

GALLOPING GUMNUT MOBILE CHILDREN'S SERVICES VAN INC

INFECTIOUS DISEASES POLICY

STATEMENT:

To minimise the spread of infectious diseases between children, other children, parents, visitors and staff, Galloping Gumnut Mobile Children's Service will conform to the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) requirements for exclusion of children with infectious diseases and other legislative requirements.

STRATEGY:

1. Parents of children under 5 years of age will be encouraged to have their children immunised and their attention drawn to the prevalence of Hepatitis B.
2. Children may be excluded immediately if they have contacted a contagious disease as per attached Diseases and Exclusions guidelines, and the full fee will be required to be paid.
3. The supervisor requires a doctor's certificate before the child can recommence at the service.
4. Galloping Gumnut will have in place procedures to reduce the spread of infection among children, staff and others that are attending the centre. The centre's procedures will be based on information provided in *Staying Healthy in Child Care: Preventing infectious diseases in child care*.

Chapter 2	Handwashing
Chapter 4	Nappy changing and toileting
Chapter 5	Cleaning Toys, clothing and the centre
Chapter 6	Food Safety
Chapter 7	Animals
Chapter 8	Dealing with spills of blood and other bodily fluids
Chapter 12	Exclusion of sick children and staff

5. The centre will provide regular in-service for staff on infection controls issues. Posters aimed at reducing the spread of infection will be placed in appropriate places throughout the centre.

PROCEDURES:

1. Request immunisation details.
2. Child with suspected illness to be collected by parents and taken to doctor for diagnosis. Staff to ask parents of outcome.
3. Children with AIDS or Hepatitis B are not to be excluded from the service, but their conditions should remain confidential.
4. The service will inform parents of the occurrence of a common infectious disease.
5. Refer to Diseases and Exclusions guidelines for infectious diseases.
6. There are a number of diseases that are notifiable under the Public Health Act 1991 to the local Public Health Unit. These include the following vaccine preventable diseases:
 - Diphtheria
 - Measles
 - Mumps
 - Pertussis (Whooping cough)
 - Poliomyelitis
 - Rubella (German Measles)
 - Tetanus

DISEASES AND EXCLUSIONS

CONDITION	EXCLUSION PERIOD AND INFORMATION
Amoebiasis (Entamoeba histolytic)	Exclude until diarrhoea ceases.
Campylobacter	Exclude until diarrhoea has ceased.
Chicken Pox	Seven (7) days after first spots have appeared, and until there are no moist sores and scabs have formed.
Chest Infections	Until the child looks and feels well.
Conjunctivitis	Until eye is no longer red and is free of discharge, usually three treatments of drops is necessary.
Cytomegalovirus Infection	Exclusion is not necessary
Diarrhoea/Gastro-enteritis	Immediate exclusion for 24 hours and until symptoms abate and child is tolerating normal diet.
Diphtheria	Isolate immediately until clearance certificate from doctor is received.
Erythema Infestosum (Fifth Disease)	Until five (5) days after the rash first appears.
Glandular Fever (mononucleosis)	Exclusion is not necessary, although individual children have different needs.
Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease	Exclude until fever is gone and child is well enough to participate in normal daily activities, and when blisters have dried
Haemophilus Influenza Type b (HIB)	Until clearance certificate from Doctor.
Hepatitis A	Exclude until receipt of medial certificate of recovery, but not before seven (7) days after the onset of jaundice.
Hepatitis B	No exclusion necessary unless infected child exhibits biting behaviour or has open sores that cannot be covered.
Hepatitis C	Exclusion is not necessary.
Herpes (cold sores)	Young children unable to comply with good hygiene practices should be excluded while lesion is weeping. Immediate – until lesion is completely dry and healed. (staff are not to work with babies under six (6) months).
Hookworm	Exclusion is not necessary
Human immune-deficiency Virus infection	Exclude infected child if he exhibits biting behaviour, is not in control of his body fluids, or has open skin sores (HIV/AIDS virus) Which cannot be covered.
Impetigo (School Sores)	Until treatment with antibiotics has commenced for at least 24 hours, and sores are covered with a proper dressing.
Influenza	During an epidemic children and staff with suggestive symptoms are excluded for 3 days.
Giardia	All persons considered to have Giardia, whether as an isolated case of during an epidemic should be excluded until treatment has been given and diarrhoea has ceased.
Leprosy	Exclude until approval to return has been given by an appropriate Health Authority.
Measles	Until 5 (five) days after the onset of the rash. However, non-immunised children should be excluded until 14 days after the first day of appearance of rash in the last case. If non-immunised contacts are vaccinated within 72 hours of their first contact with the index case, they may return to the serviced.

Meningitis (bacterial)	Until well.
Meningococcal Infection	Until 2 (two) days after completing a course of antibiotics. Children in a centre may all need this precautionary measure.
Molluscum contagiosum	Exclusion is not necessary
Mumps	Exclude for at least 9 (nine) days after onset of symptoms. Unimmunised children over 12 months are excluded for 21 days from last reported case.
Pediculosis (Head lice)	Until 1 (one) day after the treatment has commenced, and the Director or staff have checked that there are no live nits present.
Pinworms	Exclude until after treatment has started.
Poliomyelitis	Exclude for at least 14 (fourteen) days from onset. Re-admit on a medical certificate of recovery.
Ringworm, Scabies Trachoma, Worms	Re-admit 1 (one) day after appropriate treatment has commenced.
Rubella (german measles)	Until 6 (six) days after the rash appears. Unimmunised children over 12 months are excluded for 21 days from the last reported case.
Salmonella, Shigella	Exclude until diarrhoea ceases.
Streptococcal Infection	Until child has received antibiotic treatment for at least 24 hours and the child feels well.
Smallpox	Immediate exclusion until clearance certificate has been received from the Doctor.
Thrush	Until 24 hours after treatment has commenced.
Tonsillitis	Until symptoms abate and treatment is commenced.
Tuberculosis	Exclude until production of medical certificate from appropriate Health Authority.
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	Exclude until production of a medical certificate of recovery.
Vomiting	12 hours after last vomit.
Whooping Cough	Exclude for 5 days after starting antibiotic treatment. Unimmunised contacts under the age of 7 years are excluded for 14 days after the last exposure to infection or until they have received 5 days of a 14 day antibiotic course.
Worms (intestinal)	Exclude if diarrhoea present.

MONITORING & REVIEW:

Any cases of Infectious Diseases will be presented to the Director/Management Committee by way of Incident Report or Discussion Records. The Management Committee will review this Policy annually or earlier if deemed necessary.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Staying Healthy in Childcare – Preventing Infectious Diseases in Child Care (1997)
- Handwashing Procedures
- Toileting Procedures for Preschool
- Cleaning Toilet Procedure
- Health Policy
- Food & Nutrition Policy
- Unwell Children/Staff
- HIV/AIDS
- Cleaning Procedures
- Washing up procedures/Food Preparation

- General Safety/Hygiene Practices
- Administration of Medication

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Lithgow Rural Multi-Purpose Child Care Centre Assn Inc