



NARNIA CHRISTIAN PRE-SCHOOL AND EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTRE

ACN 002 919 584

(Administered by St. Philip's Christian Education Foundation Ltd.)



Foundation Office

For the Whole of Their Life

MANAGEMENT OF SICK CHILDREN GUIDELINES

Aim:

To ensure that sick children are cared for swiftly and that appropriate action is taken to prevent the spread of infection.

Explanation:

The major elements of an effective infection control policy include the maintenance of high standards of hygiene and health practices. For this reason, as well as the extra demands sick children place on staff resources, the service cannot provide care for ill children.

Implementation:

- **If a child exhibits signs or symptoms of illness, staff will:**
 - a) Inform the Responsible Person who will contact the child's parent. Where the parent cannot be contacted emergency contacts will be asked to collect the child.
 - b) Comfort the sick child. Separate the sick child from other children until the child is collected.
 - c) Take the child's temperature and take action to bring down fever as necessary.
 - d) The Responsible Person will inform the person collecting the child of any current illnesses in the service and the conditions of re-entry to the service.
- Sick children will not be readmitted to the service until fully recovered or no longer infectious.
- When a child arrives at the service and, in the opinion of the Responsible Person is too sick to be in attendance, the parents will be asked to take the child home.
- The service will retain the right to exclude any child who is regarded by the Responsible Person to be a health risk to other children, or any child who is obviously unwell.
- If child becomes seriously ill an ambulance will be called in addition to the child's parents or guardians.

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS TO BE ALERT FOR:

The following are symptoms, which may suggest a child is ill.

General

Some examples include: the child may cry easily or is not comforted easily; be fretful and listless; lose interest in participating or be unusually quiet; not want to eat; be unusually irritable; feel hot to touch; look tired and flushed; feel cold or look pale; need one to one attention; exhibit any signs or symptoms listed by the NSW Department of Health Guidelines for Exclusion.

Fever

Temperature higher than average (36.5-37.5 degrees body temperature), especially if accompanied by other symptoms such as vomiting, sore throat, diarrhoea, headache, stiff neck, undiagnosed rash or convulsion.

Respiratory symptoms

Difficult or rapid breathing, or severe coughing, high pitched croup or whooping sound, inability to lie comfortably due to continuous coughing or wheezing.

Diarrhea/Vomiting

An increased number of abnormally loose stools in the previous 24 hours. Associated symptoms include fever, abdominal pain or vomiting. (Any episodes of vomiting within the previous 24 hours.)

Eye/nose discharge

Thick mucous draining from the ear or nose, or red, swollen and discharging eyes.

Sore throat

Especially with swollen glands in neck, or fever.

Skin problem

Rash undiagnosed, or contagious. Infected sores that cannot be covered. Persistent itching.

Unusual Colour / Appearance / Behaviour

Eyes or skin:	yellow (jaundice)
Stool:	grey or white
Urine:	dark tea-coloured

The child looks pale, tired, confused or lacks appetite, irritable or difficult to awaken.

Fit / Convulsion / Reaction to medication

Seek medical attention immediately.

This policy links to the following:

National Quality Standards: 2.1.4, 2.1.2

Education and Care Service National Regulations 2011: 85, 86, 87, 88