IMMUNISATION POLICY

In keeping with the Centre's philosophy to provide a safe environment, the Management Committee and the Director recognise that the prevention of infectious diseases is a vital factor in the provision of quality childcare.

How this policy is implemented:

Parents are encouraged to ensure that their children are immunized in accordance with the Governments' recommendation.

Staff are encouraged to be immunized against all recommended relevant diseases for staff working in the Centre and copies of staff immunizations will be kept up to date in staff personnel files.

If for any reason a child is unable to be vaccinated, a letter is required from the child's doctor stating the reasons for non-vaccination and advising that the child is still fit for childcare.

Parents are required to inform staff of their child/rens' immunization updates by completing the enrolment form every twelve months.

If a child is not immunized against an infectious disease it is deemed as accepted by the parent/guardian during the period that the child be excluded from care during outbreaks of some infectious diseases, even if their child is well (refer to Sickness and Infectious Diseases Policy).

The Centre's Director will inform the Public Health Unit and the families at the centre in the event of an outbreak of an infectious disease, detailing the circumstances of the discovery and any advice provided by staying healthy in childcare.

Any concern about an infectious disease will be notified by the Director to the Management Committee to consider and seek appropriate advice from SA Health.

Mandatory Notifiable infectious diseases are listed on SA Health website. (Refer to SA Health website)

References: 'Staying Healthy in Child Care', National Health and Medical Research Council, Fourth Edition 2005
National Childcare Accreditation Council, 'Quality Practices Guide' First Edition 2005, particularly principle 6.6
'The Australian Immunisation Handbook 9th Edition', 2008, National Health and Medical Research Council

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