEMENTATION

Our Service is committed to adhering to privacy and confidential procedures when dealing with individual health requirements.

The Approved Provider/Management will ensure:

1. Educators and Staff have a clear understanding about children’s individual medical conditions
2. Communication between families and Educators is on-going and effective
3. Educators receive appropriate training in managing specific medical conditions
4. There is an Educator in attendance at all times with a current accredited first aid and CPR training for specific medical conditions
5. Educators have a clear understanding about their role and responsibilities when caring for children with a medical condition
6. Families provide required information on their child’s medical condition, including
7. Medication
8. Allergies

9. Medical Practitioner contact details
10. Medical Management Plan
11. A Medical Management Plan/Risk Minimisation Plan has been developed in consultation with families and the child's medical practitioner.
12. Educators have emergency contact information for the child
13. Casual Staff are informed of children and staff who have specific medical conditions or food allergies, the type of condition or allergies they have, and the Service's procedures for dealing with emergencies involving allergies and anaphylaxis
14. A copy of the child's medical management plan is visibly displayed and known to staff in the Service.
15. A child is not enrolled at the Service without a Medical Management Plan and prescribed medication by their medical practitioner. In particular, medication that is life threatening such as asthma inhalers, adrenaline auto injection devices and Insulin.

Families will ensure

1. They provide management with information about their child's health needs, allergies, medical conditions and medication on the enrolment form and through verbal communication/meetings
2. The Service enrolment form is completed in its entirety providing specific details about the child's medical condition
3. They notify the Service if any changes are to occur to the Medical Management Plan
4. They provide the required medication and complete the long term medication record.
5. They provide an updated copy of the child's Medical Management Plan every 6 months

Medical Management Plan

1. Any Medical Management Plan provided by a child's parents and/or registered medical practitioner. This Plan should:
 - a. have supporting documentation if appropriate
 - b. include a colour photo of the child
 - c. if relevant, state what triggers the allergy or medical condition
 - d. include first aid needed
 - e. Include contact details of the doctor who signed the plan
 - f. state when the plan should be reviewed
2. A copy of the Medical Management Plan will be displayed for Educators and Staff to see to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the child.

Risk Minimisation Plan

All children with a diagnosed medical condition must have a risk minimisation plan in place.

A meeting will be arranged with the parents/guardian as soon as the Service has been advised of the medical condition. During this meeting a risk minimisation plan will be developed in consultation with the parent/guardian to ensure:

1. That the risks relating to the child's specific health care need, allergy or relevant medical condition are assessed and minimised
2. That practices and procedures in relation to the safe handling, preparation and consumption and service of food are developed and implemented
3. To ensure that the parents/families are notified of any known allergens that pose a risk to a child and strategies for minimising the risk are developed and implemented
4. Practices ensuring that all staff members and volunteers can identify the child, the child's medical management plan and the location of the child's medication are developed and implemented

5. That the child does not attend the Service without medication prescribed by the child's medical practitioner in relation to the child's specific health need, allergy or relevant medical condition
6. Plan(s) in conjunction with parents/guardians will be reviewed at least annually and/or will be revised with each change in the Medical Management Plan
7. Educators will ensure all relevant information pertaining to the child's health and medical condition is communicated to parents at the end of each day
8. Educators will notify parents in advance of any special activities taking place such as celebrations, sporting events and excursions so plans of safe inclusion can be made
9. Educators will ensure appropriate hygiene practices are followed when managing medical conditions in line with the Control of Infectious Diseases Policy
10. Risk minimisation plans will be reviewed in collaboration with families every 6 months

Communication Plan

A communication plan will be created after the meeting with the parents/guardian to ensure:

1. All relevant staff members and volunteers are informed about the medical conditions policy and the Individual Health Management Plan and Risk Minimisation Plan for the child; and
2. Creating an individual child communication book so that a parent can communicate any changes to the Individual Health Management Plan and Risk Management Plan for the child.

At all times, families who have a child attending the Service who have a diagnosed medical condition will be provided with a copy of this policy which includes a communication plan and any other relevant policies

Source

- Education and Care Services National Regulation
- National Quality Standards
- Occupational Health and Safety Act

Review

Policy Review Date
November 2019